

Vendor Comparison Guide



Introduction

Traders have many options when selecting their all-important platform, but the problem with an abundance of choices is you don't know what you don't know. The features—and, sometimes, the quirks and shortcomings—of a given vendor's platform may not be apparent unless you take a “test drive.” Unfortunately, no one has the time to fully research and test-drive all of the available options. In addition, people tend to focus so much on the platform, they forget about other elements critical to success.

This comparison will give you some of that time back. We list the five leading day trading platforms along with critical features in 10 areas and show how they match up in terms of service, features, and price.

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Vendor Comparison Chart

	Analytics	Leaderboard	Community	Education	Intuitive DOM	News	Performance	Pricing	Self-Tuning Tools	Support
Jigsaw	Journalytix	Weekly and Monthly	Support and Live Trade Chat	Targeted education to get you profitable based on where you are now, Videos, and Webinars	Yes	Real-Time Text/Audio Feed (Extra cost)	Fast—Native in Windows	\$579 for software and basic education	Yes	Skype, Ticketing, Email, Facebook Messenger, Knowledge Base and FAQs
Bookmap	N/A	N/A	Support, User Forum, and Live Tech Chat	2 Skill Levels, Daily Webinars, and a 4-Part Course	No	Real-Time Text Feed (Extra Cost)	Not Native in Windows	\$1,990 Plus Upgrades	No	Phone/Email Tech, Knowledge Base, and FAQs
Ninja Trader	N/A	N/A	Support and User Forum	Video Guides and Daily Webinars	No	Available—Depends on Data Service	Fast - Native in Windows	\$1,099 and Must Use Their Broker	No	Phone/Email Tech Only and User Forum
Investor RT	N/A	N/A	Mainly Support	Setup Videos Only	No	N/A	Native in Windows, but Numerous Settings Can Cause Slowdowns	\$50-\$140 per Month	No	Phone/Email Tech Only, User Forum and Knowledge Base
Sierra Chart	N/A	N/A	Mainly Support	Setup Videos Only	No	N/A	Native in Windows, but Numerous Settings Can Cause Slowdowns	\$36 per Month Plus Support	No	Forum Only (Support) \$0.75/Minute

Analytics

In the heat of the moment of trading, it's not easy to keep track of every little detail so you can easily figure out what's improving your trading and where your failings are. Journalytx is the industry-leading trade analytics platform used by professional trading firms to help improve their traders' performance. Sierra Chart provides some historical trade activity analysis, but Jigsaw is the only firm in this comparison that has real-time "what if" analysis so you can instantly model the impact of different behaviors. No waiting; just click and instantly see the impact on charts and statistics.

Client Rankings

Real traders are competitive. Besides wanting to win, they want to see how they are performing compared with everyone else. Jigsaw Trading provides an optional customer leaderboard on a weekly and monthly basis, driven by a proprietary consistency algorithm. Sierra Chart has announced plans to launch its own leaderboard; Bookmap, Ninja Trader, and InvestorRT don't currently offer comparable services.

Supporting the User Community

All the platforms featured here include customer technical support. Sierra Chart, Ninja Trader, Bookmap, and Jigsaw offer something beyond: communities for users to expand their knowledge, seek advice from other users, build camaraderie, and participate in enlightening discussions. Sierra Chart and Ninja Trader deliver this via a user forum, and Jigsaw and Bookmap provide access to a live chat room. From time to time, CEO Peter Davies joins the Jigsaw chat room, helping customers who might be experiencing trading issues.



Education Should Be Matched to Your Skills

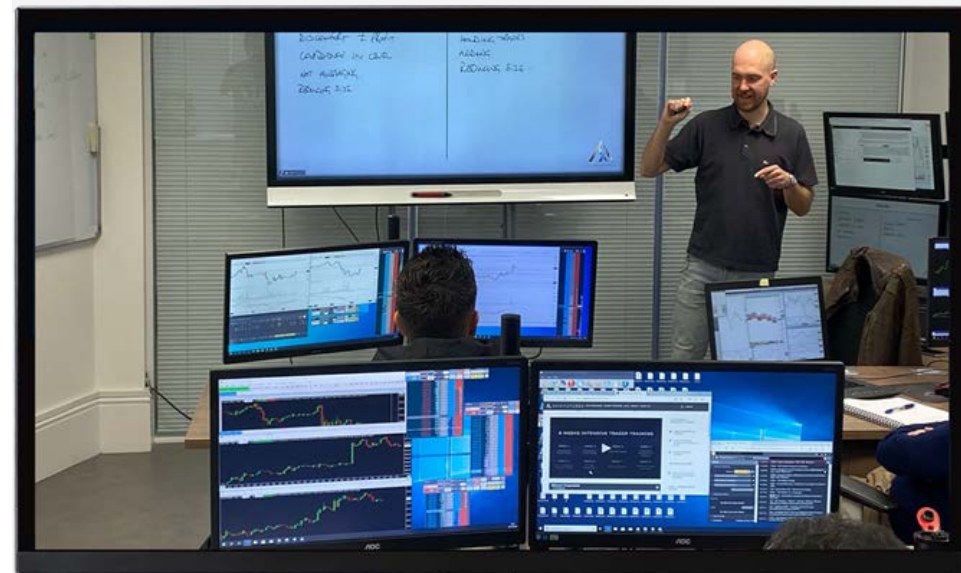
Trading platforms may offer educational resources such as daily webinars (as Bookmap and Ninja Trader do) to boost their users' knowledge. Ninja Trader also produces video guides, and Bookmap provides courses for two skill levels, including a four-part class for more advanced traders. InvestorRT and Sierra Chart only offer setup videos on how to use their platforms.

