TRADEFATHER SIGNALS

Candlestick Patterns Cheat Sheet

75 patterns with diagrams, the trend they need, confirmation rules and common mistakes. Updated October 2026.

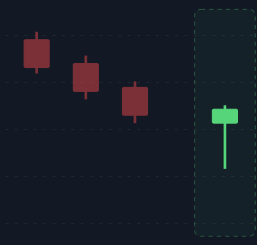
- Single-candle patterns (19)
- Two-candle patterns (27)
- Three-candle patterns (22)
- Multi-candle patterns (7)

Free interactive lessons: gettfsignals.app/learn/candlestick-patterns · Patterns show probabilities, never certainties. Always wait for the candle to close and for confirmation.

Single-candle patterns

Hammer

BULLISH



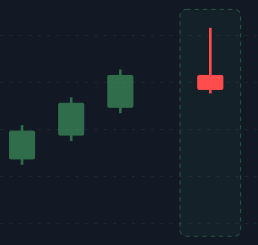
Where: After a price decline. Price falls, buyers push it back up. A long lower wick shows the rejection of lower prices.

Confirm: A later candle closing above the hammer's high adds bullish confirmation. It can still fail.

Mistake: The same shape after a rise is a hanging man, not a hammer. A long wick alone is not a buy signal.

Shooting Star

BEARISH



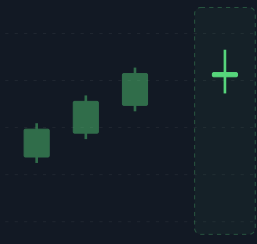
Where: After a price advance. Price rises, sellers push it back down. A long upper wick shows the rejection of higher prices.

Confirm: A later close below the shooting star's low adds bearish confirmation, not a guaranteed fall.

Mistake: After a decline this shape is an inverted hammer. Do not confuse the two or act before the candle closes.

Doji

NEUTRAL



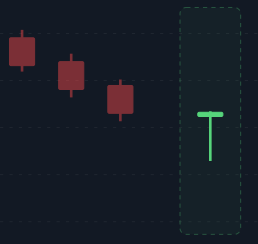
Where: After a price advance. Open and close are almost equal. Buyers and sellers ended the candle in a tie — indecision.

Confirm: The next candle decides: a strong close against the trend suggests a turn; a close with it suggests continuation.

Mistake: A doji alone is not a reversal signal. In sideways markets dojis appear constantly and mean little.

Dragonfly Doji

BULLISH



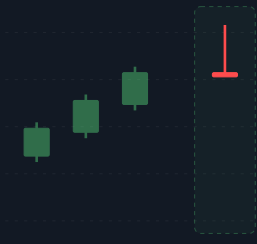
Where: After a price decline. A T-shaped doji. Sellers pushed price far down, but buyers brought it all the way back.

Confirm: A green candle closing above the dragonfly's high adds confirmation.

Mistake: After a rise, the same shape can warn of weakness. Location changes the meaning.

Gravestone Doji

BEARISH



Where: After a price advance. An upside-down T. Buyers pushed price high, but sellers dragged it all the way back down.

Confirm: A red candle closing below the gravestone's low adds bearish confirmation.

Mistake: Don't sell on the shape alone; many gravestones are followed by more upside.

Spinning Top

NEUTRAL



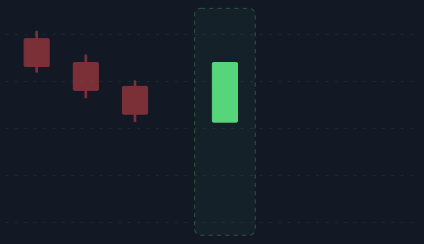
Where: After a price advance. A small body with wicks on both sides. Neither buyers nor sellers won control.

Confirm: Wait for the next candle's direction before reading anything into it.

Mistake: It is a pause, not a reversal. It can be green or red and mean the same thing.

Bullish Marubozu

BULLISH



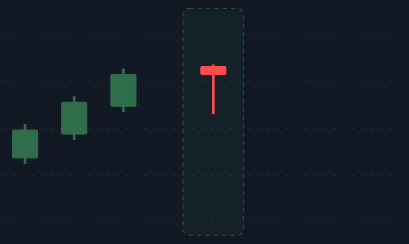
Where: After a price decline. One big green candle with no wicks. Buyers controlled the entire period from open to close.

Confirm: Strong follow-through on the next candle confirms momentum.

Mistake: A huge candle right into resistance can exhaust buyers. Don't chase it blindly.

Hanging Man

BEARISH



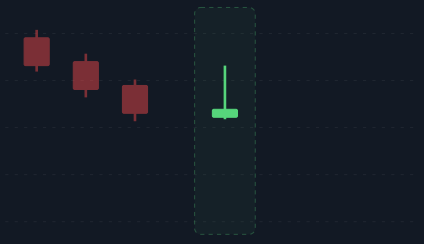
Where: After a price advance. Same shape as a hammer, but after a rise. The long lower wick shows sellers testing the trend.

Confirm: A next candle closing below the hanging man's body confirms weakness.

Mistake: Without confirmation it often fails. After a decline the same shape is a hammer.

