



HEXAU PANDA

by FOREX PANDA • PANDA LAB • forexpanda.net

User Manual

Expert Advisor for MetaTrader 5

[INPUT REFERENCE](#) • [DASHBOARD GUIDE](#) • [VERSION 16](#)

Version 16

Manual edition: October 2026

6

strategies

Buy

only, gold

Hedging

account

No

DLL needed



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CHAPTER 1

About HEXAU PANDA

HEXAU PANDA is an automated trading program (Expert Advisor) for MetaTrader 5. It is built for **gold (XAUUSD)** and runs **six independent strategies** side by side. Every strategy has its own trading hours, opens **buy** orders only and manages its own group of orders, called a **basket**.

Around the strategies sit several layers of protection (basket stop, time stop, Friday close-out, news pause, margin buffer, order and lot caps, optional account loss limit) and a **dashboard** that is drawn on the chart and shows how the account and the EA are doing.

Item	Details
Platform	MetaTrader 5, hedging account (several positions per symbol). A netting account is not supported: the EA stops and says so in the Experts log.
Instrument	Gold (XAUUSD). Distances are in points and are tuned for gold quoted with 2 decimals (1 point = 0.01).
Direction	Buy only.
Strategies	6, each with its own session window, its own magic number and its own basket.
Chart timeframe	Any. The EA reads its own fixed timeframes and does not depend on the chart timeframe.
Magic numbers	Six consecutive numbers: base, base+1 ... base+5 (default 1234-1239).
External access	No DLL. No WebRequest. News come from the economic calendar built into MetaTrader 5.
Files	One small cache file for the dashboard (<i>HXPD_hist_<account>_h<hour>.bin</i>) in the terminal's Common\Files folder. It can be deleted at any time.

How a trade works - in 60 seconds

1. **Wait for the window.** A strategy only looks for an entry during its own hours (server time, chapter 4).
2. **Signal.** When a new bar of the strategy's timeframe starts, two DeMarker momentum readings on two different timeframes must both point up. If the strategy has no open order, it opens a buy (order 1).
3. **Grid.** If price falls by the *grid distance* below the lowest order of that strategy, one more order of the same lot is added (checked once per minute), up to the maximum number of orders.
4. **Exit.** All orders of the strategy close together when price rises above the *basket target*: the average price of the basket plus a few points.
5. **Protection.** Basket stop, time stop, Friday close-out, news pause and the other rules may pause the strategy or close the basket earlier.



One strategy, one basket (equal lots)

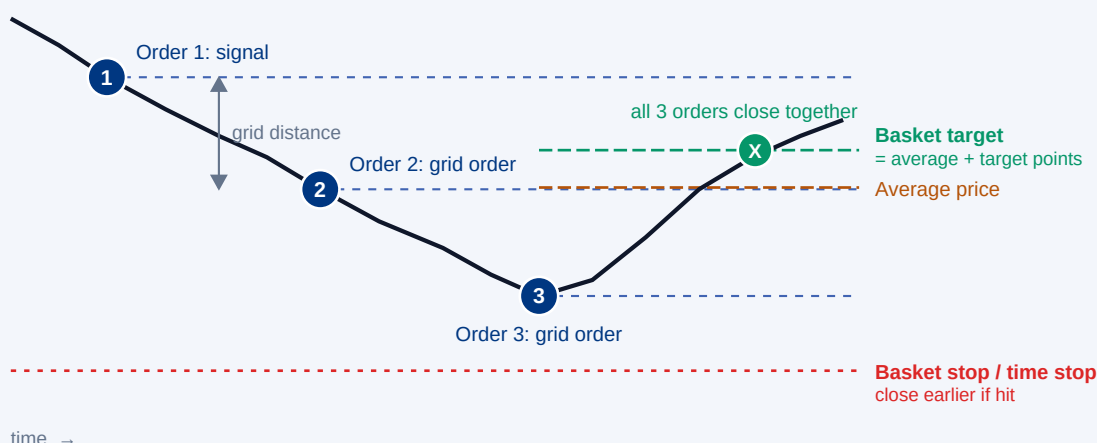


Figure 1 - A basket with three orders. The dashed lines show the levels used by the EA.

Be aware: this is a grid (averaging) system

Orders are added while price moves against the basket, and single orders have **no stop loss of their own**. The basket is closed by its target - or by the protection rules in chapter 5. A long, strong move against open baskets can cause large losses. Lot size, maximum orders and the protection settings decide how large the risk is. Read chapter 9.

CHAPTER 2

Requirements and installation

Checklist

Requirement	Why
1 MetaTrader 5 with a hedging account	The six baskets hold several positions on the same symbol.
2 Gold chart, for example XAUUSD	Distances and spread limits are set in points for a 2-decimal gold quote. The symbol name differs per broker (XAUUSD, GOLD, ...).
3 Algo Trading button on (green) and "Allow Algo Trading" ticked for the EA	Without it the EA cannot send orders. The EA panel shows the reason when trading is blocked.
4 Stable connection - a VPS is recommended	Baskets are managed on every tick and a basket can stay open for hours.
5 A broker with low gold spreads	New orders are skipped while the spread is above the limit (default 100 points).
6 Know your broker's server time	All hours in this manual and in the inputs are server time (the clock in Market Watch). Brokers use different server time zones, so check that your broker's server time suits the strategy windows. If you are unsure, ask the vendor.

