# WilliamsBreakout

Larry Williams strategy indicator: the volatility breakout from the 9:30 New York open — stop orders, entry, stop, 3R target and statistics — for MetaTrader 4 and MetaTrader 5

*Ready-to-use .EX4 (MT4) and .EX5 (MT5) files*

📖 Статья (RU): https://s4u.pro/probojnaya-strategiya-foreks/strategiya-larri-vilyamsa.html

📖 Article (EN): https://s4u.pro/en/larry-williams-volatility-breakout-strategy/

▶ Видео (RU): https://youtu.be/wPEHWTSt-bk

▶ Video (EN): https://youtu.be/wPEHWTSt-bk

✈ Telegram: https://t.me/strategy4you

| | |
|---|---|
| **Files:** | WilliamsBreakout.ex4 (MT4)<br>WilliamsBreakout.ex5 (MT5) |
| **Program type:** | Indicator (not an Expert Advisor or script), does not trade |
| **Draws:** | Stop-order corridor from the 9:30 open, buy stop / sell stop, entry / SL / TP, trade result, statistics |
| **Article market:** | NAS100 |
| **Article timeframe:** | M5 |
| **Version:** | v1.00 |
| **Author:** | @Strategy4you |

# 1. What is the Williams breakout?

**Larry Williams** won the 1987 Robbins championship (+11,376% in a year) with a **volatility breakout**: take a part of yesterday's range from the open and enter with a stop order in whichever direction price goes first. The indicator does it from the New York stock market open: it takes yesterday's 9:30–16:00 session range, places virtual buy stop and sell stop orders 10% of that range from the 9:30 open, the first one filled is the trade and the other is deleted; the stop is half the range, the target 3R, otherwise close at 16:00 New York time.

> ! **What R means.** R is the stop size of a trade. Stop hit — **−1R**; price moved three stops in our favour — **+3R**. The stop is half of yesterday's NAS100 range: the median stop in 2026 was ≈ 170 points. At 0.25% risk per trade, 1R = 0.25% of the account. The whole article result: +280R = +16,595 NAS100 points.

Full strategy description: https://s4u.pro/en/larry-williams-volatility-breakout-strategy/

## Times (everything is in New York time)

| Event | New York | UTC (winter / summer) | Platform GMT+2 / GMT+3 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Yesterday's range** | 9:30–16:00 | 14:30–21:00 / 13:30–20:00 | 16:30–23:00 |
| **Stop orders from the open** | 9:30 | 14:30 / 13:30 | 16:30 |
| **Delete unfilled orders** | 12:00 | 17:00 / 16:00 | 19:00 |
| **Time exit** | 16:00 | 21:00 / 20:00 | 23:00 |

> Most brokers run the MT4/MT5 server on GMT+2 in winter and GMT+3 in summer, switching together with New York: then **ServerMinusNY = 7** (default) and the platform hours stay the same all year. If your broker uses another server time, work out the difference with New York and set it in ServerMinusNY.

## Rules

| Element | BUY | SELL |
|---|---|---|
| **Range D** | High − low of yesterday's 9:30–16:00 NY session | Same |
| **Order** | Buy stop = 9:30 open + 0.1 × D | Sell stop = 9:30 open − 0.1 × D |
| **Entry** | The first order filled; delete the other. Until 12:00 NY | Same |
| **Stop loss** | Entry − 0.5 × D | Entry + 0.5 × D |
| **Take profit** | 3R (1.5 × D) or close at 16:00 NY | 3R or close at 16:00 NY |

## Trade management

| Rule | Description |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| **One trade a day** | No more than one trade per trading day |
| **Both sides** | Buys and sells — no trend filter needed (both sides were profitable in the test) |
| **Time exit** | Neither stop nor target by 16:00 NY — close at market (72% of such trades were in profit in the test) |
| **Risk** | 0.25–0.5% of the account per trade: the test drawdown is −39.5R, up to 15 stops in a row. The stop differs every day — recalculate the lot daily |

### What the indicator shows on the chart

- Dark box — the corridor between the sell stop and the buy stop from the 9:30 open, labelled with the range
- Green / red dashed lines — buy stop / sell stop
- Blue arrow ↑ (BUY) / red arrow ↓ (SELL) — the entry candle
- Yellow dashed line — entry; red — Stop Loss, green — Take Profit
- Result label: `+3.0R` (target), `−1.0R` (stop), `+1.2R (16:00)` (time exit), `BUY STOP` / `SELL STOP` (orders waiting), `BUY OPEN` (trade open)
- Statistics panel: days, trades, TP / SL, closed at 16:00, win rate, total R and average R

### Article results (NAS100, November 2010 — October 2026, entries/stops/targets on 1-minute candles, spread included)

| Variant | Trades | Total | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Article: stops ±10%, SL 0.5 range, TP 3R, close 16:00 (NAS100)** | 4 016 | +280R | +23R | +14R |
| **Stop orders ±20% of the range** | 3 888 | +249R | +25R | +7R |
| **Stop orders ±30% of the range** | 3 485 | +194R | +14R | +14R |
| **No TP, close at 16:00** | 4 016 | +255R | +20R | +8R |
| **Stop = full range** | 4 016 | +130R | +16R | +9R |
| **S&P 500, same rules** | 4 006 | +76R | −13R | −9R |
| **NAS100 with a 3× spread** | 4 016 | +109R | +12R | +6R |
| **Control: random side at 9:30** | 4 036 | +30R | +18R | −21R |

> Every neighbouring setting is profitable; ±10% with a 0.5-range stop is best. The S&P 500 is three times weaker and 2025–2026 lose there — the strategy is for NAS100. A random direction on the same days makes zero: the breakout is what works. Streaks of up to 15 stops happen. Check your symbol with the statistics panel.

