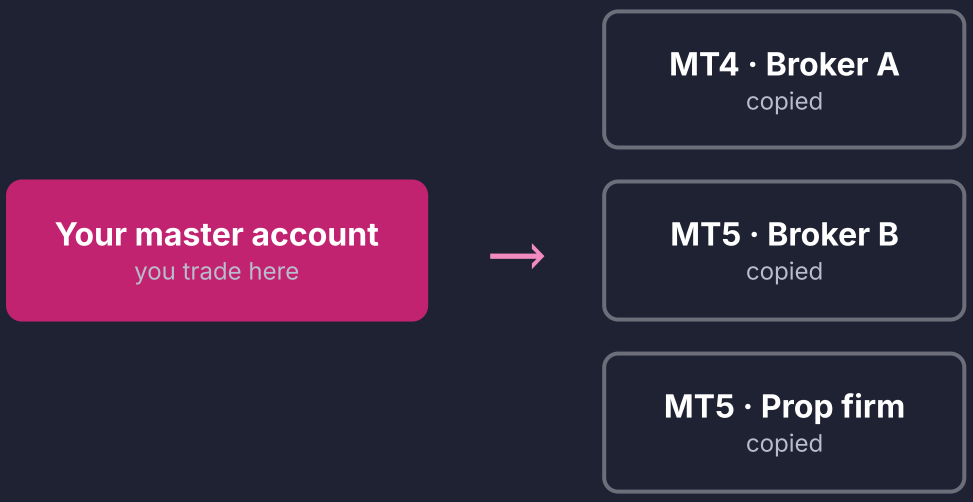
FREE GUIDE · 2026 EDITION · MT4 & MT5

Place one trade… and watch it open on every MT4 & MT5 account you own

The step-by-step setup for copying trades between your own MetaTrader accounts, on your own PC or VPS, in about 5 minutes. Even when your accounts are at different brokers.





Rimantas Petrauskas
Creator of Local Trade Copier

BEFORE YOU START

One trade. Every account. Here's how.

Hi, I'm Rimantas. I've built software for MetaTrader traders since 2009, and in 2010 I created Local Trade Copier. Over the years I've seen every way a copier setup can go wrong, and the few simple things that make it work the first time. They're all in this guide.

By the end of it you'll have:

- ✓ **One master account** that you trade exactly as you do today (by hand, from your phone, or with an EA).
- ✓ **Every other account copying it automatically**, with the same stop loss and take profit, the lot size scaled to each account.
- ✓ **A 2-minute test** that proves it works before a single real trade is copied.

What you need

A Windows PC or Windows VPS
All your accounts run on the same computer. On a Mac? Use a Windows VPS (chapter 8).

One MetaTrader terminal per account
MT4, MT5 or a mix of both. Any brokers and prop firms that allow Expert Advisors.

Your account logins
The trading (main) password of every account you copy to. More in chapter 3.

Local Trade Copier
The free 7-day trial is the full software, not a limited demo.

Inside this guide

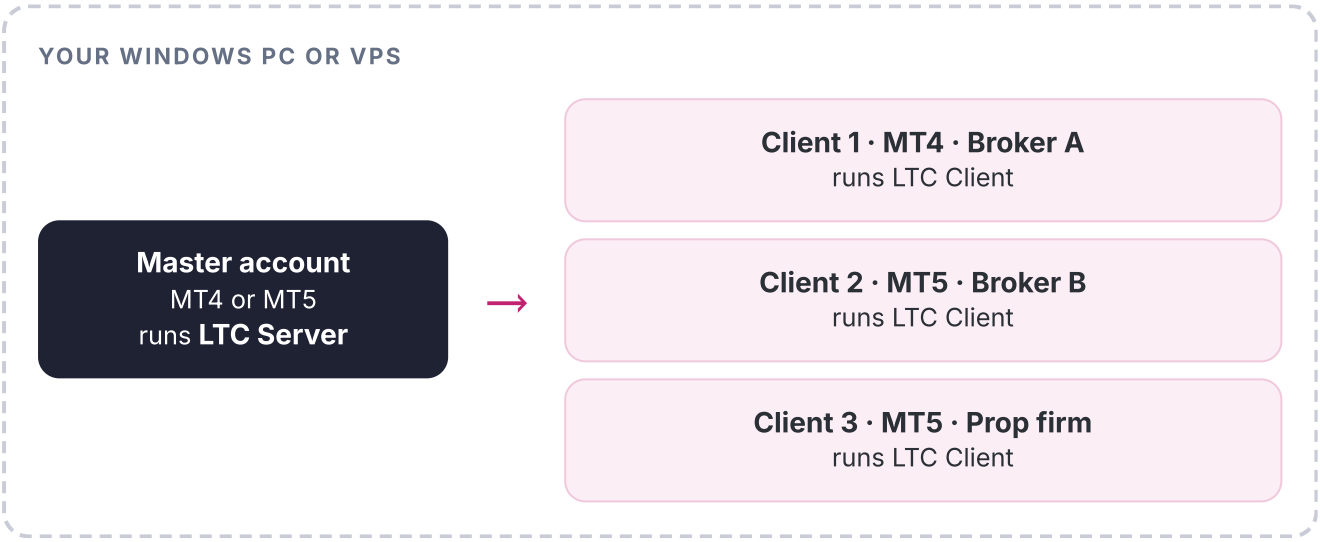
1 How it works, in one picture
2 Run 5, 10 or 20 MetaTrader terminals on one computer
3 Which password goes where
4 The one setting you must switch on in every terminal
5 Connect your master account to all your other accounts
6 The moment of truth: your first copied trade
7 "Why isn't it copying?" The checklist
8 Next steps: VPS, lot sizes and safety limits