Step by step

1. Open a **gold chart** (any timeframe).
2. Open the Navigator (Ctrl+N), find **HEXAU PANDA** under Expert Advisors and drag it onto the chart.
3. Tab **Common**: tick **Allow Algo Trading**.



4. Tab **Inputs**: choose the **Strategy set** (section 4) and the lot settings (section 1). The defaults are a careful starting point (chapter 3).
5. Click OK. A smiling face in the top right corner of the chart means the EA is running.
6. Open the **Experts** tab of the Toolbox and read the start messages (below).

What you should see in the Experts tab

Message	Meaning
HEXAU PANDA MT5 v16 started	The EA is loaded.
Strategy N: grid x2.00 = 300 pts max orders 10 magic 1234	One line for each active strategy: its real grid distance in points and its magic number.
HEXAU PANDA equalizer: Off first-order lots: S1 0.01 ...	The lot each strategy will use for a new basket.
HEXAU PANDA enabled strategies: 2	Number of strategies that are switched on (default Low set = 2).
HEXAU PANDA news: n event time(s) loaded	The news filter found n upcoming events in the next 2 days.
HEXAU PANDA dashboard: ON ...	The dashboard is drawn on the chart.

One EA per symbol

Attach HEXAU PANDA once per symbol. If another EA on the same account uses the same magic numbers, change the magic number of one of them. With the setting "Own trades = magic AND comment" (default on) HEXAU PANDA ignores trades of other EAs, and the EA panel tells you when it sees such trades.

CHAPTER 3

Quick start

You can start with the defaults. They are a cautious setup: the **Low** strategy set, a lot that follows your balance, and all protection layers switched on.

Setting	Default	Where
Strategy set	Low risk: strategies 5 and 6	4
Lot size	Dynamic: 0.01 lot per 1,000 of balance, Equalizer off	1
Maximum orders per basket	10	1
Grid distance	x2.0 (S5 = 1,000 points, S6 = 600 points)	1
Basket stop	3.5 % of balance, per basket	2
Time stop	36 trading hours	2
Margin buffer	no new order below 300 % margin level	2
Account loss limit	Off	2
Spread limit	100 points	3
News protection	Top 5 gold events, 30 min before / 30 min after, grid orders paused too	6
Friday close-out	Yes, from 22:00 server time	7
Dashboard	On (Info, Calendar and EA panel)	8

"Where" = the input section in chapter 7.



Choosing the strategy set

Set	Strategies	What it means
Low risk	5, 6	Fewest strategies and fewest baskets at the same time.
Medium risk	1, 4, 5, 6	Adds an early-morning strategy (1) and a morning strategy (4).
High risk	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	All six: more baskets can be open at the same time, so more risk.
Custom	your choice	Tick the strategies yourself in section 5 of the inputs.

How the lot size follows your balance

In **Dynamic** mode the starting lot is *lots per 1,000* x the number of full thousands in your balance (at least one). With the default 0.01 and the Equalizer off, every strategy starts with:

Balance	1,000	2,500	5,000	10,000	25,000
Starting lot	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.25

A basket keeps the lot of its **first** order for all its grid orders - also after a restart, a time-frame change or a change of the inputs. A new basket uses the current settings.

Start on a demo account

Run the EA on a demo account first. Watch how the baskets behave, check the Experts log and get used to the dashboard before you trade real money.

CHAPTER 4

The six strategies

All strategies buy only. They differ in their trading window, in the timeframe of the signal, in their base grid distance and in their basket target. A strategy looks for an entry only inside its window, at the start of a new bar of its signal timeframe, and only when it has no open order.

Strategy	Window (server time)	Signal bar	Base grid (points)	Grid with default x2.0	Basket target (points above average)	In sets
S1	03:00-03:59	M15	150	300	50	Medium, High
S2	22:00-22:59	M15	150	300	50	High
S3	19:00-19:59	M15	150	300	50	High
S4	06:00-11:59	M5	150	300	150	Medium, High
S5	10:00-13:59	M12	500	1000	200	Low, Medium, High
S6	22:00-22:59	M10	300	600	200	Low, Medium, High

Signal bar = the timeframe whose new bar triggers the check. **Points**: on a gold quote with 2 decimals, 100 points = 1.00 in price. The grid distance used by the EA = base distance x grid multiplier (general or own) x ATR factor (if the ATR grid is on). If the spread, the margin buffer or a cap blocks an entry, the EA tries again while the strategy window lasts.



Basket rules

- **One basket per strategy.** A strategy opens a new first order only when it has no open order.
- **Grid orders** use the same lot as order 1. The next level is the *lowest* open order minus the grid distance. They are checked once per minute, not inside the minute in which the newest order was opened.
- **Basket target.** The target is recalculated whenever the number of orders changes: volume-weighted average price + target points. When the bid price rises above it, all orders of that strategy are closed together.
- **Exits are checked on every tick:** Friday close-out, basket stop, time stop and basket target.
- **Switched-off strategies** open nothing new, but an open basket is still managed (the EA panel shows it as "Exits only").
- **After a restart** the EA recognises its baskets from the open positions (magic number + comment) and continues.

Equalizer: different lot per strategy

The Equalizer multiplies the starting lot per strategy. The built-in levels give the stronger-sized strategies a larger lot. Results are rounded to your broker's lot step and minimum lot (a very small result is raised to the minimum lot).

