

Options 101



Options 101

- What is an option?
- Why trade options?
- What types of options?
- What style of options?
- What is an option's relationship to price?
- How are options priced?



Definition of an Option

- An option is a contract between two people to buy and sell stock at a fixed price over a given period of time.
- Traded security
 - Subject to security trading laws and regulations
- Derivative
 - Value is based on or derived from the value of the underlying asset or index
 - Stocks
 - Indexes
 - Futures
 - Forex
 - Treasuries
- Depreciating Asset
 - It loses value (all else being equal) over time
 - It has a limited life, all options expire



Call Options

Call option

- A contract between a buyer and a seller for a specific period of time
- Buyer has the <u>right</u>, but not the obligation, to purchase 100 (or 10 with a mini contract) shares of stock at a specific price by a specific date. This has the effect of locking in the purchase price for a period of time.
 - The buyer has rights
 - The buyer is considered long the option.
 - The buyer is considered long the position
- Seller has the <u>obligation</u> to sell 100 (or 10 with a mini contract) shares of stock at a specific price, when requested, up until a specific date.
 - The seller has obligations
 - The seller is considered short the option.
 - The seller is considered short the option.



Put Options

Put option

- A contract between a buyer and a seller for a specific period of time
- Buyer has the <u>right</u>, but not the obligation, to sell 100 (or 10 with a mini contract) shares of stock at a specific price by a specific date.
 This has the effect of locking in the sales price for a period of time.
 - The buyer has rights
 - The buyer is considered long the option.
 - The buyer is considered short the position.
- Seller has the <u>obligation</u> to buy 100 (or 10 with a mini contract) shares of stock at a specific price, when requested, up until a specific date.
 - The seller has obligations
 - The seller is considered short the put option.
 - The seller is considered long the position.



Financial Option Types

- Exchange-traded (listed) options
 - Standardized contracts
 - Settled through a clearing house
 - Includes
 - Stock/ETF options
 - Index options
 - Bond options
 - Futures options
- Over-the-counter (OTC)
 - Unrestricted
 - Loosely regulated
 - Includes
 - Forex (currency) options
 - Interest rate options



Standard Options Contract

- Standard option contract:
 - 100 shares of a stock

 Number of Contracts 	Number of shares of stock
1	100
2	200
5	500
20	2000

- Option price quote is per share
- Commission quoted per contract
- Cost of an option trade:

```
Total cost = (number of contacts) x ($ per contract) x 100 + commissions

Example: 10 contracts quoted at $1.25 with $1.50 commission

(10 \times $1.25 \times 100) + (10 \times $1.50) = 1,250 + 15.00 = $1,265.00

equivalent to 1000 shares of stock
```



Mini Options Contract

- Mini option contract:
 - 10 shares of a stock

Number of Contracts	Number of shares of stock
1	10
2	20
5	50

- Available on select products: AAPL, GOOG, AMZN, GLD, SPY
- Option price quote is per share
- Commission quoted per contract
- Cost of an option trade:

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Total cost = (number of contacts) x ($ per contract) x 10 + commissions

