Set It and Forget It:

How a Complete Beginner Turned $5,000 into $9,335 in Three Months

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A busy professional with zero trading experience joined StaxInvesting in November 2025 with $5,000. Using only the default conservative strategy settings, they achieved +$4,335 in profits over 51 trading days and 163 trades without ever manually managing a single trade. Their account now sits at approximately $9,335, representing an 86.7% return in just three months.

Performance Metrics

Starting Balance	Total Profit	Current Balance
$5,000	**+$4,335**	**~$9,335**
Return	Trading Days	Total Trades
+86.7%	**51**	**163**
Win Rate	Profit Factor	Risk:Reward
45.4%	**1.78**	**2.17:1**
Best Day	Best Trade	Win Streak
+$1,233	**+$1,605**	**10**

The Member Profile

This member represents a growing segment of our community: busy professionals who want to participate in the markets but simply don't have the time, experience, or desire to actively trade.

Before joining StaxInvesting, this member had little to no trading experience. They work long hours in a demanding career and knew that babysitting trades throughout the day wasn't realistic for their lifestyle. What they needed was a system they could trust to execute consistently without constant supervision.

The Approach

This member's approach embodies the philosophy that StaxInvesting was built for: *set it and forget it.*

They configured their account with our default conservative strategy settings and haven't touched them since:

Strategy Settings

Strategy: Conservative (Default)

Max Capital Per Trade: $500

Daily Profit Killswitch: $100

No custom configurations. No strategy adjustments. No daily monitoring. They simply trusted the process and let the automation do its job.

The Results

Over 51 trading days, this complete beginner achieved what many active traders struggle to accomplish:

Consistent profitability. An 86.7% return in approximately three months, with a standout single trade generating +$1,605 (+361.5%).

Strong risk management. Despite a 45.4% win rate, the 2.17:1 risk-to-reward ratio means winning trades significantly outpace losses.

Impressive profit factor. A profit factor of 1.78 indicates that for every dollar risked, $1.78 was returned.

Resilience through volatility. Even with a 10-trade loss streak, the system recovered with a matching 10-trade win streak, demonstrating the strategy's ability to bounce back.

Why This Matters

This case study challenges the conventional wisdom that successful trading requires extensive experience, constant market monitoring, or complex strategies. It demonstrates that with the right automation and risk management framework, even complete beginners can achieve meaningful returns.

More importantly, it validates the core promise of StaxInvesting: *trading success doesn't require sacrificing your career, your time, or your peace of mind.*

Key Takeaways

1. Experience isn't a prerequisite. This member had virtually no trading background, yet achieved an 86.7% return.

2. Default settings work. The conservative strategy with recommended settings delivered exceptional results without any customization.

3. Automation removes emotion. By trusting the system, this member avoided the psychological pitfalls that derail most traders.

4. Win rate isn't everything. A sub-50% win rate still generated substantial profits thanks to superior risk-reward ratios.

5. Consistency beats intensity. 51 trading days of disciplined execution produced better results than sporadic, emotional trading ever could.

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Complete Trade Log

163 trades from November 2025 through February 2026

Trade Statistics: 74 wins / 89 losses • Win Rate: 45.4% • Total P&L: +$4,335

Contract	Qty	Entry	Exit	P&L
SPY 11/19 P662	1	$2.20	$2.06	$-14
SPY 11/19 P660	1	$2.09	$2.29	+$20
SPY 11/19 C662	1	$1.96	$1.95	$-1
SPY 11/19 C662	1	$2.02	$1.93	$-9
SPY 11/20 C674	1	$2.35	$2.13	$-22
SPY 11/20 C675	1	$1.89	$1.32	$-57
QQQ 11/20 P610	1	$2.52	$5.26	+$274
SPY 11/21 C657	1	$2.27	$1.58	$-69
SPY 11/21 C655	1	$2.58	$5.34	+$276
SPY 11/24 C666	1	$1.78	$1.63	$-15
QQQ 11/24 C603	2	$1.31	$1.58	+$54
QQQ 11/24 C604	2	$1.24	$1.08	$-32
SPY 11/24 C669	3	$0.81	$0.57	$-72
SPY 11/25 C671	2	$1.11	$1.03	$-16
SPY 11/25 C671	2	$1.19	$1.08	$-22
SPY 11/25 C672	3	$0.77	$0.83	+$18
SPY 11/25 C674	4	$0.72	$0.87	+$60
QQQ 11/26 C613	2	$1.40	$1.16	$-48
SPY 11/26 C679	2	$1.22	$1.03	$-38
QQQ 11/26 C613	2	$1.28	$2.15	+$174
QQQ 11/26 C616	4	$0.75	$0.86	+$44
QQQ 11/28 C618	4	$0.73	$0.66	$-28
SPY 11/28 C683	4	$0.70	$0.59	$-44
SPY 11/28 C682	2	$1.01	$1.08	+$14
SPY 11/28 C683	5	$0.53	$0.46	$-35
SPY 12/11 P683	1	$1.54	$1.78	+$24
SPY 12/11 C686	2	$1.21	$1.38	+$34
QQQ 12/11 C622	1	$1.58	$1.97	+$39
SPY 12/11 C687	1	$1.51	$1.30	$-21
QQQ 12/12 P622	1	$2.07	$1.90	$-17