Equalizer	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6
Off	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Low - careful	0.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.2	0.6
Medium - balanced	0.4	2.0	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.0
High - aggressive	0.6	3.0	3.0	2.4	3.0	1.4
Custom	your values in section 1.2					

Example: balance 5,000, lots per 1,000 = 0.01, Equalizer Medium: S5 starts with $0.05 \times 2.0 = 0.10$ lot, S1 with $0.05 \times 0.4 = 0.02$ lot.

ATR grid (optional)

With **ATR grid = On** the grid distance follows the market: the EA compares the H1 ATR(14) with the H1 ATR(100). When the market is more volatile than usual the grid becomes wider, when it is quieter the grid becomes tighter (factor 0.5 - 2.0, once per H1 bar). The setting "ATR strength" decides how strongly the ratio is used.



CHAPTER 5

Protection system

HEXAU PANDA has several independent layers. They work on different levels - single order, basket, strategy hours, whole EA - and can be combined. Each layer can be switched off with 0 or Off (except the day and Friday switches, which have their own choice).

Layer	Triggers when ...	What happens	Input
Spread filter	Spread is above the limit	No new entry and no new grid order. Exits are not blocked.	3
Margin buffer	Margin level after the new order would be below the minimum (default 300 %)	The order is not sent (entries are retried during the strategy window).	2
Order / lot caps	Open orders or lots of all strategies together would pass the cap	The order is not sent.	2
Basket target	Bid price rises above average + target points	The basket closes with a profit (normal exit).	fixed
Basket stop	Floating loss of one basket reaches x % of the balance (default 3.5 %)	That basket is closed.	2
Time stop	A basket is open longer than x trading hours (default 36, weekends not counted)	That basket is closed.	2
Friday close-out	Friday from the set hour (default 22:00)	All baskets are closed; no new trades until the weekend is over.	7
News pause	Within the set minutes around a selected US event	No new entries; grid orders paused too (default). Exits keep working.	6
Trading days	A weekday is set to "Don't trade"	No new baskets that day; open baskets are still managed.	7
Account loss limit	Floating loss of all EA trades reaches the limit (% of balance or money)	Close all trades; then keep trading, remove the EA, or only alert - as chosen.	2
Own-trade check	A trade has the EA's magic number but not its comment	The trade is ignored (not managed, not closed).	3
Order retries	Requote / price changed on open or close	Up to 3 quick retries; closes are retried every 5 seconds until done.	3

What the EA checks on every tick

1. **Environment** - connection, Algo Trading, account permissions. If trading is blocked the EA logs the reason (once a minute) and waits.
2. **Account loss limit** - if it is hit, everything is closed and nothing new is opened until the account is flat.
3. **New entries** - for every switched-on strategy: window, day, Friday close-out, news pause, new signal bar, signal, spread, caps, margin.
4. **Managing the baskets** - for every strategy that has open orders: Friday close-out, basket stop, time stop, basket target, then (once per minute) grid orders.



News protection in detail

The EA reads the **US** high-importance events from the economic calendar that is built into MetaTrader 5 (no web access, no DLL). It looks 2 days ahead and refreshes the list about once an hour. Four choices exist: *Off*, *NFP only*, *Top 5 gold events* (events whose name contains one of the keywords of the input list: nonfarm payrolls, interest rate decision, FOMC, CPI, PCE) and *All high-impact US events*.

Strategy Tester

The news filter is **not active in the Strategy Tester** because the calendar is not available there. Backtests therefore trade through news that the live EA would avoid. The dashboard is also switched off in the tester.

Friday close-out and the weekend

With the default settings every basket is closed on Friday from 22:00 server time and no new trade is opened until the next week. Strategies 2 and 6 trade in the 22:00 hour on the other days. Switch the close-out off only if you accept holding baskets over the weekend gap.

CHAPTER 6

The dashboard

The dashboard is drawn on the chart. It has three sections that you can show or hide with the chips in the header.

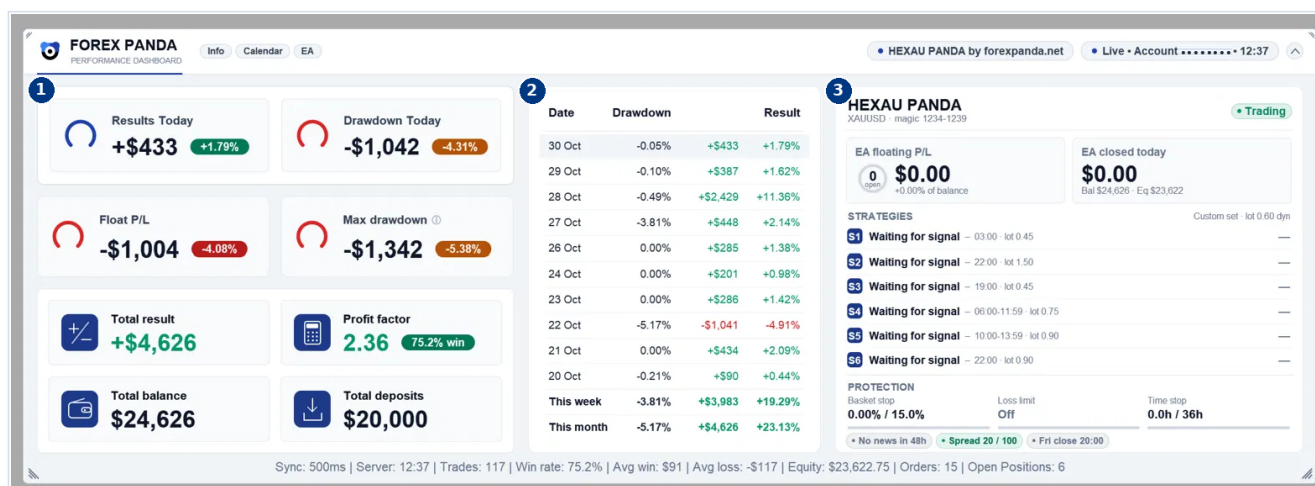


Figure 2 - The dashboard on the chart (HEXAU PANDA version 16). 1 = Info, 2 = Calendar, 3 = EA panel.