Example: 10 contracts quoted at $1.25 with $1.50 commission

(10 \times $1.25 \times 10) + (10 \times $1.50) = 1,25 + 15.00 = $126.50

equivalent to 100 shares of stock
```

Options Expiration



Monthly options

- expire on 3rd Friday of the month
- Front month
- Next month
- plus about 6 out months
- LEAPS©: Long-term Equity AnticiPation Securities, longer term options expiring a year to up to 2 years and 8 months out

Weekly options, also called Weeklys, short-term or short-dated options

- Recent product first released for major indexes
- First released for stocks in June 25, 2010: AAPL, BAC, BP, C
- Listed on Thursday 8 days before expiration
- More released each month
- Available products: http://www.cboe.com/micro/weeklys/ availableweeklys.aspx



End of Option Rights and Obligations

- Rights of the buyer and obligations of the seller ends when
 - The option position is closed
 - Call option holder sells the option
 - Put option holder sells the option
 - Call writer buys call back
 - Put writer buys put back
 - The option is exercised
 - Call owner exercises option thus buying 100 shares of stock
 - Put owner exercises option thus selling 100 shares of stock
 - The option expires
 - Call option may be automatically exercised if the underlying stock price is greater than the option strike price
 - Put option may be automatically exercised if the underlying stock price is less than the option strike price



Options Clearing Corporation

- Founded in 1973, the same year that CBOE started to list options
- World's largest options clearing organization
- Provides clearing and settlement services to 14 exchanges for options
- Under jurisdiction of
 - Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
 - Commodity Futures trading Commission (CFTC)
- Ensures that all option contract obligations are met buyer does not need to worry about seller failing to meet obligations



Options Definitions

- The specific price is known as the <u>strike price</u>
 or the <u>exercise price</u>
- The specific date is known as the <u>expiration date</u>
- The <u>buyer</u> is known as the <u>holder</u> of the option.
 - The option holder's risk is limited to the premium paid for the option.
- The <u>seller</u> of an option is also know as the <u>writer</u> of the option.
 - The writer accepts the risk of losing more than the premium received for the option.
 - If the option is not hedged, the option is called a <u>naked option</u> because the seller assumes "unlimited risk"
 - Options are never worth less than zero, therefore risk of naked put is the strike price minus the premium



Options Definitions - continued

- Exercise: Applies to option buyer