Inverted Hammer

BULLISH



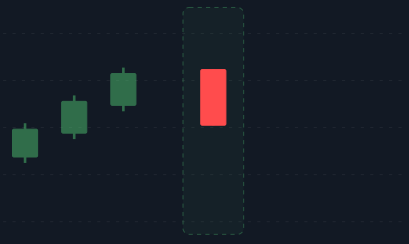
Where: After a price decline. A small body with a long upper wick after a fall. Buyers are starting to test higher prices.

Confirm: Needs a strong green candle next to confirm the turn.

Mistake: After a rise the same shape is a shooting star (bearish).

Bearish Marubozu

BEARISH



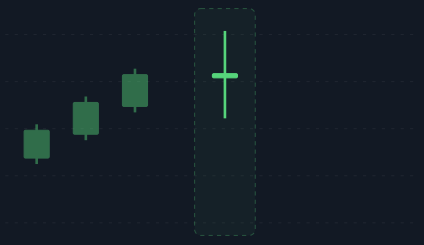
Where: After a price advance. A big red candle with no wicks. Sellers controlled price from the open to the close.

Confirm: The next candle staying below the marubozu's midpoint shows sellers are still in charge.

Mistake: Small wicks are fine. A long red candle into strong support can still bounce.

Long-Legged Doji

NEUTRAL



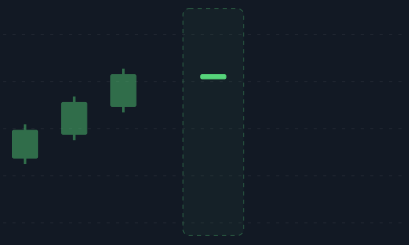
Where: After a price advance. A doji with very long wicks up and down. Price swung hard both ways and ended where it started.

Confirm: Wait for the next candle to break the doji's high or low.

Mistake: Big indecision is not a reversal by itself. In choppy markets it appears often.

Four Price Doji

NEUTRAL



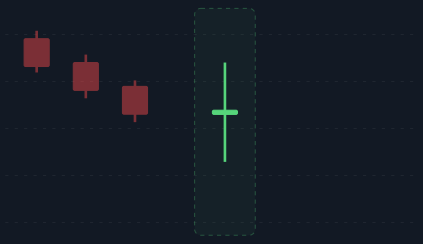
Where: After a price advance. Just a flat dash. Open, high, low and close are all the same price — almost no trading happened.

Confirm: It gives no direction. Wait for normal candles to return.

Mistake: Don't trade it as a signal. On OTC or 5-second charts it often just means no price updates.

High Wave Candle

NEUTRAL



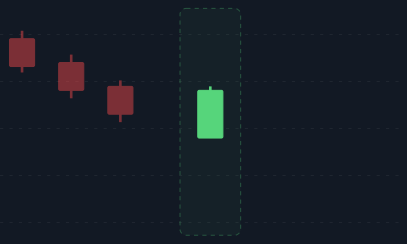
Where: After a price decline. A small body with extremely long wicks. The market is confused and swinging wildly.

Confirm: Look for a breakout of its high or low on the next candles.

Mistake: Not a reversal on its own. Several high waves in a row mean a messy, risky market.

Bullish Belt Hold

BULLISH



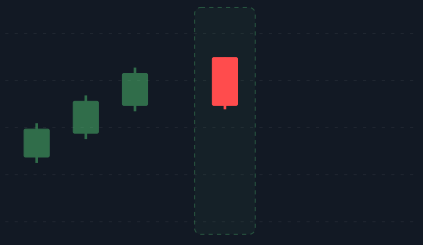
Where: After a price decline. A long green candle that opens at its low after a fall. Buyers took over from the first second.

Confirm: The next candle holding above the belt hold's midpoint adds confirmation.

Mistake: It's the long green body plus no lower wick that matters. A short candle doesn't count.

Bearish Belt Hold

BEARISH



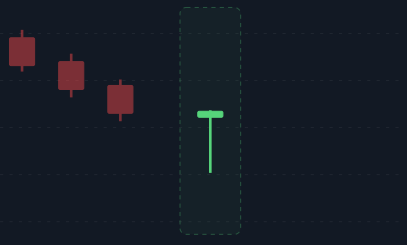
Where: After a price advance. A long red candle that opens at its high after a rise. Sellers took control from the open.

Confirm: The next candle staying below the midpoint adds bearish confirmation.

Mistake: In a strong uptrend one red candle is often just a pause. Check for resistance nearby.

Takuri Line

BULLISH



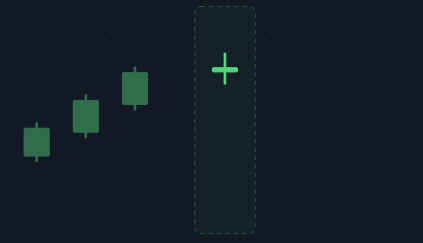
Where: After a price decline. A hammer with an extra-long lower wick — at least three times the body. A deep dip that buyers fully rejected.

Confirm: A green candle closing above the takuri's high adds confirmation.

Mistake: After a rise, the same shape is a hanging man warning, not a buy signal.

Northern Doji

BEARISH



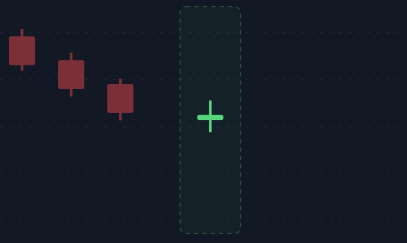
Where: After a price advance. A doji that appears after a rise. It warns that buyers are losing steam.

