

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

S&P 500 AND E-MINI S&P 500 INDEX FUTURES

1. How are the E-mini contracts similar to their larger counterpart contracts?

The E-mini S&P 500 and the standard sized S&P 500 index futures are based on the same underlying index.

- Both contracts are cash-settled to the same index values on quarterly expirations (the Special Opening Quotation).
- Trading of both contracts during the last 30 seconds leading to 3:15 pm contributes to the daily settlement price, which is rounded to nearest tradable price of the standard sized S&P 500 index futures. E-mini S&P 500 settles daily to the identical settlement price of the S&P 500 index futures, regardless of whether the price is tradable for E-mini S&P 500 index futures.
- The E-mini and the larger contracts have the same tick size for calendar spread trades of .05 index points.

2. How are E-mini contracts different from the larger contracts?

- The E-mini contract value is one-fifth of the larger contract.
- The E-mini tick sizes are different:
 - E-mini S&P 500 tick size is .25, or \$12.50 per tick (.05 for calendar spreads = to \$2.50 per tick) versus a tick size of .10, or \$25 per tick (.05 for calendar spreads = \$12.50 per tick) for the S&P 500 futures contract.
- E-mini futures have only five quarterly contracts listed for trading.
- An order for any quantity may be accepted for E-mini outright futures. However, orders exceeding a specified number of contracts as indicated below must be entered on the CME Globex system as multiple entries, each of which must not exceed the specified number of contracts.
 - 2,000 for outrights and 5,000 for calendar spreads.
- An order for any quantity may be accepted for E-mini calendar spreads. However, calendar spread orders for E-minis exceeding 5,000 contracts per contract month must be entered on the CME Globex trading system as multiple entries each of which must not exceed 5,000 contracts.

3. How do the quarterly E-mini futures settle and when is the last time to trade before expiration?

E-mini quarterly contracts expire at the same time and to the same price as their larger counterpart contracts. For quarterly futures contracts, trading can occur up to 8:30 a.m., Chicago time, on the third Friday of the month.

4. Is there a post-settlement session for futures in the E-minis?

No.

5. Are E-mini futures calendar spreads available on CME Globex?

Calendar spread orders for E-minis of any quantity may be accepted for entry on CME Globex.

- However, calendar spread orders exceeding 5,000 contracts per contract month must be entered on CME Globex as multiple entries, each of which must not exceed 5,000 contracts.
-

6. Are E-mini options spreads available on CME Globex?

Yes. CME Group updated the electronic equity options functionality available on CME Globex to enable trading of standard listed and user-defined spreads (including covered) for E-mini options. Check with your CME Globex access provider to see if they offer this functionality on your trading platform of choice.

7. Are E-mini FLEX options available?

E-mini FLEX options are not currently available.

8. Is a position of five E-mini futures contracts financially equivalent to a position of one regular-sized larger futures contract on the same side of the market in the same contract month?

Yes. The daily settlement prices for the E-mini S&P 500 index futures contracts are the same as the settlement prices for the corresponding contracts months of the standard sized contracts. Accordingly, a customer who has a long position of five E-mini futures contracts and a short position of one regular-sized futures contract in the same contract month is perfectly hedged.

9. May a customer liquidate E-mini futures positions against offsetting positions in the regular-sized futures contract without making additional trades in the market?

Yes. With the customer's consent, a clearing member may offset and liquidate E-mini futures positions against offsetting regular-sized futures positions held in the same account in a 5:1 ratio of E-mini to regular-sized futures contracts. The positions shall be offset at the previous day's settlement price. The clearing member shall notify CME Clearing of offsetting positions by submitting reports to the clearing house through a special online entry screen designed for that purpose.

10. What do the position limits work for the S&P 500 and E-minis S&P 500 Index futures?

Position limits in E-mini futures and options work in conjunction with the existing position limits for the regular-sized contracts. For example, with the E-mini at one-fifth the size of the S&P 500 futures contract, an entity or an account controller could have 140,000 net E-mini S&P 500 futures equivalents, if no other S&P 500 positions were held open. Please consult the table at the end of Chapter 5 of the CME Rulebook for the current position limit level.

11. What is the reportable position limit for the E-mini contracts?

25 contracts. Please consult the table at the end of Chapter 5 of the CME Rulebook for the current reportable position limit level.

CME Group® is a registered trademark of Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. The Globe logo, CME, Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Globex, CME Direct and CME Direct Messenger are trademarks of Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. Chicago Board of Trade is a trademark of the Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. NYMEX is a trademark of the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc.

Futures trading is not suitable for all investors, and involves the risk of loss. Futures are a leveraged investment, and because only a percentage of a contract's value is required to trade, it is possible to lose more than the amount of money deposited for a futures position. Therefore, traders should only use funds that they can afford to lose without affecting their lifestyles. And only a portion of those funds should be devoted to any one trade because they cannot expect to profit on every trade. All examples in this brochure are hypothetical situations, used for explanation purposes only, and should not be considered investment advice or the results of actual market experience.

The information within this brochure has been compiled by CME Group for general purposes only and has not taken into account the specific situations of any recipients of this brochure. CME Group assumes no responsibility for any errors or omissions. All matters pertaining to rules and specifications herein are made subject to and are superseded by official CME, NYMEX and CBOT rules. Current CME/CBOT/NYMEX rules should be consulted in all cases before taking any action.