CHAPTER 1 · THE BIG PICTURE

How it works, in one picture

A trade copier watches one account, the **master**, and repeats what happens there on your other accounts, the **clients**: new trades, pending orders, stop loss and take profit changes, partial closes and closes.

Local Trade Copier (LTC) does this **locally**. All your MetaTrader terminals run on the same Windows PC or VPS, and the trades pass between them right there, on your machine:



- **LTC Server** runs on the master. It only reads the trades there and never trades on that account itself.
- **LTC Client** runs on each client account. It opens, changes and closes the copies.
- There's no cloud server in between. **Your passwords never leave your computer**, and the copy usually opens about 1 second after the master trade.

> **MASTER OR CLIENT?**
>
> The master is the account you trade, or the account your EA or signal trades on. Every other account is a client. You can add more masters later. For now, start with one.

It doesn't matter where the master trades come from: you placing them by hand, an Expert Advisor, the MT4/MT5 phone app or a signal subscription. If the trade appears on the master, it's copied.

Run 5, 10 or 20 MetaTrader terminals on one computer

Each account needs its own MetaTrader terminal, because one terminal can only be logged in to one account at a time. The catch: MetaTrader installs into the **same folder** every time. Install your broker's MetaTrader a second time and it overwrites the first one.

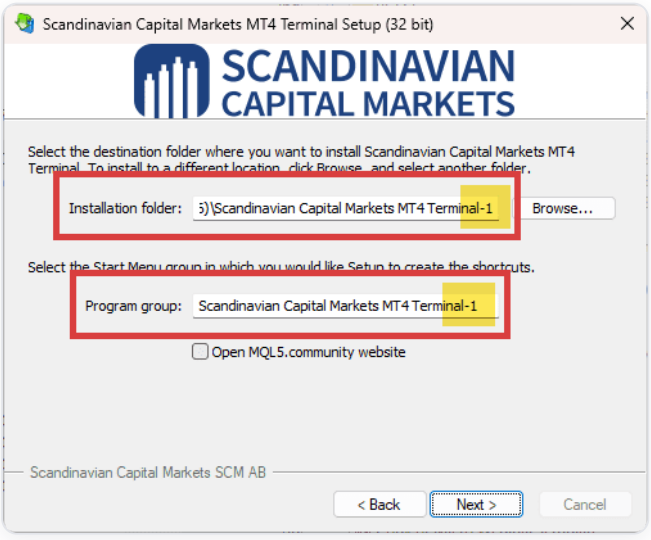
The fix is a simple folder trick. It works for MT4 and MT5, and even for many accounts at the same broker.