Confirm: A red candle closing below the doji's low confirms weakness.

Mistake: Strong uptrends print many dojis. Without a follow-up red candle, don't sell.

Southern Doji

BULLISH



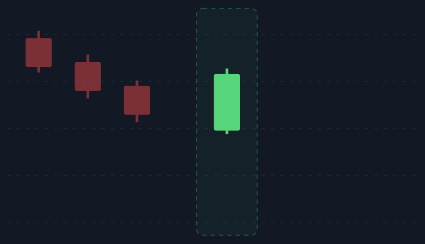
Where: After a price decline. A doji that appears after a fall. It hints that sellers are running out of strength.

Confirm: A green candle closing above the doji's high confirms the bounce.

Mistake: Falling markets print dojis too. Without a follow-up green candle, don't buy.

Long White (Green) Candle

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. A big green body, much longer than recent candles. Buyers dominated the whole session.

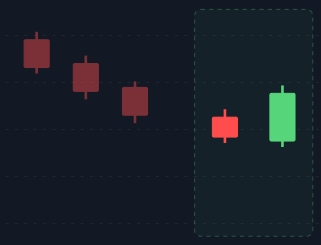
Confirm: If the next candle holds above its midpoint, buyers are still in charge.

Mistake: After a long rise, a huge green candle can be the last burst before a pullback.

Two-candle patterns

Bullish Engulfing

BULLISH



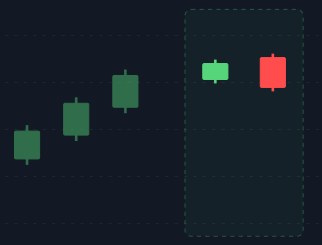
Where: After a price decline. A larger green body covers the previous red body. Buyers have overtaken the previous candle's selling.

Confirm: Look for follow-through above the pattern and nearby support. A large upper wick may show resistance.

Mistake: A green candle that only covers the red wick, but not its full body, is not bullish engulfing.

Bearish Engulfing

BEARISH



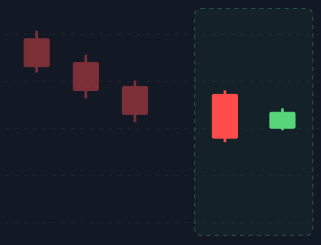
Where: After a price advance. A large red body completely covers the previous green body. Sellers overpowered buyers.

Confirm: A next close lower, or a break of nearby support, confirms the pattern.

Mistake: Only the bodies must engulf — wicks don't count. In choppy markets it appears often and fails often.

Bullish Harami

BULLISH



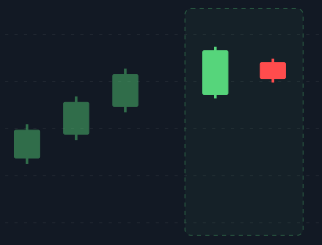
Where: After a price decline. A small green candle sits inside the previous big red body. Selling is losing strength.

Confirm: A third candle closing above the first candle's open strengthens the signal (three inside up).

Mistake: Harami is a weak signal on its own. Always wait for confirmation.

Bearish Harami

BEARISH



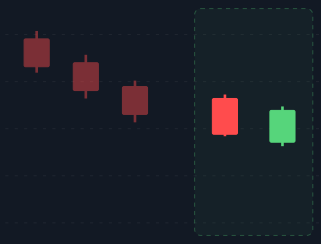
Where: After a price advance. A small red candle sits inside the previous big green body. Buying is losing strength.

Confirm: A next close below the first candle's open confirms the turn.

Mistake: It shows hesitation, not a guaranteed drop. Check resistance first.

Piercing Line

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. After a red candle, a green candle opens lower but closes above the middle of the red body.

Confirm: A further higher close confirms buyers are taking over.

Mistake: If the green close stays below the midpoint, it is a weaker pattern, not a piercing line.

Dark Cloud Cover

BEARISH



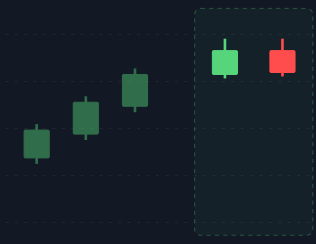
Where: After a price advance. After a green candle, a red candle opens higher but closes below the middle of the green body.

Confirm: A next lower close confirms the bearish turn.

Mistake: A red close above the midpoint is too weak. It is the mirror of the piercing line.

Tweezer Top

BEARISH



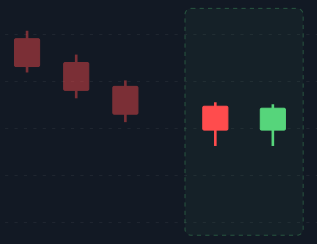
Where: After a price advance. Two candles with matching highs after a rise. Price hit the same ceiling twice and was rejected.

Confirm: A follow-up red close strengthens the resistance level.

Mistake: The highs should be nearly equal. Random similar highs in a range mean little.

Tweezer Bottom

BULLISH



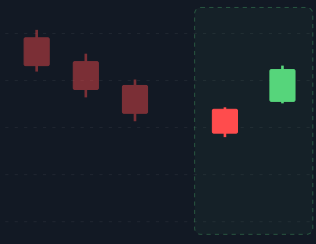
Where: After a price decline. Two candles with matching lows after a fall. Price hit the same floor twice and bounced.