## 3. Installing in MetaTrader 4

### Step 1 — Open the indicators folder

MT4: File → Open Data Folder → MQL4 → Indicators.

### Step 2 — Copy the file

1. Copy **WilliamsBreakout.ex4** to the `MQL4\Indicators\` folder
2. Restart MT4 or right-click in the Navigator → "Refresh"

### Step 3 — Add it to a chart

1. Navigator (Ctrl+N) → Indicators → **WilliamsBreakout**

2. Drag it onto an **M5** NAS100 chart (broker names: US100, USTEC, NDX) → "Common" tab: optionally tick "Allow DLL imports" (only for the welcome window)
3. Check **ServerMinusNY** on the "Inputs" tab → OK

# 4. Installing in MetaTrader 5

## Step 1 — Open the indicators folder

MT5: File → Open Data Folder → MQL5 → Indicators.

## Step 2 — Copy the file

1. Copy **WilliamsBreakout.ex5** to the `MQL5\Indicators\` folder
2. Restart MT5 or right-click in the Navigator → "Refresh"

## Step 3 — Add it to a chart

1. Navigator (Ctrl+N) → Indicators → **WilliamsBreakout**
2. "Dependencies" tab: optionally tick "Allow DLL imports" (only for the welcome window)
3. In MT5 the welcome window appears on the first tick (platform behaviour). OK opens Telegram

> Without DLL permission the indicator works fully — only the welcome window is not shown; the copyright and links stay on the chart.

# 5. Indicator parameters

## TIME (New York)

| Parameter | Default | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **ServerMinusNY** | 7 | Server time minus New York time, hours. GMT+2/+3 brokers = 7 |
| **OpenHourNY / OpenMinuteNY** | 9 / 30 | Session open: the orders are placed from it and the range is measured from it |
| **SessionEndNY** | 16 | Session end: end of the range and time exit |
| **OrdersUntilNY** | 12 | Delete unfilled stop orders |

## SIGNAL

| Parameter | Default | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **OrderDistance** | 0.10 | Stop-order distance from the open, share of yesterday's range |
| **StopRange** | 0.50 | Stop from the entry, share of yesterday's range |
| **RiskReward** | 3.0 | Target in R; 0 = no target, time exit only |
| **CostPoints** | 0 | Spread + commission for the statistics, in platform points |
| **ShowBuys / ShowSells** | true | BUY / SELL trades |

## DISPLAY

| Parameter | Default | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **HistoryDays** | 60 | Trading days to mark up |
| **ShowSessionBox** | true | Order corridor and range label |
| **ShowOrders** | true | Buy stop / sell stop lines |
| **ShowTradeLevels** | true | Entry, SL and TP lines |
| **ShowArrows / ShowResults** | true | Entry arrows / result labels |
| **ShowStats** | true | Statistics panel |
| **ArrowOffset / ArrowSize** | 30 / 3 | Arrow distance from the wick (points) / size 1–5 |

## COLORS / ALERTS

| Parameter | Default | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **Colors** | — | Corridor, buy stop, sell stop, arrows, entry, SL, TP, statistics |
| **AlertPopup / AlertSound / AlertPush** | false | Popup / sound / push at 9:30: buy stop and sell stop prices and the stop size |

# 6. Recommended settings

## As in the article

| Parameter | Value |
|---|---|
| **Market** | NAS100 (broker names: US100, USTEC, NDX) |
| **Timeframe** | M5 |
| **ServerMinusNY** | 7 for GMT+2/+3 brokers (check your broker) |
| **Everything else** | Default (±10%, stop 0.5 range, 3R, close 16:00) |
| **CostPoints** | your spread in platform points |
| **AlertPopup / AlertPush** | true |

## Orders only (manual trading)

| Parameter | Value |
|---|---|
| **ShowTradeLevels / ShowResults / ShowStats / ShowArrows** | false |

## No target, hold to the close

| Parameter | Value |
|---|---|
| **RiskReward** | 0 (in the article +255R vs +280R with a 3R target) |

> The strategy was tested on NAS100 (4,016 trades, +280R). On the S&P 500 the same rules make +76R, and 2025–2026 lose. The book breakout from the daily open on daily charts (not tied to 9:30) loses.

# 7. Frequently asked questions (FAQ)

**Q: Does the indicator repaint?**

A: No. It recalculates once per new bar, on closed candles.

**Q: Does the indicator open trades?**

A: No. It is an indicator: it shows the order levels, entry / SL / TP and statistics on the chart.

**Q: The corridor is not at 9:30.**

A: Check ServerMinusNY: it is the difference between your broker server time and New York. GMT+2/+3 — 7; a GMT server — 5 in winter and 4 in summer.

**Q: There are no trades at all.**

A: It needs an intraday chart (M1–M30) and yesterday's 9:30–16:00 session with quotes. It works on forex too, but the test was done on NAS100.

**Q: Why don't the panel numbers match the article?**

A: Your broker has its own quotes, server time, spread and history. The article checked fills on 1-minute candles, the indicator uses M5 candles. On identical M5 candles the indicator logic matches the article engine trade for trade (4,019 of 4,019).

**Q: What is R?**

A: The stop size. −1R means the stop was hit, +3R a profit of three stops. Result in points = R × stop in points.

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Disclaimer: the indicator is a technical analysis tool and is not investment advice. Past performance does not guarantee future results.
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