1. Run your broker's MetaTrader installer. On its first screen (the license agreement), click **Settings**, not Next.



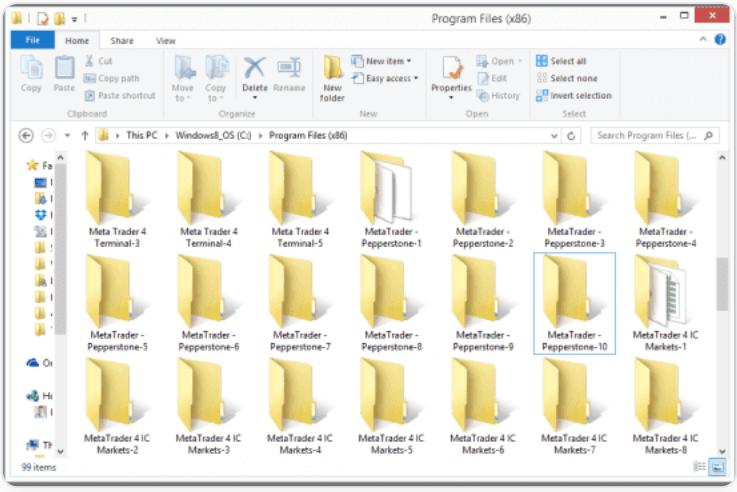
The Settings button opens the installation options.

2. Add a number (or a name) to the end of the **installation folder**. Do the same for the **program group**, so each terminal gets its own shortcut in the Start menu.



Each terminal gets its own folder, for example MetaTrader 4-1, MetaTrader 4-2...

3 Repeat for every account you want to copy between.



Numbered terminals: you always know which one is which.

> **TIP**
>
> Name the folders after the account, for example `MT5 - Master`, `MT5 - Prop firm 1`, `MT4 - Client Ann`. Every name must be unique.

Then open each terminal and log in to its account with **File > Login to Trade Account**. Now decide which account is your master.

Prefer copying instead of installing? You can also copy an installed MetaTrader folder: **here's the faster way to set up multiple MT4 terminals**.

CHAPTER 3 · LOGINS

Which password goes where

Every MetaTrader account has two passwords: the **trading (main) password**, which can place trades, and the **investor password**, which can only look. Here's which one each account needs:

Account	Password	Why
Master	Trading *or* investor (read-only)	LTC Server only reads the trades on the master. Read-only access is enough.
Every client	Trading (main) password, always	LTC Client opens, modifies and closes trades on these accounts.

The investor password on the master is handy when the master isn't yours to trade: a signal provider, a fund manager or another trader who gives you read-only access. You can follow their trades without ever being able to touch their account.

> **SYMPTOM: "TRADING IS FORBIDDEN FOR THIS ACCOUNT" ON A CLIENT**
>
> That client terminal is logged in with the investor password. Log in again with the trading password.

And because LTC runs on your own computer, none of these passwords is ever typed into a website or sent to anyone. They stay in your MetaTrader terminals, where they already are.

CHAPTER 4 · THE SETTING

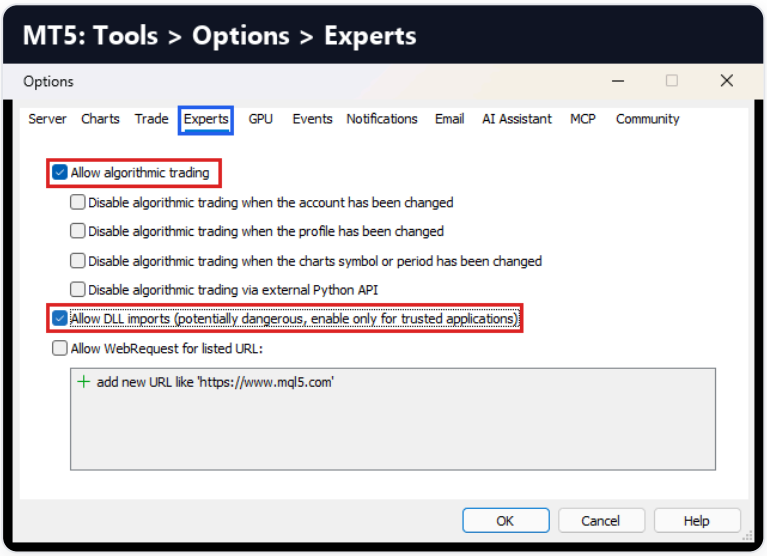
The one setting you must switch on in every terminal

Miss this, and **nothing** copies. It's one of the most common reasons people write to support saying "it doesn't work".

Do this once in **every** terminal, the master and all clients. LTC passes trades between your terminals through its own DLL library, so it can't work without DLL imports.