Confirm: A follow-up green close confirms the support level.

Mistake: Matching lows in a sideways market are common and weak.

Bullish Kicker

BULLISH



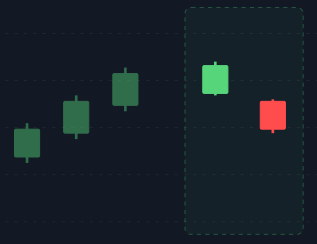
Where: After a price decline. A red candle, then a green candle that gaps up above it. Sentiment flipped overnight.

Confirm: The gap itself is the strength. Holding above the gap keeps it valid.

Mistake: Real kickers need a gap. On continuous forex charts they are rare.

Bearish Kicker

BEARISH



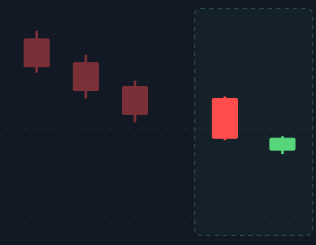
Where: After a price advance. A green candle, then a red candle that gaps down below it. Buyers got kicked out.

Confirm: Staying below the gap keeps the signal valid.

Mistake: Without a true gap it is just two candles of different colours.

On-Neck Pattern

BEARISH



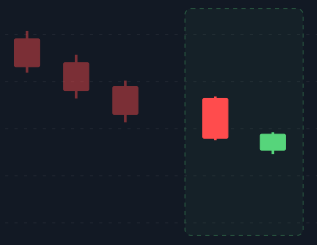
Where: After a price decline. A big red candle, then a small green candle that closes right at the red candle's low. The bounce failed.

Confirm: A next candle breaking below the green candle's low confirms continuation.

Mistake: If the green candle closes well into the red body, it's a different pattern (thrusting or piercing).

In-Neck Pattern

BEARISH



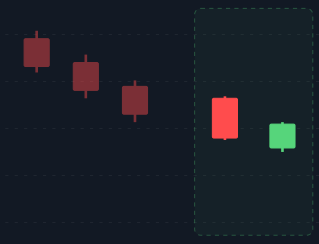
Where: After a price decline. Like on-neck, but the green candle closes just inside the red body. Still a weak bounce in a downtrend.

Confirm: A break below the second candle's low confirms the downtrend continues.

Mistake: Closing near the middle of the red body makes it thrusting or piercing — read carefully.

Thrusting Pattern

BEARISH



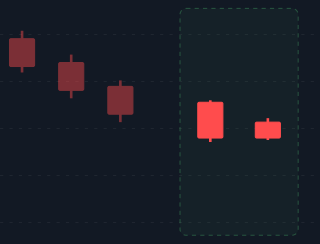
Where: After a price decline. A green candle pushes into a red body but stops below its midpoint. Buyers tried, but not enough.

Confirm: A close below the green candle's low confirms continuation.

Mistake: Above the midpoint it becomes a bullish piercing line — the opposite signal.

Matching Low

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. Two red candles close at the same price. Sellers hit the same floor twice.

Confirm: A green candle moving up from the matching level confirms support.

Mistake: If price breaks below the matching close, support failed.

Matching High

BEARISH



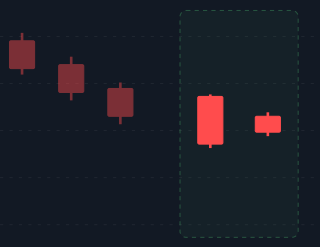
Where: After a price advance. Two green candles close at the same price. Buyers hit the same ceiling twice.

Confirm: A red candle moving down from the matching level confirms resistance.

Mistake: A close above that level cancels the warning.

Homing Pigeon

BULLISH



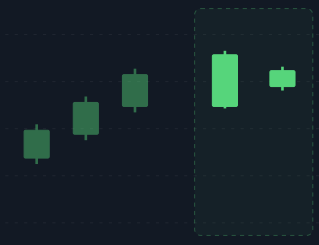
Where: After a price decline. A small red candle sits inside a big red one. Selling is shrinking.

Confirm: A green close above the small candle adds confirmation.

Mistake: Like a harami, but both candles are red. It's a weak signal alone.

Descending Hawk

BEARISH



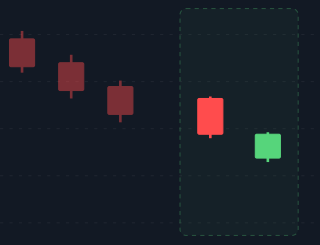
Where: After a price advance. A small green candle sits inside a big green one. Buying is shrinking.

Confirm: A red close below the small candle adds confirmation.

Mistake: In a strong trend this can just be a rest. Treat it as an early warning only.

Bullish Counterattack

BULLISH



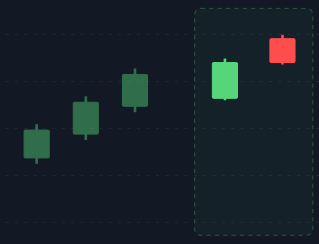
Where: After a price decline. A big red candle, then a green candle that opens lower but closes at the same price. Buyers struck back.

Confirm: A next candle closing higher confirms the counterattack.

Mistake: Weaker than a piercing line — the green candle doesn't get into the red body.

