

Xtrade Thinness

How expensive is it to move this market right now?

A realtime read of price impact — graded THIN, NORMAL or THICK against the instrument's own recent window.



What This Manual Covers

Xtrade Thinness measures **how far the same order flow moves the price right now** — a realtime price-impact estimate in the spirit of Kyle's lambda — and grades that reading against the instrument's **own recent window** as **THIN**, **NORMAL** or **THICK**. It is deliberately **not a signal system**: it tells you the trading conditions, and your method decides what to do with them. Inside: everything it draws, the monitor card line by line, how the reading is built and why it does not flicker, every setting, the one alert, the data requirements, and the honest limitations.

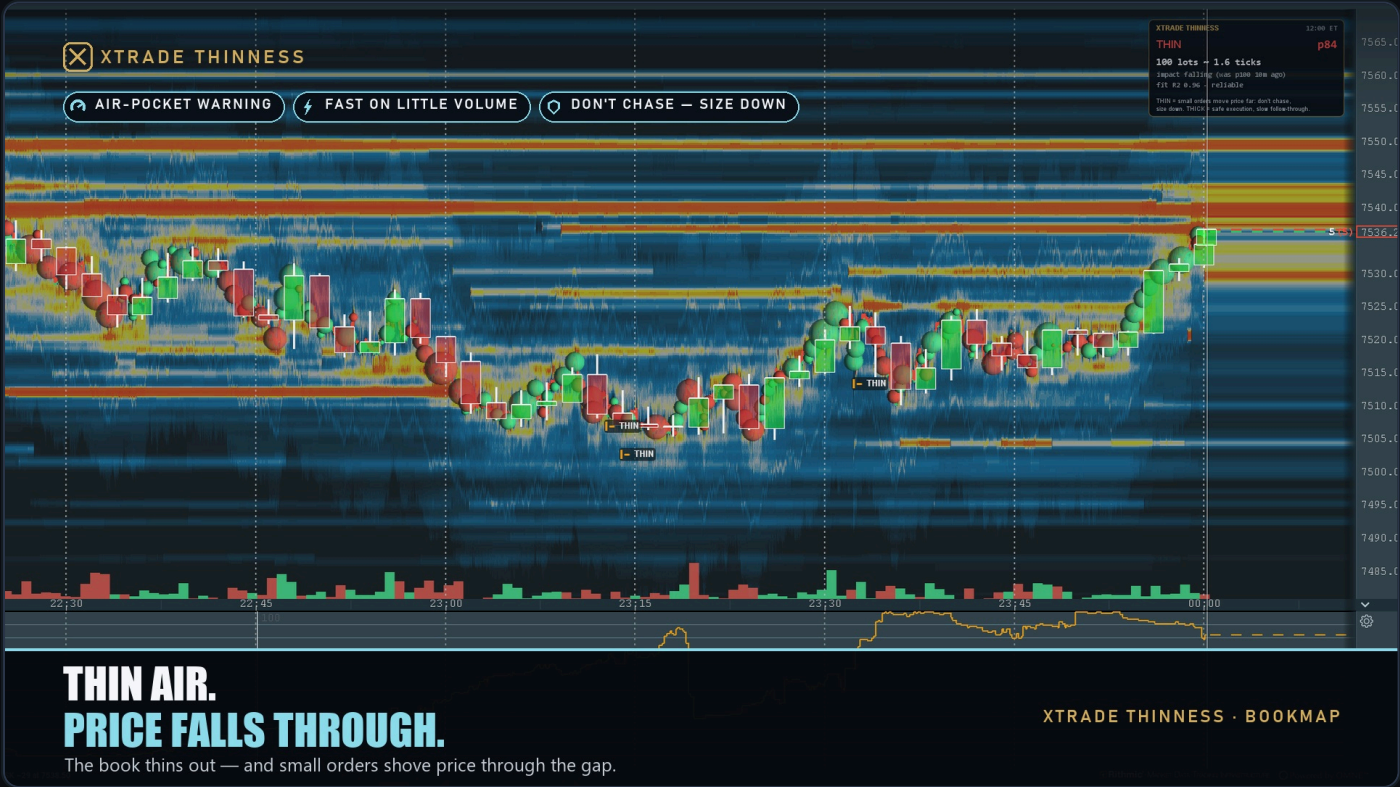
One Percentile Line, One Warning Pill

■ The layer — few elements, one message

Element	Meaning
Thinness percentile (bottom panel)	The chart legend's "Thinness percentile" line: the current price-impact reading as a percentile (0–100) of this instrument's own recent window — roughly the last 80 minutes of market time. Amber, on a pinned 0–100 axis. Nothing is drawn during warm-up.
Thick ref 30 / Thin ref 70	The two dark dotted reference lines mark the state boundaries: at or above the 70 line the market is THIN, at or below the 30 line it is THICK.
THIN pill (on the chart)	An amber marker pinned at the last mid price the moment the market turns THIN — a risk warning flag on the tape, not an entry arrow.
Monitor card (corner HUD)	The whole reading in words and numbers — state, percentile, cost of size, trend, reliability. Detailed on the next page.