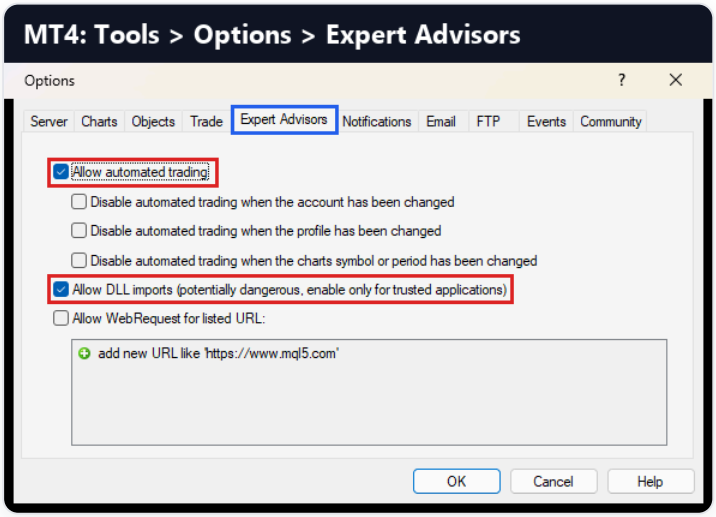
MetaTrader 5: Tools > Options > Experts

Tick **Allow algorithmic trading** and **Allow DLL imports**.



MetaTrader 4: Tools > Options > Expert Advisors

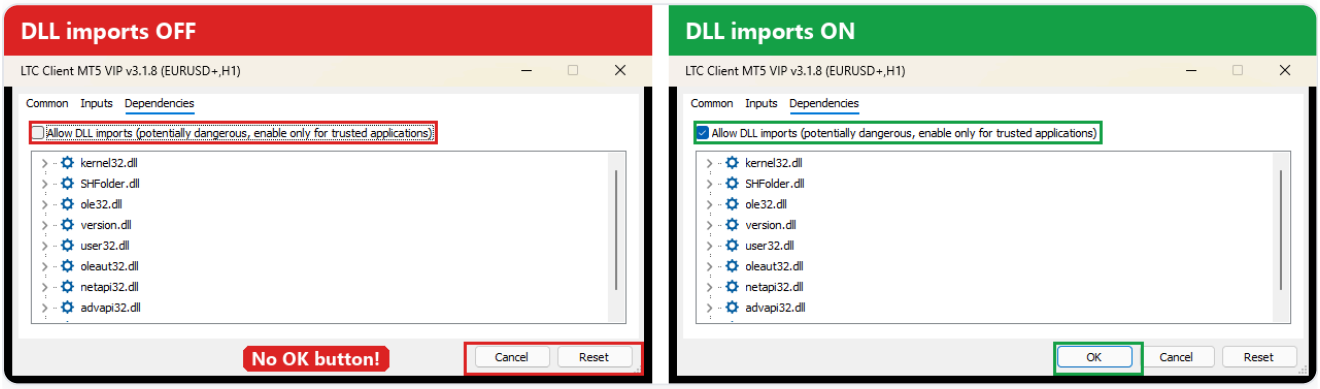
Tick **Allow automated trading** and **Allow DLL imports**.



- Leave the "Disable ... when the account / profile / chart symbol has been changed" boxes **unticked**. Otherwise MetaTrader quietly switches algo trading off for you later.
- Check that the **Algo Trading** button (MT5) or **AutoTrading** button (MT4) in the top toolbar is **green**.

NO OK BUTTON IN MT5?

When DLL imports are switched off, the LTC window in MetaTrader 5 shows only Cancel and Reset, so you can't start it. Tick "Allow DLL imports" (on the EA's Dependencies tab, or once for all EAs in Tools > Options > Experts) and the OK button appears.



Left: DLL imports off, no OK button. Right: DLL imports on.

CHAPTER 5 · CONNECT

Connect your master account to all your other accounts

Step 1: Get Local Trade Copier

Start the free 7-day trial (or buy a plan). You get your Download Center login by e-mail. There you'll find the **LTC Server** and **LTC Client** installers and your licence key.