Bearish Counterattack

BEARISH



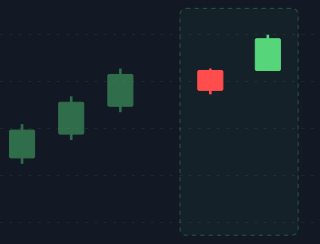
Where: After a price advance. A big green candle, then a red candle that opens higher but closes at the same price. Sellers struck back.

Confirm: A next candle closing lower confirms it.

Mistake: Weaker than dark cloud cover — the red candle doesn't get into the green body.

Bullish Separating Lines

BULLISH



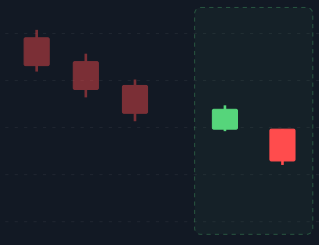
Where: After a price advance. In an uptrend, a red dip is followed by a green candle that opens at the same price and rises. The trend continues.

Confirm: Continued higher closes confirm the trend resumed.

Mistake: In a downtrend the same shape means nothing special.

Bearish Separating Lines

BEARISH



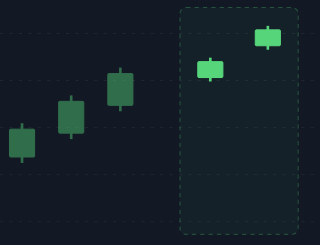
Where: After a price decline. In a downtrend, a green bounce is followed by a red candle that opens at the same price and falls. The fall continues.

Confirm: Continued lower closes confirm the trend resumed.

Mistake: In an uptrend the same shape means nothing special.

Rising Window (Gap Up)

BULLISH



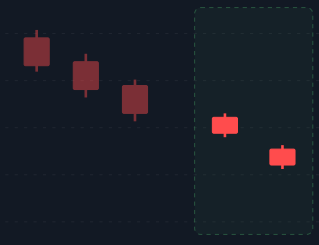
Where: After a price advance. A gap between two candles — the second candle's low is above the first's high. A window of support.

Confirm: Price staying above the gap keeps the bullish view.

Mistake: A close back below the first candle's high "closes the window" and cancels it.

Falling Window (Gap Down)

BEARISH



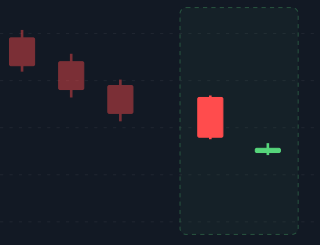
Where: After a price decline. A gap between two candles — the second candle's high is below the first's low. A window of resistance.

Confirm: Price staying below the gap keeps the bearish view.

Mistake: A close back above the first candle's low cancels it.

Bullish Doji Star

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. A long red candle, then a doji that gaps below it. Sellers suddenly stall.

Confirm: A green candle closing into the red body turns it into a morning doji star.

Mistake: It's only a warning. Without the next green candle, the fall can continue.

Bearish Doji Star

BEARISH



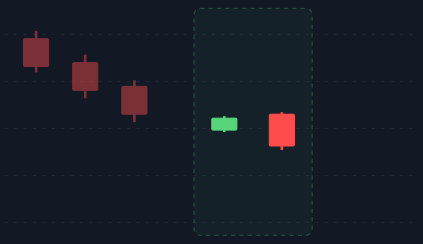
Where: After a price advance. A long green candle, then a doji that gaps above it. Buyers suddenly stall.

Confirm: A red candle closing into the green body turns it into an evening doji star.

Mistake: It's only a warning. Without the next red candle, the rise can continue.

Last Engulfing Bottom

BULLISH



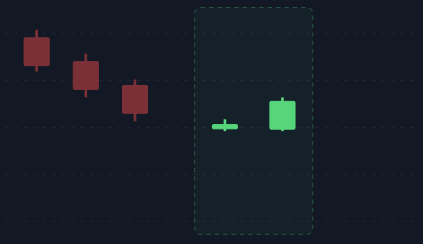
Where: After a price decline. In a downtrend, a green candle is swallowed by a big red one. Often the final flush before a bounce.

Confirm: Wait for a green close above the red candle's midpoint before treating it as bullish.

Mistake: This is a tricky signal — most of the time a red engulfing in a downtrend just means more downside.

Bullish Engulfing Doji

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. A doji, then a green candle whose body fully covers it. Indecision turns into buying.

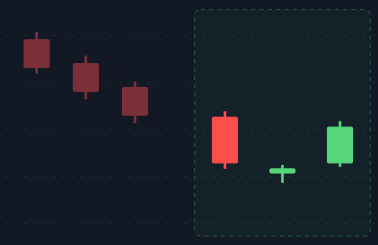
Confirm: A next candle holding above the green close adds confirmation.

Mistake: Covering just the doji is easy; check the green candle is clearly strong.

Three-candle patterns

Morning Star

BULLISH



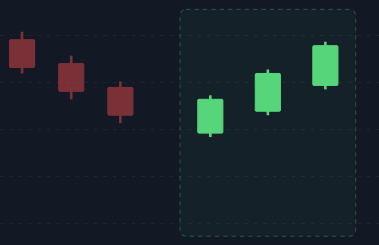
Where: After a price decline. Selling, hesitation, then a recovery. Three candles show a possible change from sellers to buyers.

