Stock Guides

- How to Write option on Etrade

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General Strategy

This strategy is called a Cash-Secured Put. Short Video Explanation:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9I2f8SFMRFs

Long Video Explanation: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7gPwtDh9Qw

Overall using this strategy, you will get paid for promising to buy a stock at a lower price in the future.

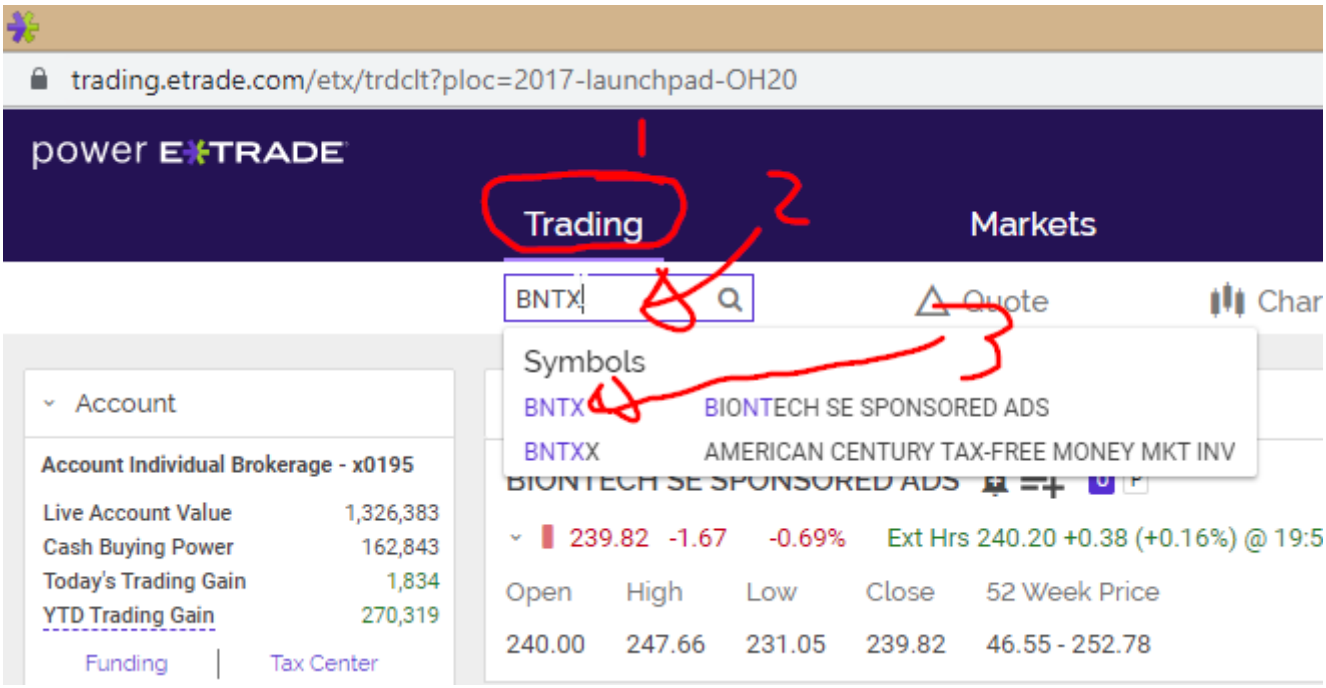
In this strategy you sell a put option, which is a contract where you promise to buy a 100 shares of a stock at a lower price (a strike price below the current market price) over a time period. On the last day (expiration), if the stock ends up going above the strike price you will automatically keep the premium. If on expiration, the stock ends up being lower than the strike price, you still get to keep your premium but you will have to buy 100 shares of the stock at the strike price you promised.

This is better than the usual strategy of setting a buy order of 100 shares of a stock at a lower price because sometimes the lower price you set to buy at doesn't hit so you get nothing! In the cash secured put strategy, if the stock doesn't hit the lower price you set to buy at, you get to keep a premium!

