

Forward Tested — Module 0: The Reality Check *(free)*

This is the first module of Forward Tested, given away free. If it changes how you think, the rest of the course is for you. If it makes you angry, you needed it most.

The promise nobody else makes

Every trading-strategy course and bot you've seen sells a dream: an equity curve going up and to the right, a win-rate screenshot, a "\$1,000/day" headline. Here is the single most useful sentence in all of retail trading:

****A backtest optimised and shown to you by the person selling it is a marketing asset, not evidence.****

Forward Tested is built on the opposite. We ran ~20 rigorous walk-forward experiments on years of real broker data. ****Most of what we tested — including strategies that looked spectacular in a single backtest — failed honestly.**** We show you all of it, the failures included. That transparency *is* the product.

The three things that are true (and cost money to learn the hard way)

1. **Retail price-action edges are small and fragile.** Not zero — but think low-single-digit % per *year* after costs, not per day. Any number wildly bigger is curve-fitting, leverage, or a lie.

1. **A single backtest proves nothing.** The only honest test is walk-forward: optimise on data the strategy hasn't "seen", then

judge it on the *next, unseen* slice. Repeat. Believe the aggregate, not the cherry-pick.

1. **The skill is the process, not a holy grail.** People who survive measure honestly and size conservatively. People who blow up chase the dream and use martingale.

The one diagram

Build (idea) → Walk-forward (unseen data) → Believe the verdict (robust or kill it) → Repeat (honestly)

That loop is the entire job. Everything else — the language, the risk maths, the diversification, the prop-firm reality — is detail in service of it.

A test you can do in 60 seconds

Look at the last trading product that tempted you. Ask:

- Did they show you a *walk-forward* result, or one backtest?
- Did they show you anything that **failed**?
- Did they promise a monthly % return?

Two "no"s and a "yes" means you were being marketed to, not taught.

What the full course adds

- Build a real MetaTrader 5 strategy from a reusable skeleton — yours, not a black box.

- The 7-agent toolkit that runs the honest walk-forward for you (Builder, Harness, Walk-Forward, Screener, Portfolio, Prop, Frontier).

- The unfiltered evidence log — every experiment, the wins *and* the failures.

- The prop-firm pass-rate truth, and why martingale is auto-rejected.

No EA is sold. You build and own it. Nothing here promises income — it promises you'll stop fooling yourself, which is worth more.

*Educational only. Not financial advice. Trading carries substantial risk of loss; past performance does not predict future results.

Demo-test everything.*

Ready for the rest? → forwardtested.com

Forward Tested — educational. Trade responsibly. Past performance is not indicative of future results.