Confirm: The third candle is the initial confirmation. Check support and follow-through; gaps are less common on continuous forex charts.

Mistake: Three candles with a weak final recovery are not enough. No-gap variations are less strict than the classic pattern shown.

Three White Soldiers

BULLISH



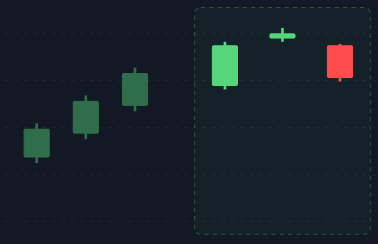
Where: After a decline or base. Three strong green candles climb together. Buyers keep closing price higher after a decline.

Confirm: The three completed candles show sustained buying. Check resistance and whether the move is already stretched.

Mistake: Shrinking bodies or long upper wicks can show exhaustion. Do not chase the move just because all three candles are green.

Evening Star

BEARISH



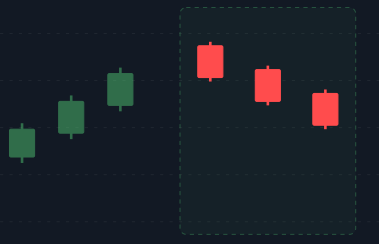
Where: After a price advance. Big green, small pause, big red. A three-candle top — the opposite of the morning star.

Confirm: The third candle is the confirmation. Check resistance and follow-through.

Mistake: A weak third candle that barely dips is not enough.

Three Black Crows

BEARISH



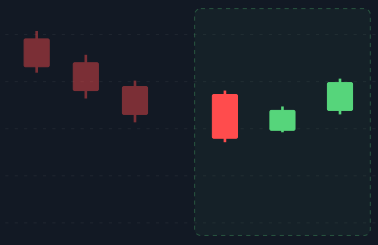
Where: After a price advance. Three strong red candles stepping down. Sellers keep closing lower after a rise.

Confirm: The completed three candles show sustained selling. Watch for support below.

Mistake: After a long fall, three crows may mean selling is exhausted. Don’t chase.

Three Inside Up

BULLISH



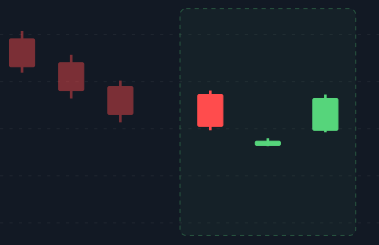
Where: After a price decline. A bullish harami plus a confirming green candle. Buyers break out of the big red candle.

Confirm: The third candle is the confirmation built into the pattern.

Mistake: If the third candle fails to close above the first candle’s open, it’s just a harami.

Bullish Abandoned Baby

BULLISH



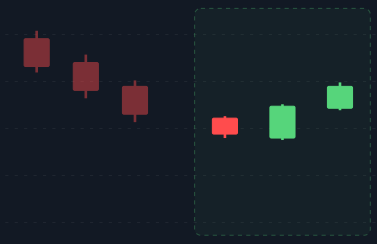
Where: After a price decline. A doji gaps away below a red candle, then a green candle gaps back up. A rare, strong reversal.

Confirm: The upward gap is the confirmation. True gaps are rare on forex and OTC charts.

Mistake: Without real gaps it’s a morning doji star — still useful, but weaker.

Three Outside Up

BULLISH



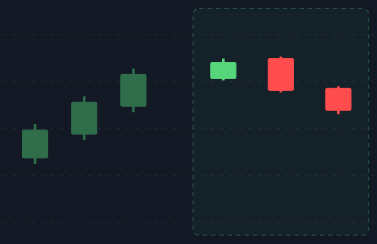
Where: After a price decline. A bullish engulfing plus a third green candle that closes even higher. A confirmed turn up.

Confirm: The third candle is the built-in confirmation.

Mistake: If the third candle closes back inside the engulfing body, the signal is weak.

Three Outside Down

BEARISH



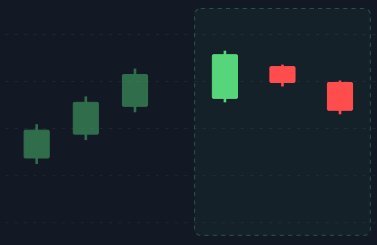
Where: After a price advance. A bearish engulfing plus a third red candle that closes even lower. A confirmed turn down.

Confirm: The third candle is the built-in confirmation.

Mistake: If the third candle closes back inside the engulfing body, the signal is weak.

Three Inside Down

BEARISH



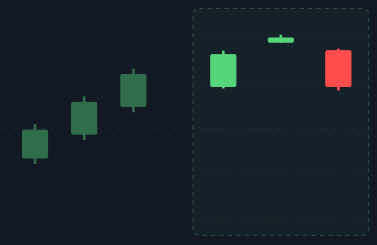
Where: After a price advance. A bearish harami plus a red candle closing below the first candle's open. Sellers confirm the turn.

Confirm: The third candle is the confirmation built into the pattern.

Mistake: If the third candle doesn't close below the first open, it's only a harami.

Bearish Abandoned Baby

BEARISH



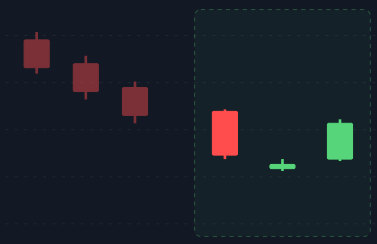
Where: After a price advance. A doji gaps above a green candle, then a red candle gaps back down. A rare, strong top.

