NO STRESS / PRACTICAL EDITION

The calm trader's guide to futures evaluations

A compact decision guide for NQ and MNQ traders comparing evaluation fees, drawdown rules, and the discipline needed to survive them.

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Prices, offers, and rules can change. This guide uses public official sources reviewed on the date above. Treat every plan as a starting point for your own checkout and rulebook review.

How to use this guide

- Start with the checklist on page 4. If a plan fails your loss-limit, platform, or billing requirements, remove it before comparing price.
- Use page 2 to shortlist. Use each linked official page to confirm the live plan, price, and eligibility at checkout.
- Use the worksheet to write your personal daily loss limit, size, and invalidation level before opening a trade.

The operating principle

Your account size is not your risk budget. The drawdown limit is the budget. Position size comes after the stop distance and the dollar value of one point.

This is education, not financial advice. Futures trading involves substantial risk and may not be suitable for every trader. No outcome, payout, pass, or profit is promised.

Compare the rule shape before the headline price

The six examples below are representative public plans. The useful comparison is how the fee recurs, how the loss limit is calculated, and what the target demands.

FIRM / PLAN	PRICE / BILLING	TARGET	LOSS LIMIT	SOURCE
Lucid Trading **LucidPro 50K**	$192 one-time	$3,000	$2,000 end-of-day	plan
Bulenox **Qualification 50K**	$175 / 30 days one-time access	$3,000	up to $2,500 trailing	accounts & pricing
Leeloo Trading **Foundation Launch 50K**	$280 monthly	$3,000	$2,500 trailing	official site
Topstep **Trading Combine 50K**	$49 / month standard path	$3,000	$2,000 trailing max loss	pricing help
Tradeify **Select 50K**	$165 one-time	$3,000	$2,000 end-of-day	pricing reference
Apex Trader Funding **50K EOD**	dynamic one-time / 30 days	$3,000	$2,000 EOD trailing	EOD rules

Current offer notes

Lucid: official page displayed code VAULT with a price and checkout price, but no percentage or end date. Bulenox: official page lists code BULENOX as an always-on best available discount, with no stated amount. Other firms had no fully specified current public code verified in the research. Verify every resulting price at checkout.

Monthly vs one-time: why it matters

A monthly plan keeps charging while the evaluation remains active; a one-time plan generally buys a defined access window. Compare the total cost of your likely attempts, then check reset, cancellation, and inactivity rules in the firm's current terms.

Do not read a 50K label as $50,000 of usable loss. The loss limit in the table is the practical constraint.

Drawdown is the rule that sizes your trade

A drawdown is the distance between the account's allowed equity floor and your current reference point. The reference point may update at end of day or trail your highest balance, depending on the plan.

Three questions before every trade

1. What is my dollar risk if the stop is hit? 2. Does unrealized profit move the loss floor? 3. What happens if I hold through the session close?

NQ and MNQ: the contract math

CME lists the E-mini Nasdaq-100 (NQ) contract at $20 per index point and the Micro E-mini Nasdaq-100 (MNQ) at $2 per index point. Confirm the current specifications directly at CME Micro E-mini Nasdaq-100.

Example	Formula	Result
MNQ stop risk	2 contracts x 10-point stop x $2/point	**$40 planned risk**
NQ equivalent	1 contract x 10-point stop x $20/point	**$200 planned risk**
Risk cap	$2,000 drawdown x 1% personal cap	**$20 max risk**
Sizing check	$20 / (10 points x $2) = 1 MNQ	**1 MNQ fits the cap**

Illustrative example only

Suppose your selected plan has a $2,000 drawdown and you choose a 1% personal risk cap: $20. With a 10-point stop, one MNQ risks $20. Two MNQ contracts would risk $40 and exceed that personal cap. The plan's loss limit is not a suggestion; your own cap should be tighter.

The stop must be structural

Set the invalidation level before entry. If the stop widens, recalculate size. Never add contracts to recover a loss, and never assume a trailing floor waits for the session close.

Rule language to look for

- End-of-day: the reference level is calculated at a stated session boundary, but intraday liquidation rules may still apply.
- Trailing: the floor can move up as your balance or peak equity rises. Ask whether unrealized gains move it.
- Daily loss limit: a separate intraday cap can liquidate you before the maximum drawdown is reached.

Your evaluation checklist and worksheet

Print this page or copy it into your journal. A good plan is one whose rules you can explain without opening the sales page.

CHECK BEFORE PURCHASE	YOUR ANSWER
Plan name and account type	_____
Fee: one-time, 30-day, or monthly?	_____
Profit target and minimum days	_____
Maximum drawdown and method	_____
Daily loss limit / liquidation rule	_____
Platform and data connection	_____
Reset, cancellation, and payout terms	_____
Affiliate relationship disclosed?	_____

My trade plan for today

Instrument	Entry idea	Stop / points	Contracts	$ risk	Invalidation
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Official sources used

CME MNQ contract specs: https://www.cmegroup.com/markets/equities/nasdaq/micro-e-mini-nasdaq-100.html

Lucid plan page / fees: https://lucidtrading.com/ref/pfm/?click_id=0df83d1d-c75e-460e-b621-ec6d17f58153

Bulenox accounts and pricing: https://bulenox.com/accounts-pricing

Leeloo current plans: https://leelootrading.com/

Topstep pricing and parameters: https://help.topstep.com/en/articles/14289835-topstep-pricing-and-payment-questions

Tradeify pricing reference: https://help.tradeify.co/en/articles/14369021-tradeify-pricing-reference

Apex EOD evaluation rules: https://apextraderfunding.com/help-center/eod-trailing-drawdown-accounts/eod-evaluations/

Prepared for No Stress Futures Trading. Research date: 29 September 2026. Offers and rules are volatile; revisit the linked official source immediately before purchase.