Jigsaw offers four separate levels of education, each designed for traders at a specific stage in their journey. These education offerings include in-house courses, courses from professional firms such as London-based prop firm Axia Futures.

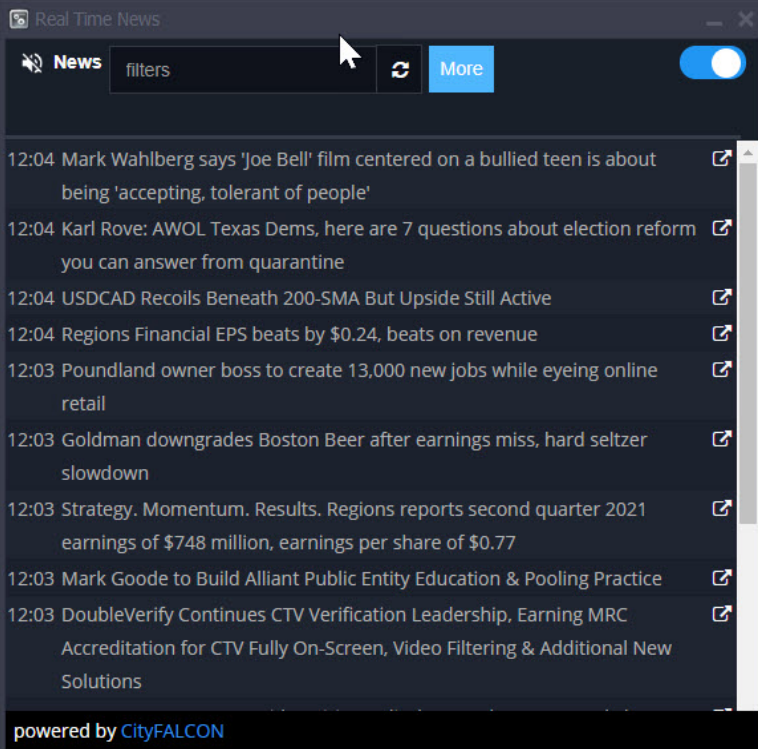
Intuitive Tool Kit and DOM

Traders need a variety of tools, including a solid depth-of-market (DOM) for execution and analysis, so they can deploy a range of strategies and determine what works best for them. All the firms in this comparison offer tools to analyze order flow, but the availability and effectiveness of those tools are more subjective. Based on anecdotal evidence from actual users, the tools from Ninja Trader, InvestorRT, and Sierra Chart can be complicated and time-consuming to set up (i.e., they're not intuitive).

Bookmap and Jigsaw offer more intuitive and unique ways to approach order flow. Bookmap's most noteworthy feature might be its heatmap, which is visually striking but busy; its other tools can take time to set up. Jigsaw—according to users—provides intuitive and easy-to-implement tools and techniques used by proprietary day trading firms. Available tools include the strength meter, momentum tails, gauges, the reconstructed tape, and a well-known tool called Depth and Sales that reflects DOM.