■ Reading the three states

- THIN** — price moves fast on little volume: expect slippage, air pockets and quick traversals through sparse levels. Size down, widen stops, or wait.
- THICK** — absorbent: the book takes flow without moving; breakouts need more fuel to get anywhere. Safer execution, slower follow-through.
- NORMAL** — ordinary conditions: no edge from the environment. Trade your plan.



THIN conditions flagged live: the book thins out and small orders shove price through the gap. The pill marks the regime change — what follows is the market's move, not a promised direction.

The Monitor Card, Line by Line

XTRADE THINNESS

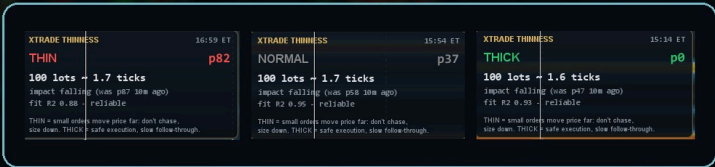
THREE STATES. ONE GLANCE.

The monitor card reads the environment, the cost of your size, and how much to trust it.

States with memory
Percentiles of the session's own conditions, with hysteresis — no flicker

Cost of size, in ticks
What a hundred lots would cost right now, read live off the tape

Honest about fit
When the read is unreliable the card says LOW FIT and dims the number



Line by line

Row	Meaning
XTRADE THINNESS + clock	Card title, with the current market time on the right (16:59 ET).
State + percentile THIN p82	The regime, colored: THIN red, THICK green, NORMAL grey, WARMING UP dim. pNN is where the current impact sits inside its own recent-window distribution (0–100).
Cost of size 100 lots ~ 1.7 ticks	The headline translation: about how many ticks a 100-lot order would move the mid price under current conditions.
Trend impact falling (was p87 10m ago)	The percentile ten minutes ago, so you see whether conditions are improving or degrading — rising / falling / flat. The trend appears once ten minutes of readings exist after warm-up; before that the row shows --.
Reliability fit R2 0.88 - reliable	How much of the price move order flow actually explains right now. When the fit is weak the card says unreliable, read with care, appends LOW FIT to the state and dims the numbers.
Usage lines	Two fixed reminder lines at the bottom: what THIN and THICK mean for your size — self-contained, no other indicators required.

The card parks in the bottom-right corner of the chart and can be moved with HUD offset X/Y so it never collides with your other add-ons.

A Reading That Calibrates Itself

■ From book events to one percentile

- 1 **Every change at the best bid and ask is an order-flow event.** The add-on watches the top of the book: when the best level moves or its size changes, that imbalance is booked — the same event construction as the published order-flow-imbalance research.
- 2 **Every ten seconds of market time closes one sample.** Samples roll into a thirty-minute window that is continuously refit: how far did the mid price move per unit of order flow? That is the live impact estimate.
- 3 **The reading is graded against its own recent window.** The current estimate is scored as a percentile of this instrument's own recent window (0–100) — self-calibrating, with nothing to tune.
- 4 **States change with memory, not on noise.** THIN enters at p70 and does not exit until the reading falls below p65; THICK enters at p30 and exits above p35. This hysteresis means the regime changes when it means it — it never flickers on a single crossing.

■ Warm-up, honestly

The first ten minutes of market time after attach collect samples; the card shows **WARMING UP** and no line is drawn. The first classification at the end of warm-up is not an event — it never draws a pill or sounds the alert.

■ When the read is noise: LOW FIT

Sometimes order flow explains very little of the price move: the card says **LOW FIT** and dims the reading rather than show confidence built on noise. A degenerate fit (flat or inverted slope) produces no fresh reading — the previous percentile is held until the fit turns meaningful.



**THICK BOOK.
SIZE ABSORBED.**

Deep, absorbent tape — the book takes your size without flinching.

XTRADE THINNESS · BOOKMAP

The opposite regime: a deep, absorbent tape where the book takes size without flinching.

Settings Reference

■ Zero parameters, by design

The impact window is fixed by the published research convention, so there is nothing to tune and nothing to overfit. The panel itself says so: "Zero parameters to tune — the impact window is fixed by the research convention." What remains is the alert, the HUD, and where it sits.

■ All settings

Setting	Default	Meaning
Sound alert when market turns THIN	On	Chime the moment the market enters THIN. On by default — the event is rare and gated by hysteresis. Takes effect immediately.
Monitor card HUD (needs reload)	On	Show the corner monitor card. Toggling takes effect after reloading the add-on.
HUD offset X px, + = left	0 (−2000–2000, step 10)	Shift the card horizontally, live — for de-overlapping other indicators.
HUD offset Y px, + = up	0 (−2000–2000, step 10)	Shift the card vertically, live.



