SMC CONCEPTS

PO3 Trading Field Guide

AMD means Accumulation, Manipulation and Distribution. Keep observation separate from order eligibility.

PO3 describes a range, an excursion beyond one side and subsequent expansion in the other direction. It does not reveal who traded or establish a profitable entry on its own. The examples below are constructed, not historical executions.

Freeze the conditions before the next bars

Item	Practice definition
Range	Choose exact start/end timestamps and wick or body boundaries. Keep the original box after an excursion.
Reference open	Record the chosen opening price and its timestamp independently of the range.
Reclaim	Require a completed close back inside the range in this example.
Confirmation	Require a completed close beyond a preselected opposite internal swing.
Entry	Place the planned retest order only after its trigger and entry area become known.
Cancellation	Use a fixed price invalidation, missing gate or order expiry.

Two constructed plans

Parameter	Long example	Short example
Fixed range / open	100-112 / 106	200-212 / 206
Excursion / reclaim	Low 98 / close 101	High 214 / close 211
Confirming close	107 above 106.50	205 below 205.50
Entry / stop / target	103 / 97 / 112	209 / 215 / 200
Gross distance	Risk 6; reward 9; 1.5R	Risk 6; reward 9; 1.5R

The entry areas are assumed valid only after the selected conditions complete. A visible price touch is not proof of a live fill. If your minimum is 2R to the original objective, both example plans fail that filter.

Choose one entry method per study. A fresh FVG, an inverted FVG and a box-boundary retest have different prerequisites; record separate groups when comparing them.

Full illustrated lesson: homedadpro.com/en/power-of-three/

Check the Sequence

A completed candle and a completed example hide information that was unknown at entry.

Both of these paths have the same open 100, high 105, low 95 and close 104:

Path	Observed order	What differs
A: OLHC	100 → 95 → 105 → 104	Low comes before high
B: OHLC	100 → 105 → 95 → 104	High comes before low

A bullish close does not prove that the low occurred first. Inspect smaller bars; if stop and target remain inside one unresolved smaller bar, use finer data or a declared conservative assumption. Do not silently choose the favourable order.

One long plan, different records

Sequence after original range	Record
Reclaim + confirmation; 103 fills; 112 before 97	Executed winner under stated assumptions
Reclaim + confirmation; 103 fills; 97 before 112	Executed loss
107 confirmation, then 112 without return to 103	Unfilled; no target profit assigned
100 breaks; 98 then 96 without reclaim	No eligible reversal entry
Entry condition appears after order expiry	Expired plan; retain original deadline

Costs can change the ratio

Assume a fictional contract pays $2 per point and total round-trip costs are exactly $3 per contract. Six points of risk costs $12 before fees; nine points of reward pays $18 before fees. Net loss = $15 and net win = $15. Gross 1.5R becomes a 1:1 net payoff under these assumptions.

A $60 loss budget supports four contracts at $15 each under that exact assumption, with no extra allowance. Use actual specifications, fees and slippage for the intended instrument. A larger target chosen merely to rescue the ratio changes the plan.

For an observed win rate, divide executed winners by all executed trades. Eighteen wins and twelve losses gives 60%. Ten unfilled setups remain separate. The result belongs to the stated instrument, period and rules; it is not a universal PO3 rate.

Keep symbol, session and time-zone settings. A forming higher-interval candle can extend its extremes. Regional clocks such as America/New_York account for daylight saving; a displayed clock does not itself redefine exchange-session bars.

Platform reference: TradingView historical execution; time-zone concepts.

Your PO3 Practice Log

Fill in a PDF viewer or print. These text fields do not calculate trades or contract size automatically.

Record each condition when it first becomes known. Preserve the original range, screenshot and unmodified order, including failed, expired and unfilled cases.

Symbol / contract / date

Session / time zone

Parent interval / opening timestamp

Observation / entry interval

Range start and end timestamps

Wicks / bodies / fixed rule

Frozen range high / low

Reference open / timestamp

Direction / objective chosen before move

Excursion extreme / time

Reclaim rule / first known time

Confirmation level / first known time

Entry method / area first known

Entry / stop / original target

Order expiry / cancellation

Unfilled or actual fill / timestamp

Point value / size / fee assumption

Exit reason / gross and net result

Intrabar order uncertainty

Original and later screenshots

Next single rule to test / failed and unfilled observations

Keep the same setup definition while comparing outcomes. A pattern label, a valid entry, a fill and a realised result are four separate records.