Jigsaw Daytradr® platform at Axia Futures classroom



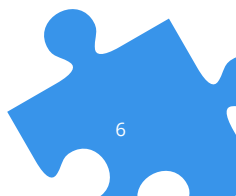
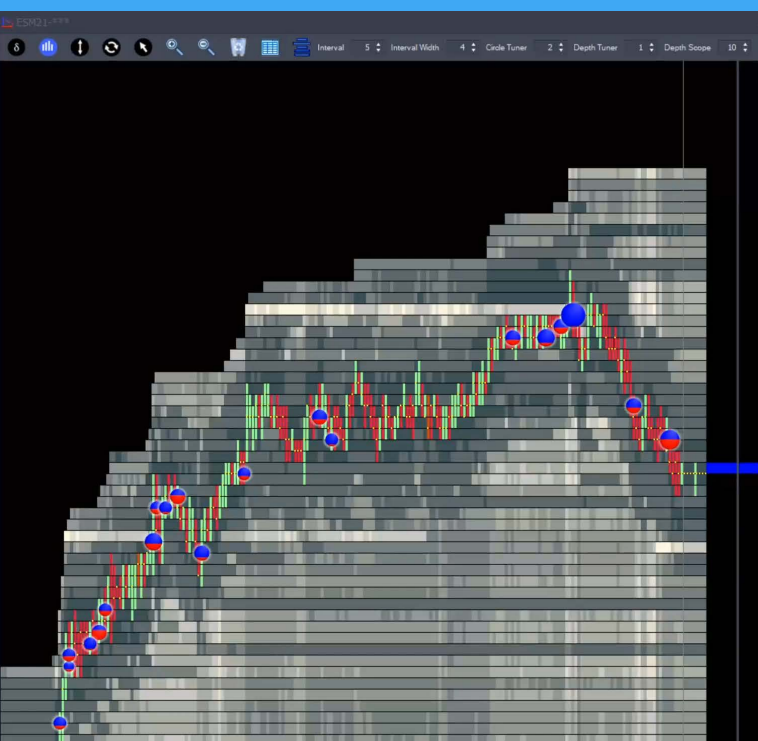
Built-In News Feed

Markets are very sensitive to news, and day traders must stay on top of events as they develop. Jigsaw's built-in, real-time text/audio news feed is completely filterable, with a recommended set of filters for key topics to get you started. It also features a real-time economic release calendar that shows the day's releases (filterable by country) in real time as they are announced both on the screen and via browser notifications. You also get one-minute and five-minute warnings prior to events, so you won't be caught in a trade when scheduled news comes in. This feed delivers the actual numbers as they arrive and ahead of popular sites such as Forex Factory.

Bookmap offers an extra-cost, real-time text feed (IQFeed), and Ninja Trader is compatible with several news feeds depending on which data service is used.

High-Performance Platform

Many variables can impact the performance of a trade station, but eliminating potential problems that would slow down execution is crucial for success. There is nothing worse than a frozen screen in the middle of an important trade. Native Windows technology, used by InvestorRT, Sierra Chart, and Jigsaw, enables a trading platform to run more efficiently and not bog down CPU or memory operation. However, some tools in InvestorRT and Bookmap have been reported to slow down during periods of heavy usage. In particular, Bookmap relies on Java, which is not native Windows technology.





All-Inclusive Pricing

Pricing for the five firms is, at first glance, in the same ballpark. However, some charge for platform upgrades, new tools, and service calls, and Ninja Trader makes you use its brokerage. InvestorRT and Sierra Chart charge by the month. Jigsaw offers all-inclusive pricing that includes platform upgrades, new tools, and free tech and trade support.

Unique, Self-Tuning Tools

Analytics are great, and more is always better, but if your toolbox is too complicated to use effectively, you won't get anywhere. Jigsaw tools are self-tuning because you will be most effective when focusing on your trading rather than implementation or playing around with hundreds of indicator options that won't make any difference.

Technical (and Trading) Support

If you are spending money on a trading platform, you must be confident it will work as expected—and that the provider will assist you if it doesn't. Jigsaw, Bookmap, Ninja Trader, and InvestorRT offer free phone tech support. Sierra Chart offers tech support via a user forum, and if you can't find a solution to your issue there, you can call for more help at \$0.75 per minute.

Bookmap and Jigsaw also provide a knowledge base for members. Trading support is offered only by Jigsaw and is handled using Skype and a ticketing system.



It's Your Move

We have explained how Jigsaw Trading offers a unique approach to day trading. And in this detailed vendor comparison, the clear leader for day traders stands out. If you still need convincing that Jigsaw Trading represents the best value and that Jigsaw's tools and philosophy will make members more effective and consistent traders, sign up for the 14-day money-back-guarantee trial (*). Go to the [Try/Buy page](#), select the package that best suits your needs, and trade on the Jigsaw platform risk-free for 14-days. Take all of our educational material, support, and tools, and then make your mark on the market."

[Learn More](#)



www.jigsawtrading.com

(*) Guarantee: money back guarantee covers the price of the software (\$579) and not the training (as you can't unlearn something). Just ask anytime within 14 days of purchase to get the refund.