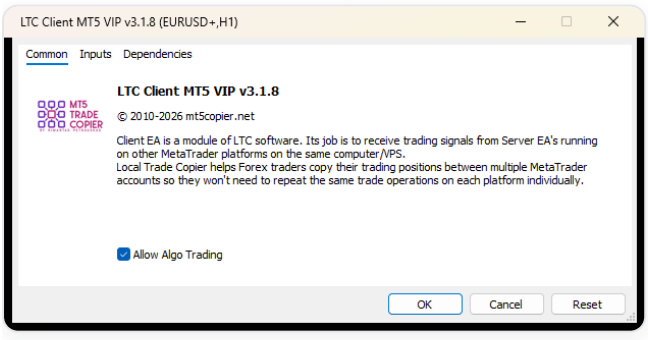
Step 2: Install it into your terminals

1. Run the **LTC Server** installer and choose the MetaTrader folder of your **master** account.
2. Run the **LTC Client** installer and choose the folders of your **client** accounts. You can select several at once.
3. In each terminal, right-click **Expert Advisors** in the Navigator window and choose **Refresh** (or restart the terminal). LTC Server or LTC Client now appears in the list.

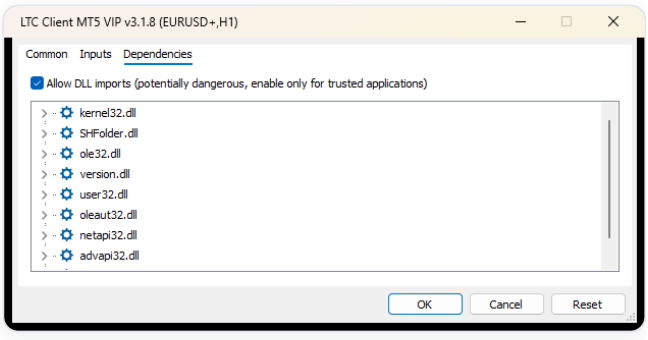
Prefer to watch it? Here's the installation video for MT4 and MT5.

Step 3: Start LTC Server on the master

1. Open any chart in the master terminal (EURUSD H1 is fine).
2. Drag **LTC Server** from the Navigator onto the chart, or double-click it.
3. On the **Common** tab, tick "Allow Algo Trading" (MT5) or "Allow live trading" (MT4). On MT5, also check the **Dependencies** tab: "Allow DLL imports" must be ticked.
4. On the **Inputs** tab, enter your licence key in `LicenseKey`. Leave everything else at the defaults for now, and click **OK**.



Common tab: Allow Algo Trading ticked.

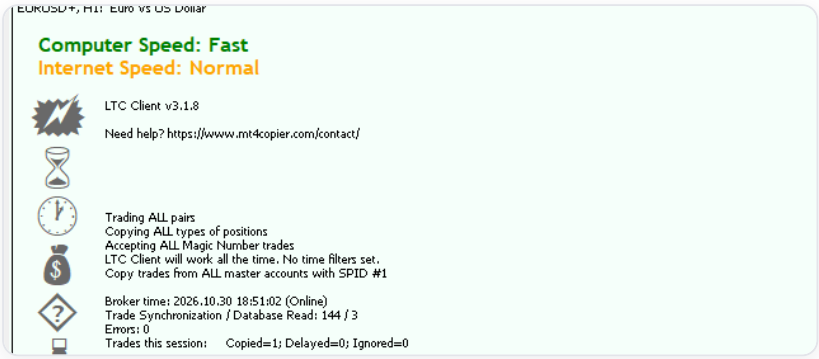


Dependencies tab (MT5): Allow DLL imports ticked.

You need LTC Server on **one chart** per master account. It copies trades in every symbol, not only the symbol of its chart.

Step 4: Start LTC Client on each client account

1. Open a chart of a symbol **exactly as your client broker names it**. If Market Watch shows `EURUSD+` or `EURUSD.m`, open that chart, not a plain EURUSD one. LTC Client reads the broker's symbol prefix and suffix from this chart.
2. Drag **LTC Client** onto the chart, check the Common and Dependencies tabs as above, and click **OK**. LTC Client doesn't need a licence key.



LTC Client running: its chart shows the status panel. "Copied=1" means it has already copied a trade.

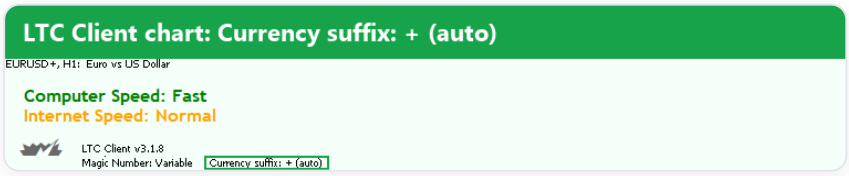
LTC Client uses its chart for this status panel, so open another chart if you want to trade on that account. Repeat step 4 on every client account.