 - This is the process of converting the option into a long position for a call or a short position for a put
 - Call holder: buys 100 shares of the underlying stock for the strike price
 - Put holder: sells 100 shares of the underlying stock for the strike price
- Assignment: Applies to option writer
 - This is the process by which the seller of the option is notified of the buyer's intention to exercise the option
 - Call writer: required to sell 100 shares of the underlying stock for the strike price
 - Put writer: required to buy 100 shares of the underlying stock for the strike price



Options Definitions - continued

Strike Price or Exercise Price

- The price at which the option buyer/owner has the right to buy the underlying stock for a call or sell the underlying stock for a put
- The price at which the option seller/writer is required to sell the underlying stock for a call or buy the underlying stock for a call

Long positions

- Go up in value as the underlying stock goes up in value
- Long call
- Short put

Short positions

- Go up in value as the underlying stock goes down in value
- Long put
- Short call



Why Trade Options

- Hedging
 - Protect the profits/value of a stock
 - Protect against sudden moves in price of an asset
 - Protect against sudden moves against an option position
- Premium collection
 - Collect premiums from an option sale
 - Covered call and buy-write positions
 - Naked options
 - Credit spreads
- Speculation
 - Long calls
 - Long puts

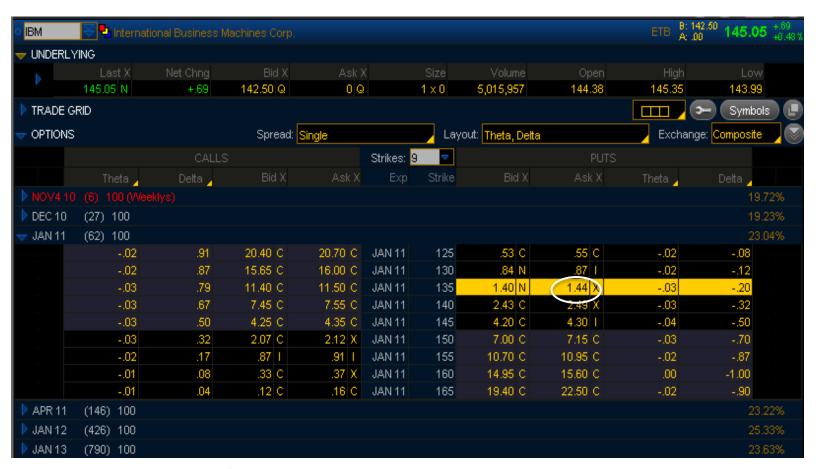


Chart of IBM





Hedging and protecting gains – Buy a put



- Protect some of the gains in a stock by buying a put
- Buy one Jan 11 135 Put for 100 x 1.44 = \$144



Premium Collection – Sell a covered call



- Collect some premium on IBM stock by selling a call
- Sell one Dec 10 150 Call for 100 x 0.68 = \$68



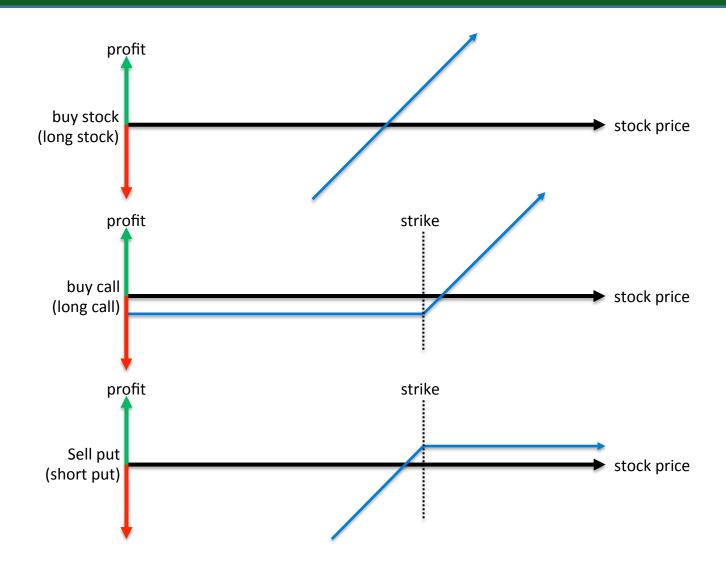
Speculation - Buy IBM call



- Object is to profit from rising stock price
- Buy one Dec 10 145 call for 100 x 1.88 = \$188
- If IBM goes to 148 before Dec 18, call worth at least (148-145) x 100 = \$300
- Gain of 300-188 = \$122 Profit: 60%

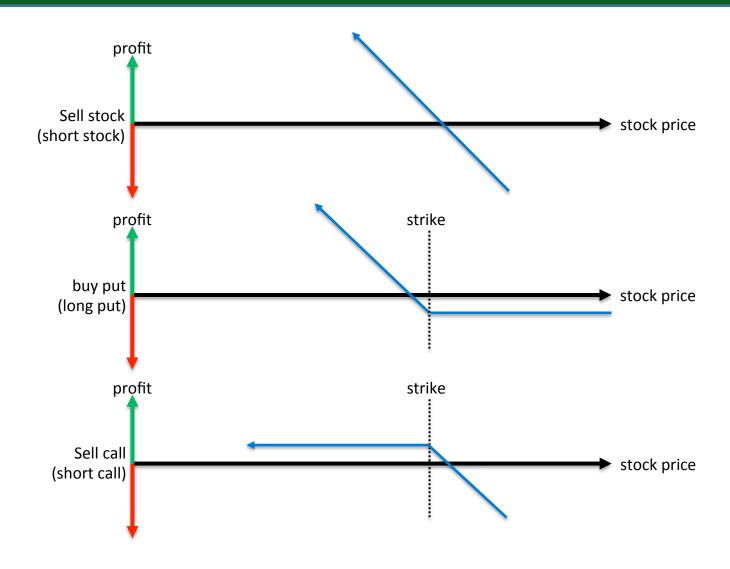


Long Positions Using Options





Short Positions Using Options





How Options are Identified

- Option class the identification of the underlying stock or security that the option is based on, e.g. IBM
- Option series the option type (call or put) expiration month (or week) and the strike price, e.g. Dec 120 call
- Examples:
 - IBM Dec 130 call
 - IBM Jan 130 put
 - IBM Jan 12 130 call
 - IBM Nov4 130 put
- Option Chain the collection of all options currently available for the underlying stock



Options Chain for IBM



GE Dec 10 Calls GE Dec 10 Puts



