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Continued from page 62

typically operate at a substantial discount to their full-service counterparts, but generally shift the burden of research and specific trades to the customer, with support only for questions about the markets or the trading platform. Self-directed brokers are a good option for traders who have a solid grasp on trading basics, but still like to talk to someone for help when necessary. Many online brokerage firms — including XPRESSTRADE are geared toward self-directed traders. The breadth of tools for trade evaluation and execution, as well as the level of service, may vary between brokers. For the best trading experience and to maximize your chances for success in the futures markets, choose a broker that offers a full suite of goodies and backs it all up with quick, knowledgeable support.

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