SPY 12/12 P687	2	$1.25	$0.87	$-76
QQQ 12/12 P621	1	$1.59	$2.57	+$98
SPY 12/12 P683	2	$1.29	$2.22	+$186
SPY 12/15 P683	2	$1.40	$2.00	+$120
QQQ 12/15 P615	1	$1.62	$2.39	+$77
SPY 12/16 C681	2	$1.50	$1.23	$-54
SPY 12/16 P679	2	$1.36	$1.17	$-38
QQQ 12/16 C613	2	$1.42	$0.98	$-88
SPY 12/16 P679	2	$1.47	$2.63	+$232
SPY 12/17 P679	1	$2.08	$2.10	+$2
QQQ 12/17 P610	1	$2.27	$3.98	+$171
SPY 12/17 P677	2	$1.56	$2.81	+$250
QQQ 12/19 C617	3	$1.07	$0.74	$-99
QQQ 12/19 C616	2	$1.22	$1.28	+$12
SPY 12/19 C680	3	$1.08	$0.95	$-39
SPY 12/19 C681	5	$0.60	$0.53	$-35
SPY 12/22 P683	3	$0.96	$0.79	$-51
QQQ 12/22 P619	2	$1.14	$0.99	$-30
QQQ 12/22 P618	3	$0.92	$0.94	+$6
SPY 12/22 P683	3	$0.94	$0.65	$-87
SPY 12/23 C686	5	$0.57	$0.57	+$0
QQQ 12/23 C621	8	$0.39	$0.35	$-32
QQQ 12/24 C623	8	$0.40	$0.27	$-104
QQQ 12/24 C623	8	$0.38	$0.44	+$48
SPY 12/24 C690	22	$0.13	$0.48	+$770
QQQ 12/26 P624	6	$0.61	$0.68	+$42
SPY 12/26 P690	6	$0.61	$0.59	$-12
SPY 12/26 P690	6	$0.61	$0.54	$-42
QQQ 12/26 P624	5	$0.74	$0.65	$-45
SPY 12/29 P687	4	$0.93	$0.84	$-36
QQQ 12/29 P620	4	$0.88	$1.10	+$88
SPY 12/29 P687	6	$0.59	$0.70	+$66
SPY 12/30 C688	4	$0.88	$0.81	$-28
QQQ 12/30 C621	3	$1.14	$1.15	+$3
QQQ 12/30 P620	3	$1.08	$0.95	$-39
SPY 12/30 P687	4	$0.84	$0.77	$-28
QQQ 12/31 P617	3	$1.08	$1.02	$-18
SPY 12/31 P685	3	$1.15	$0.79	$-108

QQQ 12/31 P617	3	$1.06	$1.14	+$24
SPY 12/31 P685	3	$1.03	$1.19	+$48
QQQ 01/02 C622	3	$1.17	$1.10	$-21
QQQ 01/02 P619	4	$0.85	$2.01	+$464
SPY 01/02 P685	2	$1.31	$2.93	+$324
QQQ 01/06 C621	4	$0.94	$1.32	+$152
SPY 01/07 C693	4	$0.93	$0.81	$-48
QQQ 01/07 C626	6	$0.68	$0.70	+$12
SPY 01/07 C693	8	$0.51	$0.24	$-216
SPY 01/07 C693	8	$0.52	$0.67	+$120
SPY 01/08 P688	3	$1.32	$1.21	$-33
SPY 01/08 C689	3	$1.14	$1.01	$-39
SPY 01/08 C690	6	$0.69	$0.76	+$42
QQQ 01/08 P619	3	$1.18	$1.04	$-42
QQQ 01/09 C627	6	$0.68	$0.60	$-48
SPY 01/12 C694	7	$0.68	$0.62	$-42
QQQ 01/12 C627	7	$0.63	$0.85	+$154
SPY 01/13 P695	4	$1.20	$1.13	$-28
QQQ 01/13 P626	3	$1.55	$2.07	+$156
QQQ 01/14 P620	2	$2.22	$2.08	$-28
QQQ 01/14 P618	3	$1.57	$1.30	$-81
QQQ 01/14 P616	3	$1.32	$1.10	$-66
QQQ 01/14 P617	3	$1.31	$2.10	+$237
SPY 01/15 C695	6	$0.80	$0.68	$-72
QQQ 01/15 P624	5	$0.96	$1.12	+$80
SPY 01/15 P693	5	$0.90	$0.80	$-50
QQQ 01/15 C626	5	$0.99	$1.08	+$45
SPY 01/16 P692	4	$1.07	$1.25	+$72
QQQ 01/16 P624	2	$2.00	$2.27	+$54
SPY 01/20 C684	3	$1.33	$1.46	+$39
QQQ 01/20 C613	2	$2.02	$2.17	+$30
QQQ 01/20 C615	4	$1.18	$1.22	+$16
QQQ 01/20 C615	4	$1.23	$0.85	$-152
QQQ 01/21 C612	2	$1.76	$1.85	+$18
SPY 01/21 C681	2	$1.85	$2.13	+$56
SPY 01/21 C683	3	$1.51	$1.05	$-138
SPY 01/22 C691	4	$1.06	$0.90	$-64
QQQ 01/22 P618	3	$1.64	$1.55	$-27