What the default settings do

- Every client copies every new trade from every master on the same computer.
- The lot size is **auto-adjusted to the account size**: a client with twice the master's balance gets twice the lot size, so every account takes the same risk in percent.

Accounts at different brokers? Usually nothing to do

The default Symbol Mapping Mode is "Automatic". LTC Client takes the prefix and suffix from its chart, and it matches common alternative names by itself, for example GOLD and XAUUSD, NAS100, US100 and USTEC, US500 and SPX500, or GER40 and DE40.



The client chart shows the suffix it detected: "Currency suffix: + (auto)".

If a broker uses a name LTC doesn't recognise, set it once in the LTC Client inputs:

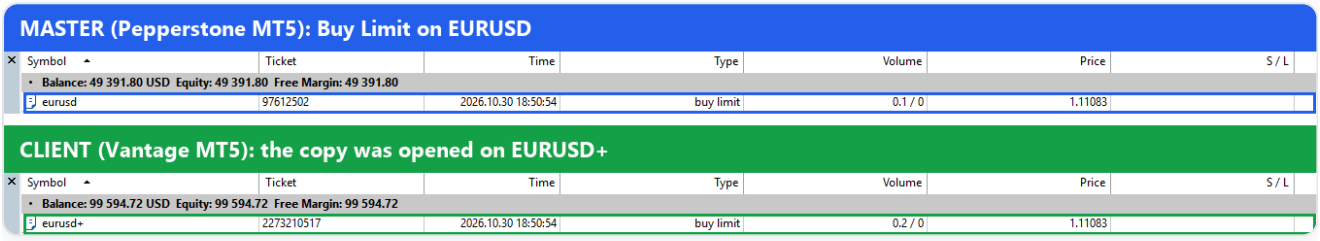
- **Symbol Mapping Mode = "Custom"**, then enter `CustomSymbolPrefix` and/or `CustomSymbolSuffix`.
- **CustomSymbolMapping** for a completely different name, as `master symbol=client symbol`, separated by commas: `GOLD=XAUUSD,GDAXI=DE30`. Names are case sensitive.

CHAPTER 6 · TEST IT

The moment of truth: your first copied trade

Before you copy a real trade, prove it works. This 2-minute test checks everything, including the symbol names, without any risk.

1. On the master account, place a **Buy Limit** (or Sell Limit) far away from the current price, so it can't be triggered.
2. Within a few seconds, the same pending order appears on **every client account**. Check the symbol: it must be the client broker's own name, for example `EURUSD+`.
3. Delete the pending order on the master. LTC Client deletes its copies too.



Master: Buy Limit EURUSD 0.10 lot. Client: the same order on EURUSD+ with 0.20 lot, because the client balance is about twice the master balance.

Now try it with a small market trade on a **demo** account:

- ✓ Open a trade on the master: it opens on every client, with the same stop loss and take profit.
- ✓ Move the stop loss on the master: every client follows.
- ✓ Close half of it, then the rest: the clients close too.

> **THAT'S IT**
>
> From now on, you trade one account. Local Trade Copier takes care of the rest, whether you have 2 accounts or 20.

One thing to know: trades that were **already open** on the master before you started LTC Client aren't copied by default, so old trades don't suddenly appear on your clients. If you want them copied, set `CopyExistingMasterTradesOnStart` = true in LTC Client.

CHAPTER 7 · TROUBLESHOOTING

"Why isn't it copying?" The checklist

First, open the **Experts** tab at the bottom of the client terminal. LTC Client writes every copied, skipped or rejected trade there, with the reason. Then check this list, top to bottom:

What you see	The fix
The EA is on the chart, but nothing happens	The Algo Trading / AutoTrading button in the toolbar is red, or "Allow Algo Trading" / "Allow live trading" is unticked on the EA's Common tab.
No OK button in the MT5 EA window	DLL imports are off. Tick "Allow DLL imports" (chapter 4).
"Unknown symbol" on the client	The brokers name the symbol differently. Attach LTC Client to a chart with the client broker's symbol, or use CustomSymbolSuffix / CustomSymbolMapping (chapter 5).
"Trading is forbidden for this account" on the client	The client is logged in with its investor password. Use the trading password (chapter 3).
Error 133 (MT4) or 10017 (MT5), "Trade is disabled", on the client	The broker rejected the order. Usually trading is disabled on that symbol for your account (for example EURUSD is disabled but EURUSD.swd is open), it's the daily rollover, or the account is disabled. For a symbol, map it in CustomSymbolMapping, for example `EURUSD=EURUSD.swd` .
Trade skipped because of the price	The client price was too far from the master entry. For different brokers and fast markets, set Deviation Type = "Copy at any price".
Lot size different from what you expected	By default it's scaled to the account size. Also check the broker's minimum lot and lot step, MaxLotSizeAllowed, and, in Risk Percent mode, that the master trade has a stop loss.
An older master trade wasn't copied	It was open before LTC Client started. See CopyExistingMasterTradesOnStart (chapter 6).
The broker or prop firm doesn't allow EAs	Use Manual-Like Execution Mode: trades open through the normal order window, so they're recorded as manual trades.
Copying stops at night	The computer went to sleep or a terminal lost its connection. Keep every terminal online, ideally on a VPS (chapter 8).

STILL STUCK?

Ask the **AI assistant**: it answers instantly from the LTC manuals. Or **contact support** (by e-mail, Monday to Friday) and attach screenshots of your LTC settings and the Experts tab of the master and the client. That's the fastest way to a fix.

CHAPTER 8 · NEXT STEPS

Next steps: VPS, lot sizes and safety limits

Keep it running 24/5 on a VPS

Copying happens on your computer, so the terminals must stay open. Most traders rent a **Windows VPS**, a computer in a data centre that never sleeps. It's also the answer for **Mac users**: MetaTrader EAs need Windows, so you run everything on the VPS and connect to it from your Mac. You can still place trades on the master from the MT4/MT5 phone app; they're copied like any other trade.

Choose the lot size for each account

Every LTC Client has its own money management settings, so every account can follow the master its own way: auto-adjusted to the balance (the default), a fixed lot, a lot multiplier, a risk percent of the balance, or a lot per amount of money. For example, one client at the same lot as the master, another at 0.5×, a third at a fixed 0.01 lot.

Safety limits for when you're not watching

- LTC Client only touches trades that come from your master. It never closes trades you placed by hand.
- Built-in limits: a maximum lot size, a margin limit and equity stops.
- Turn on e-mail or push alerts, and you'll hear about a disconnection right away.

When you're ready for more

- **Several masters:** one client can copy from several masters, and you can send master A to clients 1–5 and master B to clients 6–10.
- **MT4 ↔ MT5:** any mix works, in both directions.
- **Filters:** copy only some symbols, skip others, or filter by trade type, magic number, comment or time of day.

Every setting is explained in the LTC Client manual and the LTC Server manual, with more answers in the FAQ and the video tutorials.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

This software exists because a trader never paid me



Years ago I was a programmer with a 9-to-5 IT job that didn't pay the bills, so I tried trading. Like most traders, I struggled, and I was close to quitting. So I went back to what I do best: writing code.

Then a trader in Russia asked me to build a tool that copies trades from one account to another. It took me weeks. When it was done, **he vanished**. Never replied. Never paid.

I needed the money, so I put the copier online. Traders bought it straight away: retail traders, account managers, fund managers. That copier became Local Trade Copier, and I still develop it today.

2010	10,000+	100+	500+
first version	licences sold	countries	reviews on Trustpilot and Forex Peace Army combined

Rimantas Petrauskas is a software developer who has built trading tools for MetaTrader traders since 2009. He created Local Trade Copier in 2010 and still develops it today. He is the author of "How to Start Your Own Forex Signals Service" and "Trading Mindset Unlocked" (2025), and runs Algonexis Technologies, based in Dubai.

Try it on your own accounts, free for 7 days

Everything in this guide works in the **free 7-day trial**. It's the full software, not a limited demo. Set it up today, place one test trade and watch it appear on every account.

- Every plan copies to **unlimited MT4 and MT5 accounts**.
- **30-day money-back guarantee** on your first purchase: if it doesn't work for you after you follow the setup guide and contact support, you get your money back.
- The trial needs a card. If you don't cancel before day 7, it continues as the PERSONAL plan at €29/month.

Start your free 7-day trial **See the plans**

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