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How to write MACD Histogram scan ?

Looking to find out how to program scan to find rise or fall in macd histogram from previous day? Thank You.

1

[formula](#) [macd](#) [scan](#) [histogram](#)

edited Feb 09 '12 at 15:35



Windsurf

10.5k • 1 • 98 • 158

asked Feb 09 '12 at 15:26



blacksheep1

63 • 3 • 6

3 Answers:

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6

Hi blacksheep1, all the advice on here is good and the links are worthwhile, but I think it can be a lot to absorb and maybe a little frustrating. So here are a few quick tips so you can get some results a little sooner, while you can go back to the resources above when you get stumped (most of these have been mentioned elsewhere by others):

1. If you like the **standard workbench**, put a very simple scan together there, then click "advanced workbench" at the bottom and you will see how the SC code writer does it.
2. If you would rather work straight from the **advanced workbench**, take advantage of the "Scan builder" feature.

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Asked: Feb 09 '12 at 15:26

Seen: 2,741 times

Last updated: Feb 10 '12 at 21:26

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out from scratch. A very good and easy way to learn.

3. The first thing you put in should be something to **limit how many hits you get** - select these from either ticker properties or sector and industries, so you don't get overwhelmed with hits.
4. When you create a scan, remember to **create a chart style with the same indicator and parameters**; so if you do Full Stoch %K (14,3,3) < 20, add a chart style that includes Full Stoch (14,3,3). You need this to check your results (hat tip to Gord - for this and others)
5. The **advanced workbench allows you to edit** whatever you have selected from scan builder, so you can change parameter values or compare an indicator to a different value than the scan builder gives you.
6. **There can be more than one way to say the same thing**, but you can't make things up, for example, "yesterday" is the same as "1 day ago", but "one day ago" is illegal. You just have to learn those things (from the manual - see links above)
7. The check syntax error messages can be confusing. It's usually **spelling or punctuation**. If you insert from the drop down lists, it won't be spelling. So check brackets "[" and parentheses " (", (they always come in pairs) and commas and spaces.
8. It's alot easier to find and fix errors (and prevent them in the first place) if you put **one statement per line**, and begin each line with "and". For instance

[group is sp500]

and [MACD Hist (12,26,9) > 0.0]

and [MACD Hist (12,26,9) > 1 day ago MACD Hist (12,26,9)]

OK, this is getting as long as the manual itself. I know some of this will be pretty obvious to some people but new to others. Hope this helps, blacksheep1. Stick with it. You will be rewarded.

[link](#)

edited Feb 09 '12 at 20:52

answered Feb 09 '12 at 20:49



markd
15.4k • 15 • 23

Markd, I like it !!

Like Ta4u said recently, gotta make this one a "Sticky" in the scanning section, (wish we could do that ?).

It would be great to have a few dozen of "these" we could just keep making better and better, then just keep linking back to

[Help with Bearish MACD Scan on Specific Stock](#)

[How to make MACD weekly crossover scan?](#)

[MACD HISTO \(tough question\)](#)

[how do i write a scan for macd divergence?](#)

[MACD HISTOGRAM CROSSOVER \(TICK UP/TICK DOWN\) PRICE Calculation](#)

[What is the use of MACD Histogram](#)

[Can anyone assist for Full stoch crossover](#)

[Does it exist ?](#)

[I am looking for a scan that include setup \(long and short\) using 3 indicators...](#)

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Gord (Feb 09 '12 at 21:06)

Markd, that was exactly what I was looking for--thank you, along with your kind vote of confidence. I was starting to have my reservations on commenting or asking another question again after the comment above stating "we are not a scan writing service". I was like ouch, where did that come from... Good to deal with people like you. Its obvious the site needs to be meticulously searched before asking questions, but your writing above was priceless to the guy that ask the question. Thanks Again. -blacksheep1

blacksheep1 (Feb 09 '12 at 23:18)

@markd Since you a one of the front-runners here, I am pretty sure some of us would like to know your position on the matter (scan writing service). Thanks beforehand.

ta4u (Feb 09 '12 at 23:38)

Blacksheep1, sorry if you took my comment the wrong way, that was not the intent and I was having a bad day. Many of us have been here since day 1, if you go back and read every post and comment I think you will understand.

Glad to see you figured out how to vote and accept answers, its part of what makes this forum work. In particular you are the only one who can checkmark an answer to your question. You will see alot of questions on the home page with answers but no checkmarks indicating the poster has found an acceptable answer, thus they stay on the unanswered questions list forever.

Gord (Feb 10 '12 at 11:48)

@ta4u: For me, the principle is to encourage participation here and recruit and retain subscribers for SC. The freeloading argument is valid, but to me that's not what's happening usually. The SC site's strength, it's comprehensiveness and flexibility, is also it's weakness for retaining newbies. It can be daunting. Some people have limited time and no programming experience, but want to get something out of their investment in the subscription. A few "free" scans demonstrate the payoff for learning and offer moral support, too. Repetitive for veterans, but helpful I think to grow both sites.

markd (Feb 10 '12 at 18:10)

showing 5 of 8 [show all](#)

blacksheep I'm sure you can modify one of the scans in the advanced scan library. [link text](#)

1

[link](#)

edited Feb 09 '12 at 15:40

answered Feb 09 '12 at 15:40



Windsurf

10.5k • 1 • 98 • 158

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Yes check out the scan library of coding, also have a look at this list of help info on scanning.

1 <http://scan.stockcharts.com/questions/5/where-can-i-find-examples-of-advanced-scan-coding-and-help-information/7>

We are all just users here, not a scan writing service, but most are willing to help point you in the right direction, but you gotta do some of the work yourself.

You've got lots to read in the above links, but I'll give you a little hint to think about during your reading;

and [function (a,b,c) > 1 day ago function (a,b,c)]

Cheers Gord

[link](#)

answered **Feb 09 '12 at 17:09**

 Gord
18.6k • 1 • 11 • 22

1 This should be a "sticky" (thanks Gord):

We are all just users here, not a scan writing service, but most are willing to help point you in the right direction, but you gotta do some of the work yourself.

 ta4u (Feb 09 '12 at 17:50)

1 Ya we can't do stickies on this platform, (its fairly limited, too bad). But if we ever approach the 20K+ members here, it may become a standard cut and paste statement.

 Gord (Feb 09 '12 at 18:10)

Your answer