SPY 01/22 P687	3	$1.38	$0.96	$-126
QQQ 01/22 P618	2	$1.79	$1.21	$-116
QQQ 01/23 C622	4	$1.18	$1.26	+$32
SPY 01/23 C689	4	$1.21	$1.14	$-28
SPY 01/23 C689	3	$1.47	$1.85	+$114
QQQ 01/26 C626	6	$0.81	$1.05	+$144
SPY 01/26 C693	7	$0.68	$0.88	+$140
SPY 01/27 C695	6	$0.84	$0.92	+$48
QQQ 01/27 C630	4	$1.12	$1.29	+$68
SPY 01/28 P696	3	$1.62	$1.56	$-18
QQQ 01/28 P633	2	$2.33	$2.40	+$14
QQQ 01/28 P635	2	$2.24	$3.37	+$226
SPY 01/29 P695	2	$2.21	$2.90	+$138
QQQ 01/30 P625	2	$1.74	$1.92	+$36
SPY 01/30 C694	5	$0.87	$1.26	+$195
QQQ 01/30 C627	3	$1.72	$1.88	+$48
SPY 02/02 C694	4	$1.10	$1.77	+$268
QQQ 02/02 C625	3	$1.57	$2.59	+$306
SPY 02/03 P695	3	$1.67	$2.48	+$243
SPY 02/04 P688	2	$2.17	$2.22	+$10
SPY 02/04 P687	2	$1.75	$1.46	$-58
SPY 02/04 P687	2	$1.87	$2.82	+$190
QQQ 02/04 P607	2	$2.07	$3.34	+$254
QQQ 02/05 C602	2	$2.51	$2.19	$-64
SPY 02/05 C681	2	$2.07	$1.83	$-48
SPY 02/05 P679	2	$1.82	$1.52	$-60
QQQ 02/05 P599	2	$2.42	$1.68	$-148
QQQ 02/06 C604	2	$2.35	$1.64	$-142
SPY 02/06 C686	2	$1.79	$1.24	$-110
SPY 02/06 C688	4	$1.07	$0.75	$-128
QQQ 02/06 C606	2	$2.24	$1.53	$-142
SPY 02/09 C692	4	$1.15	$1.06	$-36
QQQ 02/09 C611	3	$1.55	$1.48	$-21
SPY 02/09 C693	4	$1.07	$1.23	+$64
QQQ 02/09 C613	2	$1.93	$2.77	+$168
QQQ 02/10 C616	3	$1.51	$1.67	+$48
SPY 02/10 P694	6	$0.79	$0.54	$-150
QQQ 02/10 P615	3	$1.46	$1.02	$-132

SPY 02/10 P694	4	$1.03	$0.72	$-124
SPY 02/11 C694	7	$0.71	$0.59	$-84
SPY 02/11 P692	4	$1.26	$1.27	+$4
SPY 02/11 P692	7	$0.69	$0.64	$-35
QQQ 02/11 C613	4	$1.03	$0.73	$-120
QQQ 02/12 P612	3	$1.60	$1.47	$-39
SPY 02/12 P693	3	$1.27	$1.20	$-21
QQQ 02/12 P610	2	$1.76	$1.22	$-108
SPY 02/12 P692	3	$1.48	$6.83	+$1605
QQQ 02/13 C603	2	$2.33	$2.91	+$116
SPY 02/13 C683	2	$2.26	$2.56	+$60
QQQ 02/17 C598	2	$2.24	$1.92	$-64
SPY 02/17 C680	2	$1.93	$1.63	$-60
QQQ 02/17 P593	2	$2.23	$1.51	$-144
SPY 02/17 P676	2	$2.21	$1.54	$-134
QQQ 02/18 C609	3	$1.31	$1.20	$-33
SPY 02/18 C689	6	$0.77	$0.68	$-54
QQQ 02/18 C610	7	$0.65	$0.55	$-70
QQQ 02/18 C609	4	$1.19	$0.97	$-88

TRADE LOG SUMMARY

Total Won: +$9,884.00

Total Lost: -$5,549.00

Net Gain: +$4,335.00

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different results. The software does not guarantee profits and users are solely responsible for their trading decisions and configurations.

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