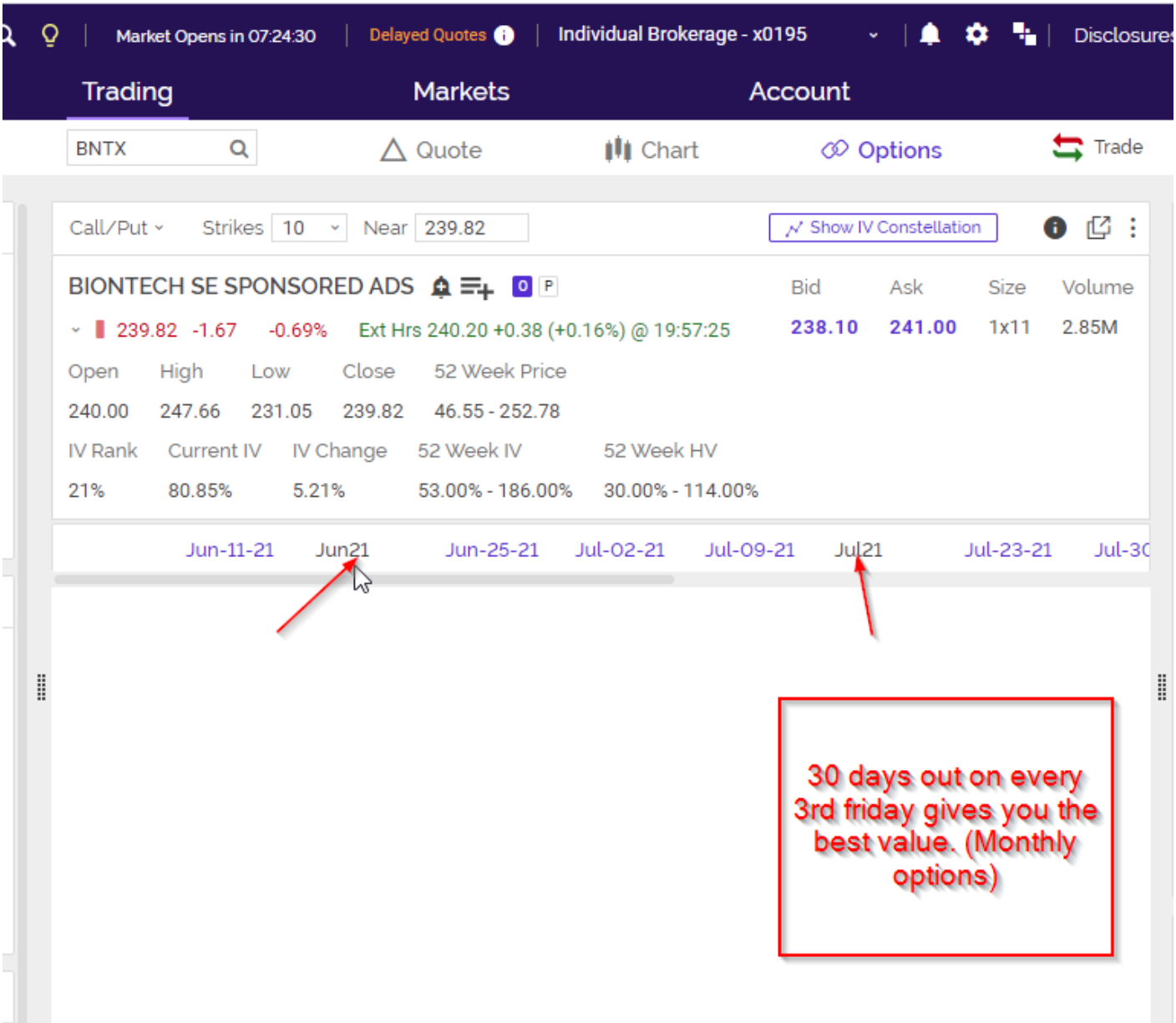
The only issue with this strategy is that it caps your gains. You can only make as much profit as the premium you sold the option for. Don't use this strategy on stocks that you think will be extremely bullish (will go up alot +$30 or more) if that is the case you would better off buying 100 shares of the stock at market price!

How to write a PUT option on Etrade

Step 1. Click trading and type you SYMBOL. Then click on the symbol.