Confirm: The downward gap is the confirmation. True gaps are rare on forex and OTC charts.

Mistake: Without real gaps it's an evening doji star — useful, but weaker.

Morning Doji Star

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. A morning star where the middle candle is a doji. Selling, a perfect pause, then buyers return.

Confirm: The third candle is the confirmation. Check support for extra strength.

Mistake: A weak third candle that doesn't reach the red midpoint isn't enough.

Evening Doji Star

BEARISH



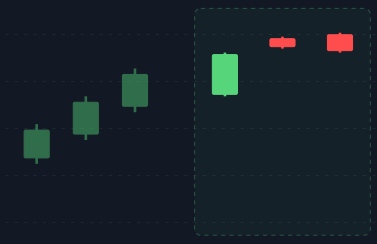
Where: After a price advance. An evening star where the middle candle is a doji. Buying, a perfect pause, then sellers take over.

Confirm: The third candle is the confirmation. Check resistance for extra strength.

Mistake: A weak third candle that doesn't reach the green midpoint isn't enough.

Upside Gap Two Crows

BEARISH



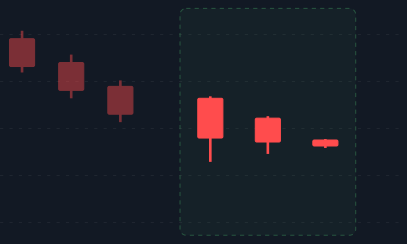
Where: After a price advance. After a big green candle, two red candles open higher but the second swallows the first. The rally is failing.

Confirm: A next red candle closing into the first green body confirms the turn.

Mistake: It's a warning, not a reversal yet — the gap is still open.

Three Stars in the South

BULLISH



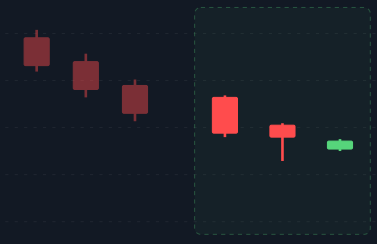
Where: After a price decline. Three red candles that keep getting smaller. Each one has less selling than the last.

Confirm: A green candle after it confirms the bottom.

Mistake: Rare and easy to misread. Shrinking candles alone are not enough without the higher lows.

Unique Three River Bottom

BULLISH



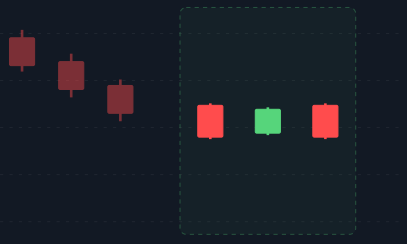
Where: After a price decline. A long red, a red hammer-like candle at a new low, then a small green candle. A slow, quiet bottom.

Confirm: A strong green close above the second candle confirms the turn.

Mistake: Very rare. Don't force it — a regular hammer setup reads the same idea.

Stick Sandwich

BULLISH



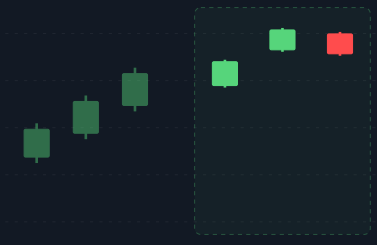
Where: After a price decline. Red, green, red — with the two reds closing at the same price. Support is holding.

Confirm: A green move away from the shared close confirms support.

Mistake: If price closes below the shared level, the support has broken.

Upside Tasuki Gap

BULLISH



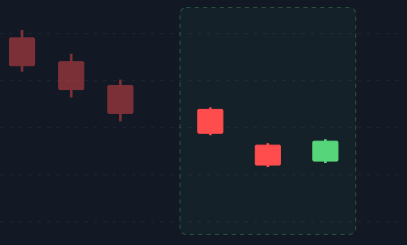
Where: After a price advance. Two green candles with a gap, then a red candle that dips into the gap but doesn't close it. The uptrend continues.

Confirm: A next green candle confirms the trend continues.

Mistake: If the red candle fully closes the gap, the pattern fails.

Downside Tasuki Gap

BEARISH



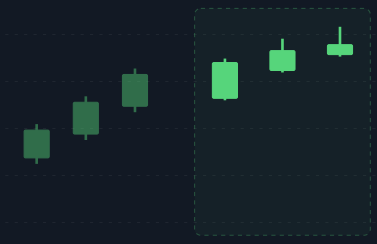
Where: After a price decline. Two red candles with a gap, then a green candle that bounces into the gap but doesn't close it. The downtrend continues.

Confirm: A next red candle confirms the trend continues.

Mistake: If the green candle fully closes the gap, the pattern fails.

Advance Block

BEARISH



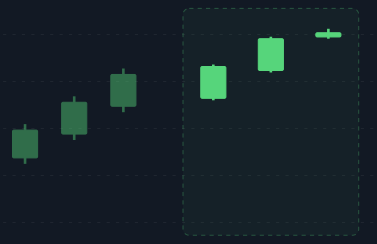
Where: After a price advance. Three green candles, but each body shrinks and the upper wicks grow. The rally is running out of fuel.

Confirm: A red candle next confirms the weakness.

