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## How do I scan for stocks that are shortable?

4 I see you can scan for stocks that are optionable, but there is not a selection for stocks that are shortable. Is there some way to do this, and if not, will there be in the future?

short scan

asked Feb 10 '12 at 20:56

 **The\_Chartist**  
55 • 2 • 5

### 4 Answers:

oldest newest most voted

This may be able to help.

4

link

answered Feb 11 '12 at 16:21

 **ekwong**  
8.3k • 1 • 30 • 39

Wkwong, Good find, I know they could check if a stock has options available on the major option exchanges, (SC does this also), but don't see how they would know if specific brokers have loaner stocks available for specific customers to short?

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 Gord (Feb 11 '12 at 17:31)

True enough. Like Gord said you have to check with their broker at the time of the trade as well.

 ekwong (Feb 11 '12 at 18:05)

Short answer is NO and I can't think of any way that it would ever be possible.

- 4** Start by doing a little research on how to short stocks. If you are still interested then talk with your broker, they usually need some special account forms and paperwork before they will allow you to short stocks and probably require a margin account with backing. (this will also vary by region, here in Canada a full blown cash/margin/option/short account will require a min of \$100K per acct).

Then ask your broker for a list of their current stocks available for shorting, they will usually tell you to call in at the time you want to short, as the availability of loaner stocks for shorting will vary day by day, minute by minute.

Good luck with your DD

Gord

[link](#)

edited Feb 10 '12 at 21:55

answered Feb 10 '12 at 21:23

 Gord  
18.4k • 11 • 22

- 3** Along with Gord's guidance, if you are interested in pursuing this I would fire up a search engine and familiarize yourself with the term "short interest". Understanding which stocks are heavily shorted will be beneficial. Watch out for that "short squeeze" ;-)

Trade safe.

[link](#)

answered Feb 11 '12 at 13:47

 AgnosticTrader  
8.7k • 26 • 36

If you know how to write scans start with stocks with a RSI2 > 70 with an Elder Impulse Sytem blue bar.

- 3** Personally, I hate shorting stocks as: (a) I hate paying my broker interest (b) I hate paying back dividends if I short the wrong stock at the wrong time and (c) you can get kicked in the pants good and hard during earning season with a big gap up.

## Definitions?

### Slope (50) with SMA (10) Overlay Scan

I am new to this website. How can I learn more to know what parameters to put in order to code the scan

Would you use a "score sorting" in your scan results?

How do you scan for \$5 and 5% move either way?

How can I scan for the "Pocket Pivot" setup?

Can I write a scan for dividend yield?

When to exit a short term trade that was trending up and now is trending horizontal ?

Personally I prefer to trade large lots of bear ETFs and VXX. Its much easier.

Peace and happy trading :)

[link](#)

edited Feb 11 '12 at 17:25

answered Feb 11 '12 at 17:18



[Love\\_To\\_Trade](#)

6.1k ● 1 ● 9 ● 18

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LtT, all good points to consider when shorting individual stocks.



Gord (Feb 11 '12 at 17:41)

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Thanks Gord! Your post is quite informative too :)



[Love\\_To\\_Trade](#) (Feb 11 '12 at 17:56)

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### Your answer

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