

Internet brokers: (These are only a few – of which I feel are the best of the best).

Overall best Broker: **Charles Schwab & Co. Inc.** – a one size fits all broker (schwab.com) Schwab is number one in online trading business – literally. Approximately 34% of the market share. Next closest is at 14%. They have departments for the new trader to the experienced “active” traders. Drawbacks include getting someone on the phone. Making it into one of the “select” groups where Schwab’s most experienced brokers are available. Their price is also not the lowest. Good execution quality and friendly knowledgeable brokers 24 hours a day and branch offices in every state and most major cities.

Best “day-trading” firm: Oh boy..... **DATEK** is ranked number one for day trading. Expect no frills or personal service. (datek.com). Their commissions are low and they will scan the many different markets including ECN’s for the best execution.

Best options broker: **Preferred Capital Markets, INC.** This little known firm is fast becoming a powerhouse in the options trading market. One of the lowest in commissions – best market routing will more than make up for any shortcomings. Shortcomings include – hold times for questions, sometimes take an adversarial role to their customers.... (deltatrader.com) fast executions with few disruptions, simple software makes it easy to understand your account.

Mutual Funds: **Fidelity** – they have their own funds which are consistently ranked in the top ten. Peter Lynch came from Fidelity and it is a company with an excellent reputation. (fidelity.com). Drawbacks include high fees in the form of loads. I personally don’t think a loaded fund is the way to invest. However, if performance warrants the fees they charge then go for it!! Otherwise go to schwab.com – they have over 3,000 no load funds you can invest in their “supermarket” of funds.

Other brokers:

ameritrade.com, polartrading.com, etrade.com, lombard.com, prusec.com, waterhous.com..... These are the big names. They all have their drawbacks and they all have their strong points. Research is the best way to find which is best for you. This small list does not even scratch the surface in online brokerage firms. Try a web search for online brokers sometime..... Look at a bunch of them before choosing. The list above is only my preference and does not represent any serious research of each sight by category. It simply represents the ones I have had experience with or know something about. Other brokers may be better suited for your trading style.

Research:

<http://www.turtletrader.com> – Richard Dennis trained traders to make millions this is supposedly the method.

<http://www.investhelp.com> – explains in terms easy to understand – investing info. I like the Mergers and Acquisitions pages.

<http://www.vanguard.com/educ/inveduc.html> – University with a series of lessons on mutual funds, portfolio etc.

<http://www.cis.ohio-state.edu/hypertext/faq/usenet/investment-faq/general/top.html> – FAQ’s

<http://www.moneypages.com/syndicate/stocks/index.html> – good general articles including IPO’s and Warren Buffet style investing.

<http://www.better-investing.org/> - Guidance and education for investment clubs.

<http://www.sec.gov/invkhome.htm> – “how to” and “buyer beware” info. Check this out if you have never invested online before.

<http://www.pcquote.com> – WOW – a veritable gold mine of information. It can be overwhelming but very useful for the novice to the professional investor.

<http://www.hetherman.com> - An LA financial planner who has a good web sight and offers advice and tools for common financial planning goals.

<http://www.investools.com/cgi-bin/server.pl/Newsletters/USIR/> - One of the most successful stockpicking newsletters on the market.

www.dripcentral.com

<http://www.briefing.com> – EXCELLENT – a must use for the everyday trader. The calendar of upcoming events in the market is a must read for anyone who is active in the market.

<http://www.bloomberg.com> – A sample of the business news they provide. They are one of the leading information providers to the most reputable brokerage firms in the world. If you subscribe to their service you should get out your checkbook though (the sight is free however). \$3,000 a month can get you their realtime news and bloomberg TV.

<http://www.hnt.com/bizwire/> – Press releases and everything. Straight from the companies who put them out. This sight is a must see for the professional investor.

<http://www.cnnfn.com> – “Profit from it!” These guys are the best in general public reporting. Their sight is excellent and you can even key in your own stocks in the form of a ticker tape – free.

<http://www.qbc.com> – a quote provider gives you free news and data on their web sight.

<http://www.kiplinger.com/> – A whole lot of stuff from the publishers of kiplinger’s magazine. Strongly recommended sight.

<http://www.firstatlanticcommerce.com> – for the person looking to set up an offshore corporation.

<http://www.money.com/money/> – Good sight to check out.

<http://www.pnewswire.com/> – from the spin doctors. Read the PR news press releases of companies.

<http://www.streetnet.com> – Published for money managers.

<http://www.usnews.com> – General information including stockmarket info, taxes etc.

<http://www.wsj.com> – Wall Street Journal online. You can subscribe to this service. Good for those who want the WSJ before it comes to you in the mail.

<http://www.techstocks.com/> – Good sight to look at before you put your money in the tech sector.

<http://www.zack.com/> – Huge stock database uses any combination of investment criteria.

<http://www.researchmag.com> – S&P reports on many companies, charts, news, and reports.

<http://www.marketedge.com/> – fee based web sight. Daily newsletter.

<http://www.wsrn.com/> – 65,000 links to different sources of company info.

<http://www.hoovers.com> – Subscribe to download reports. Brokers use this info a lot.

<http://www.quote.com> – another quote vendor. Great info available online.

<http://www.gsionline.com> – A bit expensive. Subscribe to get access to new filings, e.mail notification etc.

<http://www.edgar.stern.nyu.edu/> – (NYU Stern School of Business) – to find government filings.

<http://www.nasd.com> – look up your broker. That’s right. You can find out all kinds of information about your broker including whether he has had any complaints filed against him – or the firm he works for.

<http://www.quicken.com> – from the makers of quicken software. Much info you can use.

<http://www.rhwinners.com> – our web sight. Undeveloped and not much use to people. However, we will probably began to post interesting things to the sight someday. Look for the day when we will *give away valuable prizes and cash* and then e.mail me immediately to let me know that some goofball was messing with our web sight.

Some of the information above was taken from *Investor’s Web Watch – An Annotated Guide to Investing Sites on the Internet*. I went through the and tried to pick out the good stuff you would be interested. Many of the sights above are ones I use daily as I trade professionally. Good luck and happy trading.

Tom Bjorklund President of Rocking Horse Winners, LLC.