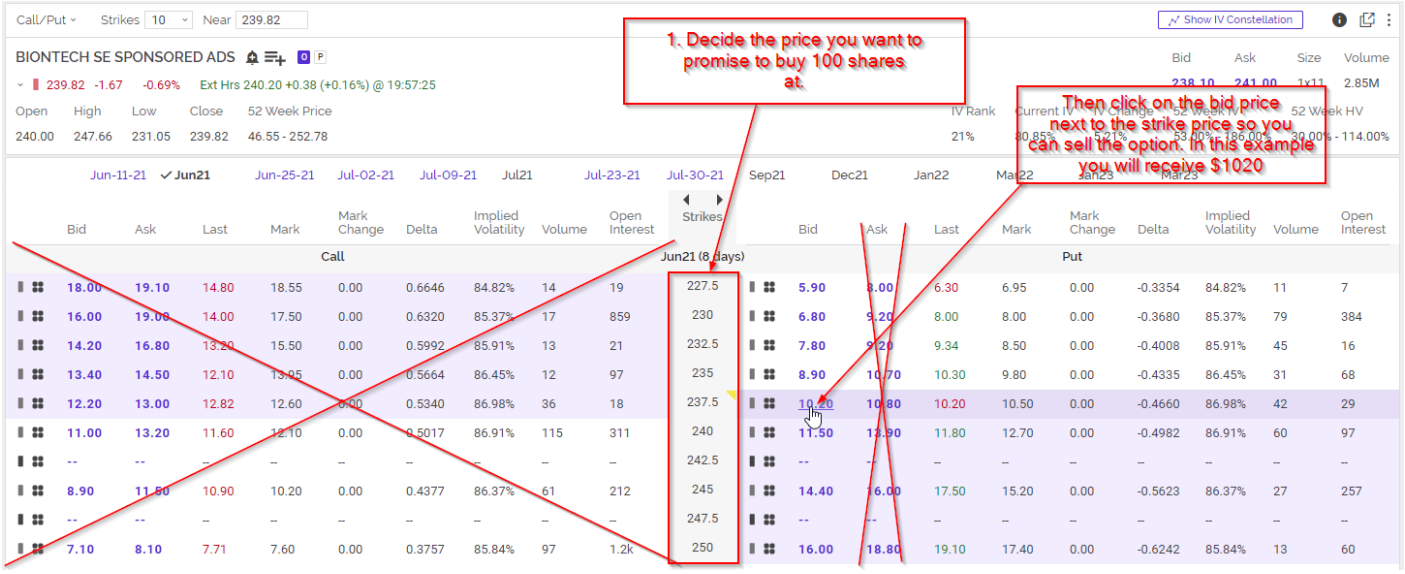


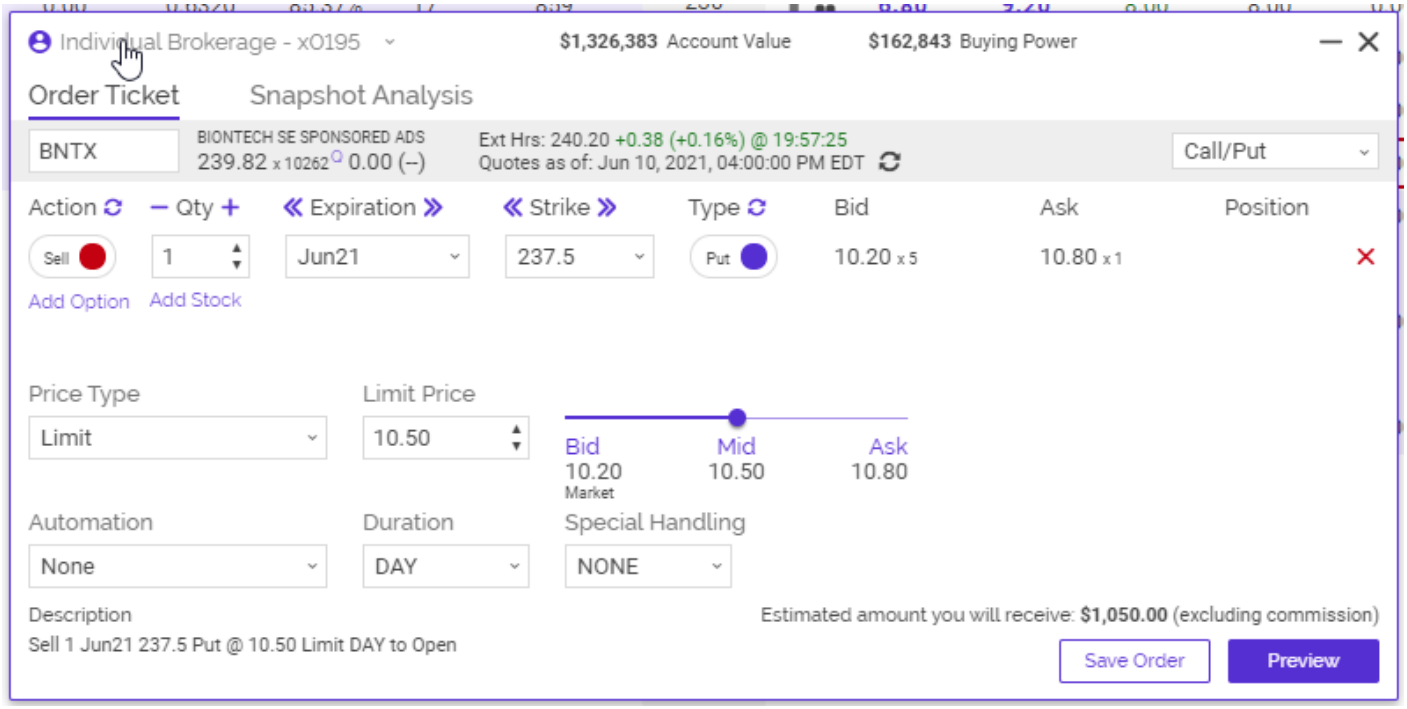
Step 2. Choose an expiration date. Usually 30 days out and on the 3rd friday of every month is most popular and best value.



Step 3. choose a strike price (this is the price you promise to buy 100 shares of the stock at) Then make sure you click on the bid to sell not the ask. You want to "SELL to open" do not buy to open!

As a beginner please choose a strike near or lower than the stock price. In this example BNTX is worth $239.82. So any strike price below $237.5 is a good choice. In this example, we will promise to buy 100 shares of $237.5 by June 21st. We will receive about $1050 for this trade.





How to check or cancel order?

you already know.