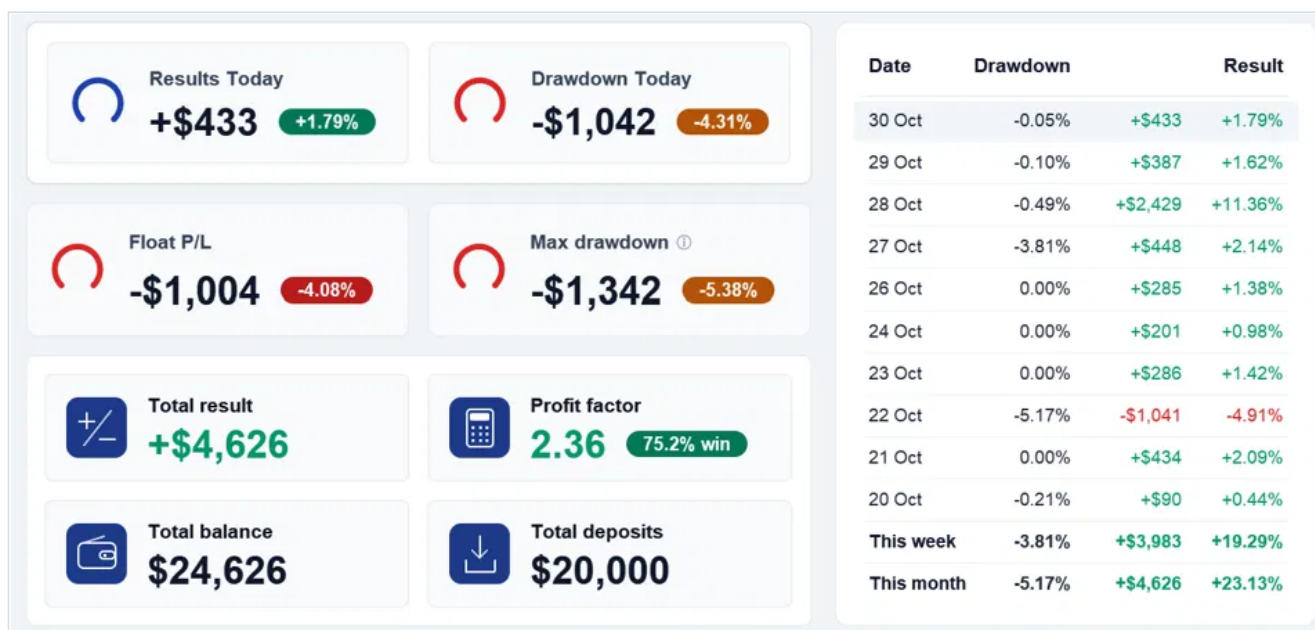


Figure 3 - Enlarged: Section 1 (Info) and Section 2 (Calendar).

1 Info - eight cards (whole account)

Card	What it shows
Results Today	Result of the trading day, depending on the setting "Results Today is calculated as" (default: closed trades only). With a gauge and the % of the day's start balance.
Drawdown Today	The largest gap between balance and equity so far today (floating loss), in money and as % of the day's start balance.
Float P/L	Floating profit or loss of all open positions, and as % of the balance.
Max drawdown	The largest drop from a peak since the history of the account began (the current equity is included).
Total result	Sum of all closed trades (profit, commission, swap, fees); deposits are not counted.
Profit factor	Gross profit divided by gross loss of all closed trades, with the win rate.
Total balance	Current balance.
Total deposits	Sum of all deposits.

The line at the bottom shows server time, number of trades, win rate, average win and loss, equity, pending orders and open positions.

2 Calendar

One row per trading day: **Drawdown** (largest drop of that day, % of the day's start balance), **Result** in money and in % of the day's start balance. Today is highlighted. The rows **This week** and **This month** add up the period. Info and Calendar show the **whole account**, not only HEXAU PANDA.

Why can "Drawdown Today" differ from today's row? The card measures the largest gap between balance and equity today (floating loss). The Calendar row measures the drop from today's highest equity. Both are correct; they answer different questions, so the two numbers can differ - as in Figure 2.