Mistake: Don't confuse it with three white soldiers — shrinking bodies are the key difference.

Deliberation Pattern

BEARISH



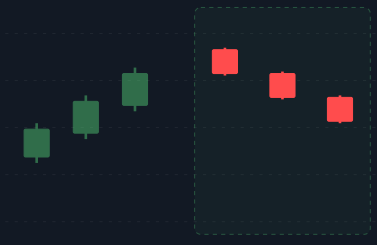
Where: After a price advance. Two big green candles, then a small one at the top. Buyers stop to "think" — a stall.

Confirm: A red candle next turns the stall into a possible reversal.

Mistake: It's a pause signal. Many deliberations simply continue higher.

Identical Three Crows

BEARISH



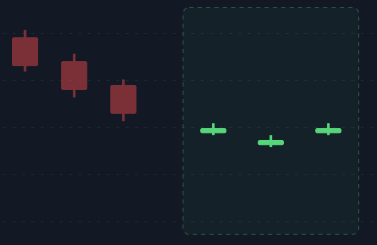
Where: After a price advance. Three red candles where each one opens at the previous close. Relentless selling.

Confirm: The three closes themselves are the signal. Watch for support below.

Mistake: After a long fall, it may mean sellers are exhausted. Don't chase late.

Bullish Tri-Star

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. Three dojis in a row at the bottom, the middle one lowest. Selling has completely stopped.

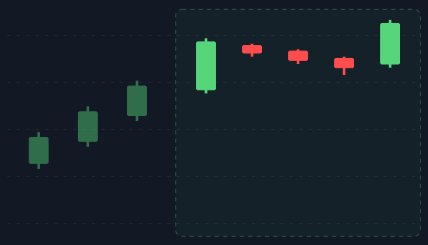
Confirm: A green candle above the third doji confirms the turn.

Mistake: Very rare. In quiet markets, many dojis in a row mean nothing.

Multi-candle patterns

Rising Three Methods

BULLISH



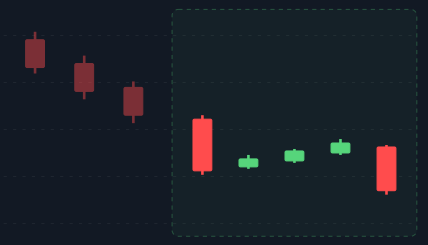
Where: After a price advance. A big green candle, three small pullback candles, then another big green. The uptrend just took a breath.

Confirm: The final close above the first candle's high is the confirmation.

Mistake: If the pullback breaks below the first candle's low, the pattern is invalid.

Falling Three Methods

BEARISH



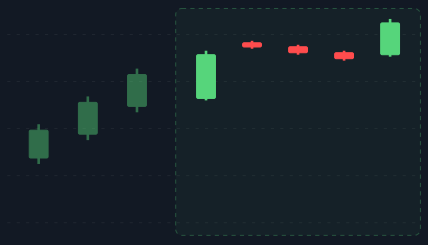
Where: After a price decline. A big red candle, three small bounce candles, then another big red. The downtrend just paused.

Confirm: The final close below the first candle's low is the confirmation.

Mistake: If the bounce breaks above the first candle's high, the pattern is invalid.

Mat Hold

BULLISH



Where: After a price advance. A big green candle, a gap up, three small dips that hold high, then a green breakout. A strong continuation.

Confirm: The final close above the small candles is the confirmation.

Mistake: If the dips break deep into the first candle, it is no longer a mat hold.

Ladder Bottom

BULLISH



Where: After a price decline. Three red steps down, a fourth red with an upper wick, then a green candle gaps up. The ladder of selling ends.

Confirm: The green fifth candle is the confirmation.

Mistake: Rare. Without the upper wick on the fourth candle, it's just a falling market.

Bullish Breakaway

BULLISH



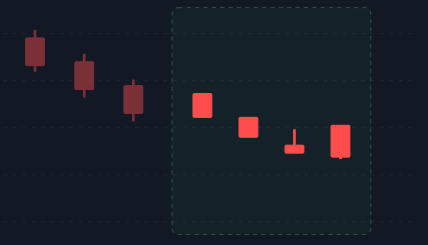
Where: After a price decline. A long red candle, a gap down, three small candles drifting lower, then a big green candle closing inside the gap.

Confirm: Follow-through above the fifth candle adds confirmation.

Mistake: Without the opening gap it's just a pullback ending. Rare on forex.

Concealing Baby Swallow

BULLISH



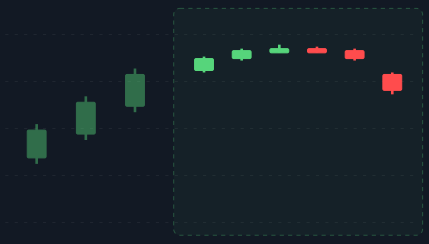
Where: After a price decline. Two red marubozus, a red candle with an upper wick, then a big red that swallows it. Selling exhausts itself.

Confirm: A green close above the fourth candle confirms the bottom.

Mistake: Very rare and counterintuitive. Always wait for a green confirmation.

Dumpling Top

BEARISH



Where: After a price advance. A rounded top of small candles, then a gap down. Buying slowly fades and price drops away.

Confirm: The gap down is the confirmation. Price staying below it keeps the view bearish.

Mistake: A rounded top without the gap is only a slowdown, not a confirmed top.