3 EA panel (HEXAU PANDA only)

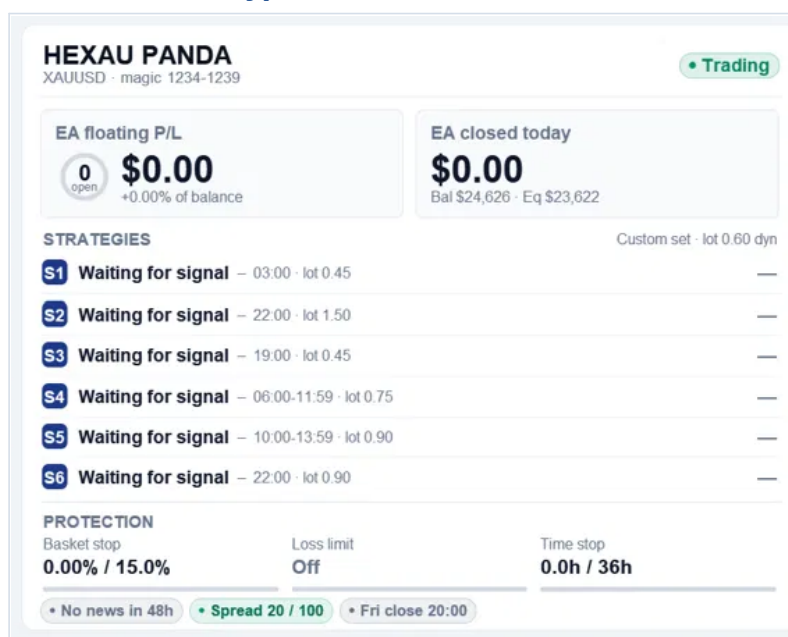


Figure 4 - Enlarged: Section 3 (EA panel).

- **Status badge** - Trading, News pause, High spread, Friday close, Day off, Max exposure, Low margin, Loss limit hit, Magic conflict, or a connection / permission problem (No connection, Algo Trading off, EA not allowed, EA trading blocked, Account read-only). When the badge is not "Trading", it tells you why no new trade opens.
- **EA floating P/L** and **EA closed today** - only trades of this EA (magic number and comment match). Other EAs on the account are left out.
- **Strategies S1-S6** - one line each: *OFF - Not used*, *Waiting for signal* with its hours and next lot, or a running basket with number of orders, lots, take-profit price (TP), the price of the next grid order and its floating result. A bar shows how many of the allowed orders are used.
- **Protection meters** - Basket stop, Loss limit and Time stop: how close the EA is to each limit (green, amber, red).
- **Chips** - next news event or the pause end time, current spread against the limit, and the Friday close-out time.

Working with the window

- **Move**: press the header and drag. The position is remembered.
- **Collapse / expand**: click the header (or the round button on the right). The collapsed bar still shows the EA status, today's result, drawdown, float P/L and equity.
- **Show / hide a section**: click its chip in the header, or double-click inside a section to hide it.
- **Resize**: drag any corner. Double-click a corner to go back to the automatic size.
- **Small chart**: the dashboard shrinks to fit the chart. If there is not enough width for all sections, they give way in this order: Calendar, Info, EA panel. The section you switched on last is always kept.

Drawdown alert

When today's drawdown reaches the *alert level* (default 3 % of the day's start balance) the drawdown badge turns amber and a warning sound plays once per day. A pop-up window can be added. The alert does not stop or close any trade - use the account loss limit (section 2) for that.



Dashboard load

Trading checks run first on every tick. The dashboard redraws only when a value has changed, reads the deal history in short slices and is switched off in the Strategy Tester. If you do not need it, set the master switch in section 8 to "Don't show".

CHAPTER 7

Input reference

All inputs of version 16, in the order of the input window. The names are exactly as shown in MetaTrader 5. Time is server time. "Points" are broker points (on a gold quote with 2 decimals, 100 points = 1.00).

Section 1. Lot Size & Grid Distance

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Lot size mode: Fixed, or Dynamic (grows with balance)	Dynamic lot (grows with your balance)	How the starting lot of a new basket is chosen. Fixed : always the fixed lot below. Dynamic : the lot grows with your balance (see "Dynamic lot").
Fixed lot size (when Lot mode = Fixed)	0.01	Starting lot when the lot mode is Fixed. Must be above 0 (max. 100). Rounded to your broker's lot step.
Dynamic lot: lots per 1000 balance (0.01 = 0.02 at 2000)	0.01	Dynamic mode: starting lot for every full 1,000 of balance (at least 1 step). With 0.01: balance 1,000-1,999 = 0.01 lot, 5,500 = 0.05 lot, 12,000 = 0.12 lot. Max. 100.
Equalizer: lot multiplier per strategy (preset or Custom)	Off (same lot for every strategy)	Multiplies the starting lot per strategy, so the strategies can trade different sizes. Off = same lot for every strategy. Low / Medium / High use the built-in tables (chapter 4). Custom uses the multipliers of section 1.2. Lots are rounded to your broker's lot step and minimum lot.
Maximum number of orders in one basket (per strategy)	10	Maximum number of orders in one basket (per strategy). When it is reached, no more grid orders are added. Range 1-100. Every strategy can use its own value (section 5).
Grid distance: 1.0 = standard, 2.0 = twice as far apart	2.0	Stretches the grid distance of all strategies. 1.0 = base distance, 2.0 = twice as far apart, 0.5 = half. Range above 0 up to 20. Every strategy can use its own value (section 5).
Minimum wait between two grid orders (minutes, 0 = none)	0	Minimum pause, in minutes, after the newest order of a basket before the next grid order may be added. 0 = no pause. Max. 10,080 (one week).

Options for "Equalizer: lot multiplier per strategy (preset or Custom)": Off (same lot for every strategy); Low - careful (lots x0.2 to x1.2); Medium - balanced (lots x0.4 to x2.0); High - aggressive (lots x0.6 to x3.0); Custom (set multipliers in section 1.2).

Section 1.1 Grid Distance By Market Volatility (ATR)

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Grid distance follows volatility (ATR): Off / On	Off (grid distance always the same)	Off = the grid distance stays the same. On = the distance follows market volatility (H1 ATR 14 compared with ATR 100): wider when the market is wild, tighter when it is quiet. The factor is limited to 0.5 - 2.0.
ATR strength when On (0 = none, 1 = full)	0.5	How strongly volatility changes the distance when ATR is On. 0 = no effect, 1 = full effect (max. 5). Factor = 1 + strength x (ATR14 / ATR100 - 1).



Section 1.2 Custom Equalizer (1.0 = Base Lot)

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Strategy 1 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	0.4	Lot multiplier of strategy 1 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.
Strategy 2 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	2.0	Lot multiplier of strategy 2 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.
Strategy 3 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	2.0	Lot multiplier of strategy 3 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.
Strategy 4 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	1.6	Lot multiplier of strategy 4 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.
Strategy 5 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	2.0	Lot multiplier of strategy 5 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.
Strategy 6 lot multiplier (Equalizer = Custom)	1.0	Lot multiplier of strategy 6 when the Equalizer is set to Custom. 1.0 = starting lot, 2.0 = double, 0.5 = half. Must be above 0 and at most 10. To switch a strategy off, use section 5.

Section 2. Loss Protection

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Basket stop: floating loss in % of balance (0 = off)	3.5	Basket stop. When the floating loss of ONE strategy's basket reaches this % of your balance, that basket is closed. 0 = off. Range 0-100.
Close a basket after this many trading hours (0 = off)	36	Time stop. A basket that has been open longer than this many trading hours is closed. Weekends are not counted. 0 = off. Max. 8,760.
Account loss protection: action at the loss limit	Off (no account loss limit)	Account loss protection. What happens when the total floating loss of all trades of this EA reaches the limit below. Closing is retried until everything is flat, and no new orders are opened while it closes. Options are listed under the table.
Account loss limit (% or money, as chosen above)	0.0	The limit for the setting above: % of balance (0-100) in the Percent modes, or an amount in your account currency in the Money modes. 0 = off.
No new order if the margin level after it would be below (% , 0 = off)	300.0	Margin buffer. No new order (entry or grid) if the margin level after that order would be below this value in %. Margin level = equity / used margin x 100. 0 = off.
Max open orders of ALL strategies together (0 = off)	0	Cap for all six strategies together: maximum number of open orders of this EA. 0 = off. Max. 1,000.
Max open lots of ALL strategies together (0 = off)	0.0	Cap for all six strategies together: maximum open lots of this EA. 0 = off. Max. 1,000.

Options for "Account loss protection: action at the loss limit": Off (no account loss limit); Percent: close all trades, then keep trading; Percent: close all trades, then remove the EA; Percent: only show an alert; Money: close all trades, then keep trading; Money: close all trades, then remove the EA; Money: only show an alert.



Section 3. Order Settings

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Magic number (strategy N uses magic + N - 1)	1234	ID number that marks this EA's trades. Strategy 1 uses this number, strategy 2 uses +1, and so on up to strategy 6 (+5): default 1234-1239. Must be above 0. Use a different number when another EA runs on the same account.
Text added to every trade as a comment	HEXAUPANDA	Text written into the comment of every trade (max. 31 characters including the [StrategyN] tag). Do not change it while trades are open - see the next setting.
Own trades = magic AND comment match (protects against another EA with the same magic)	Yes	On = a trade counts as this EA's only when its magic number AND the first 6 characters of its comment match. Another EA with the same magic numbers is then ignored (not managed, closed or counted). Off = the magic number alone decides.
Add [StrategyN] to the trade comment	Yes	Yes = adds [Strategy1] ... [Strategy6] to the trade comment, so you can see which strategy opened a trade. No = only your comment text.
No new trades when the spread is above (points)	100	No new order (entry or grid) while the spread is above this many points. Exits are never blocked. Range 0-100,000. On a gold quote with 2 decimals, 100 points = 1.00.
Max price deviation for orders and closes (points)	30	Maximum price deviation, in points, allowed when opening or closing. If the broker re-quotes, the EA retries up to 3 times in quick succession. Range 0-10,000.

Section 4. Strategy Set

The set decides which strategies run. Strategies outside the set can be fine-tuned in section 5 only when the set is Custom.

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Strategy set: Low, Medium, High risk or Custom	Low Risk (strategies 5, 6)	Which strategies run. Low = strategies 5, 6. Medium = 1, 4, 5, 6. High = all six. Custom = you choose in section 5. A strategy that is off opens no new baskets; a basket that is still open keeps being managed (exits only).

Options for "Strategy set: Low, Medium, High risk or Custom": Low Risk (strategies 5, 6); Medium Risk (strategies 1, 4, 5, 6); High Risk (strategies 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6); Custom (I choose the strategies in section 5).



Section 5 Strategy 1 - 6 (own settings)

Every strategy has three settings. They are the same for all six; only the trading window differs.

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Use strategy N? (only when Strategy set = Custom)	Use this strategy	Switches strategy N on or off. It only counts when the Strategy set is Custom ; the other sets decide by themselves.
Own grid distance (0 = use the general setting)	0.0	Replaces the general grid distance (section 1) for this strategy only. 0 = use the general setting. Range 0 - 20.
Own maximum orders (0 = use the general setting)	0	Replaces the general maximum number of orders per basket for this strategy only. 0 = use the general setting. Range 0 - 100.

Group in the input window	Strategy	Enters at (server time)
5.1 Strategy 1 Buy	S1	03:00-03:59
5.2 Strategy 2 Buy	S2	22:00-22:59
5.3 Strategy 3 Buy	S3	19:00-19:59
5.4 Strategy 4 Buy	S4	06:00-11:59
5.5 Strategy 5 Buy	S5	10:00-13:59
5.6 Strategy 6 Buy	S6	22:00-22:59

Section 6. News Protection (US high-impact news)

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
News protection: which events pause trading	Top 5 gold events (names listed below)	Which US high-impact events pause trading. Data comes from the MT5 economic calendar. The filter is not active in the Strategy Tester. Options are listed under the table.
Pause trading this many minutes before the news	30	Minutes before the event when the pause starts. Range 0-1,440.
Keep paused this many minutes after the news	30	Minutes after the event until trading resumes. Range 0-1,440.
During news: pause grid orders too, or keep adding them	Pause grid orders too	During a pause: Pause grid orders too = nothing new is opened; Keep adding grid orders = only new baskets are blocked. Exits keep working in both cases.
Event names for the "Top 5" choice (separate with ;)	nonfarm payrolls ;non-farm payrolls;interest rate decision;fo mc;cpi;pce	Words that select the events for the "Top 5" choice, separated by ;. Not case sensitive. An event is used when its name contains one of the words.

Options for "News protection: which events pause trading": Off (no news protection); NFP only (US jobs report); Top 5 gold events (names listed below); All high-impact US events.

Section 7. Trading Days & Hours

The weekday switches use the server date.

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Friday close-out: close baskets, stop new trades	Yes	Yes = from the hour below on Friday, all baskets are closed and no new trades open (weekend protection). No = baskets may stay open over the weekend.



Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Friday close-out starts at (server time)	22:00	Server-time hour on Friday when the close-out starts.
Monday: trade or don't trade	Trade	Trade = new baskets may open on this server-time day. Don't trade = no new baskets; baskets that are already open are still managed (exits and grid orders).
Tuesday: trade or don't trade	Trade	Trade = new baskets may open on this server-time day. Don't trade = no new baskets; baskets that are already open are still managed (exits and grid orders).
Wednesday: trade or don't trade	Trade	Trade = new baskets may open on this server-time day. Don't trade = no new baskets; baskets that are already open are still managed (exits and grid orders).
Thursday: trade or don't trade	Trade	Trade = new baskets may open on this server-time day. Don't trade = no new baskets; baskets that are already open are still managed (exits and grid orders).
Friday: trade or don't trade	Trade	Trade = new baskets may open on this server-time day. Don't trade = no new baskets; baskets that are already open are still managed (exits and grid orders).

Section 8. Dashboard (off in the Strategy Tester)

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Show the performance dashboard on the chart	Show	Master switch of the dashboard on the chart. It is switched off automatically in the Strategy Tester.
Section 1: Basic Info (today, drawdown, float, totals)	SHOW	Section 1 - Basic Info (8 cards). Can also be switched with the header chip "Info".
Section 2: Calendar (daily table, this week / month)	SHOW	Section 2 - Calendar (daily table, this week, this month). Header chip "Calendar".
Section 3: EA panel (status, strategies, protection, news)	SHOW	Section 3 - EA panel (status, strategies, protection, news / spread / Friday chips). Header chip "EA".
Dashboard name (blue pill, empty = hidden)	HEXAU PANDA by forexpanda.net	Text in the blue pill of the dashboard header. Empty = no pill.
Dashboard theme	Light	Light or Dark colours.
Dashboard style	Professional (flat, sober)	Modern (shadows, glow, curves) or Professional (flat, sober).
Dashboard size factor (0.5 - 1.5)	0.9	Size factor of the whole dashboard, 0.5-1.5. A very large factor is reduced automatically if the picture would need too much memory.



Section 8.1 Dashboard Statistics

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Currency symbol	\$	Currency sign shown in front of money values.
Decimals for money values (0 or 2)	0	Decimals for money values: 0 or 2.
Trading day starts at server hour (0-23)	0	Server hour at which a new trading day starts for all daily figures (Results Today, Drawdown Today, Calendar, "EA closed today"). Range 0-23; 0 = midnight server time.
"Results Today" is calculated as	Closed trades only	How the card "Results Today" is calculated. Options are listed under the table.
Rows in the daily table (5-15)	10	Number of daily rows in the Calendar table, 5-15 (fewer are shown when the panel is too small).
Gauge is full at +X % result today	1.0	The gauges of the Info cards are full at this % of balance.

Options for ""Results Today" is calculated as": Equity change today (closed + floating change); Closed trades only; Closed today + ALL floating P/L (old behaviour).

Section 8.2 Dashboard Alert (daily drawdown %)

Setting (as shown in MT5)	Default	Explanation
Alert level: amber badge + warning sound at (%)	3.0	Alert level. When today's drawdown reaches this % of the day's start balance, the drawdown badge turns amber and a warning sound plays (once per day).
Play a sound when the level is reached (once a day)	Yes	Play the sound when the alert level is reached.
Sound file for the alert (terminal Sounds folder)	alert.wav	Name of the sound file in the terminal's Sounds folder.
Also show a pop-up alert window	No	Also show a pop-up alert window when the alert level is reached.



CHAPTER 8

Troubleshooting and FAQ

The EA does not trade

In most cases this is normal: a strategy only enters inside its window and when its signal is there. Check these points in order:

Check	Where to look	What to do
Is the EA running?	Smiling face in the chart corner; Algo Trading button	Switch Algo Trading on; tick "Allow Algo Trading" in the EA's Common tab.
What does the status badge say?	EA panel, top right	Anything other than "Trading" is the reason: news pause, high spread, Friday close, day off, low margin, max exposure, loss limit.
Is the strategy switched on?	Section 4 and 5	The Low set runs only S5 and S6. Choose Medium / High / Custom for more.
Is it inside the window?	Chapter 4	Windows are server time. A strategy never enters outside its window.
Is a day switched off?	Section 7	Check Monday - Friday and the Friday close-out hour.
Spread / margin / caps	Experts log: "Strategy N: entry postponed - ..."	Raise the limit, reduce the lot, or wait: the entry is retried while the window lasts.
Is it a new basket slot?	EA panel, strategy line	A strategy with an open basket does not open a second one; it adds grid orders instead.

Messages in the Experts log

Message	Meaning and action
this EA needs a HEDGING account ... stopped	Open a hedging account. A netting account cannot be used.
invalid setting - ...	One input is outside its allowed range (the message names it). Correct it and attach the EA again.
System check: terminal trading disabled / EA trading disabled / ...	Algo Trading is off or the account does not allow expert trading.
Strategy N: indicator data not ready after 60 s - bar skipped	The chart history for an indicator was still loading. Usually only at the first start.
Strategy N: entry / grid order postponed - spread too high not enough margin max total orders / lots reached	A protection layer blocked a new order. Not an error.
Drawdown threshold reached ...	The account loss limit was reached. The EA acts as chosen in section 2.
N trade(s) on XAUUSD use this EA's magic numbers ... but were opened by another EA	Another EA uses the same magic numbers. It is ignored. Change one magic number.
news: Strategy Tester detected - news filter inactive	Normal in backtests.



Frequently asked questions

Can I use another symbol than gold?

The EA is built and tuned for gold. Its distances are fixed in points for a 2-decimal gold quote. Other symbols are not covered by this manual.

Can I run other EAs on the same account?

Yes, with different magic numbers. HEXAU PANDA only manages trades that carry its magic numbers and its comment.

I changed the comment text and my open trades are no longer managed.

The comment is part of the own-trade check. Set the old comment text again (or switch the check off), or close the old trades by hand.

I switched a strategy off while a basket was open.

The basket stays managed: it still closes at its target, stop, time stop or Friday close-out, but gets no new grid orders.

The lot is bigger or smaller than I expected.

Check the lot mode, the Equalizer and your broker's lot step and minimum. The startup log prints the first-order lot of every strategy.

Why do dashboard numbers differ from the terminal's history tab?

Info and Calendar count the whole account. The trading day starts at the server hour set in section 8.1. The EA panel counts only HEXAU PANDA trades.

The dashboard is not visible.

Check the master switch (section 8), the header chips (the section may be hidden), and that you are not in the Strategy Tester. On a narrow chart sections give way: Calendar first, then Info, then the EA panel.

Backtest remarks

In the Strategy Tester the news filter and the dashboard are off. Results depend on tick data quality, spread and broker settings, and do not guarantee future results.



CHAPTER 9

Risk warning and support

Risk warning

Trading leveraged products such as gold CFDs carries a high level of risk and is not suitable for everyone. You can lose more than you expect, and you can lose the money in your account. Only trade with money you can afford to lose.

HEXAU PANDA is a grid (averaging) system. Orders are added while price moves against a basket and single orders have no stop loss. A strong, long trend against open baskets can lead to large losses or to the loss of the account, even with the protection layers switched on. The protection settings reduce risk; they cannot remove it.

No result - from a backtest, a demo account, a screenshot or another user - is a promise of future results. Test on a demo account first.

Good practice

- Start on a demo account and with the default **Low** set.
- Choose a lot size that you can afford for a **full basket** (all allowed orders open), not for one order.
- Use a VPS and keep the terminal connected. Do not change inputs while baskets are open unless you know the effect.
- Keep the basket stop, the time stop and the Friday close-out switched on.
- Set the account loss limit (section 2) to a value you can accept.
- Keep your broker's server time in mind: all windows are server time.

Support

Questions about the EA or this manual:

Contact	Details
E-mail	panda@forexpanda.net
Website	forexpanda.net
Legal	Terms & Conditions and Disclaimer: see the website.

When you ask for help, please add: the version (16), the symbol, your broker, your Strategy set and a copy of the first 30 lines of the Experts log after the start.



Glossary

Term	Meaning
Basket	All open orders of one strategy. They open, grow and close together.
Grid order	An extra order added when price moves a set distance against the basket.
Magic number	ID number that marks the trades of an EA. HEXAU PANDA uses six consecutive numbers.
Hedging account	Account type that allows several positions on the same symbol at the same time.
Server time	The clock of your broker's trade server (see Market Watch). Not your local time.
Points	Broker's smallest price step. Gold with 2 decimals: 1 point = 0.01.
Margin level	Equity divided by used margin, in %.
Float P/L	Floating profit or loss of open positions.
ATR	Average True Range: a measure of volatility.
DeMarker	A momentum indicator used for the entry signal.