ZERO PARAMETERS.

The method is fixed and self-calibrating — you only choose the alert and the HUD seat.

- Nothing to tune**
 The impact window follows the research convention — no knobs to fit
- Ping when it turns THIN**
 One checkbox and the environment change reaches you by sound
- Movable monitor card**
 Offset X/Y so the card sits clear of your other indicators

Configure addons (ESU6.CME@RITHMIC)

- ☐ Breakeven Point
- ☐ B3 Icebergs On-Chart
- ☐ B3 Icebergs Sub-Chart
- ☐ Cross BBO
- ☐ Absorption indicator
- ☐ DOM Pro
- ☐ Execution Pro
- ☐ Xtrade Delta Divergence
- ☐ SMC OrderFlow
- ☐ Xtrade Stacked Imbalance
- ☐ Xtrade Volume Profile
- ☐ Xtrade Jump Alert
- ☐ Xtrade Flow Ignition
- ☒ **Xtrade Thinness**
-

☒ Auto enable
 ☒ Auto load

Thinness

Zero parameters to tune — the impact window is fixed by the research convention.

☒ Sound alert when market turns THIN

☒ Monitor card HUD (needs reload)

HUD offset X px, + = left

HUD offset Y px, + = up

move HUD when multiple indicators overlap

R2 = how much of the price move the order flow explains. Below 0.2 the impact reading is noise - the card shows LOW FIT and dims the number.

THIN = small orders move price far; size down.

The panel also explains the reliability score in plain words: R2 is how much of the price move the order flow explains — below 0.2 the reading is noise, and the card shows LOW FIT and dims the number.

One Rare Alert, Plain Data Needs

■ The one alert

Declared as "**Market turned THIN (price impact high)**", the alert fires the moment the market **enters** THIN — and only then. Leaving THIN, NORMAL and THICK transitions never beep, and the first classification after warm-up is not an event. Alerts do not fire during historical backfill (the +history variant); they do fire in replay.

Market THIN - impact p88, size down

What the chime carries: the state change and the current percentile, in one line.

ONE-SHOT PER ENTRY

One chime each time the market turns THIN — never a repeating beeper. Hysteresis keeps it from re-firing on noise.

SOUND ON · POPUP OFF

Out of the box it rings once and stays off your screen. Adjust sound and popup in Bookmap's alert settings.

UNDER YOUR CONTROL

It never exceeds what you allow in the alert GUI; cancelling the declaration there silences it for good.

■ Data requirements

Feed	Detail
Depth	Incremental, aggregated price levels — changes at the best bid and ask are the entire input. Not MBO : no order-by-order feed required.
Trades	Not required — the order-flow events are built from the book itself.
Replay	Fully supported, precisely because no MBO is needed. Historical sessions measure and draw the same way as live.
Market time	All sampling runs on the exchange clock, not the wall clock — replay at any speed measures and grades identically to live.

■ Two variants, one engine

Addon entry	Behavior
Xtrade Thinness	Instant-load: attach to a live chart and it warms up on the live feed (about ten minutes of market time to the first reading).
Xtrade Thinness (+ history)	Attachable in historical mode: warms the percentile baseline on the history first, so the grading is ready the moment the live feed starts. Silent during the backfill phase.

An environment tool should tap your shoulder once when the floor gets thin — not beep its way through the session. The alert is a risk warning, not a short signal: thin air works in both directions.

Honest Answers, Plain Limits

■ Positioning, in one breath

Thinness is an **environment instrument, not a strategy**. It tells you how expensive it is to move this market right now — the trading conditions, not the direction. The same setup is a different trade in THIN versus THICK conditions; which trade to take remains your system.

■ FAQ

Question	Answer
What exactly is the pNN reading?	A realtime price-impact estimate in the spirit of Kyle's lambda — how far the mid moves per unit of order flow — as a percentile of its own recent window (~80 minutes of market time).
Why does the card say WARMING UP?	It needs about the first ten minutes of market time to collect enough samples before the first reading. Nothing is drawn and no alert fires until then — that is warm-up, not a malfunction.
What is LOW FIT / R2?	How much of the price move order flow actually explains right now. Below 0.2 the reading is noise: the card appends LOW FIT, says "unreliable, read with care", and dims the numbers.
What does "100 lots ~ 1.7 ticks" mean?	The human translation of the impact estimate: about how many ticks a 100-lot order would move the mid price under current conditions. An estimate, not a slippage guarantee.
Why NORMAL in a dead-quiet market?	The percentile grades the market against its own recent behavior — on a habitually quiet instrument, a normally quiet stretch IS normal for it. The statistics being honest, not a malfunction.
Why did the state not flip the moment the line crossed 70?	Hysteresis: THIN enters at p70 but only exits below p65 (THICK enters at p30, exits above p35). The regime changes when it means it — not on a single noisy crossing.
Does it give buy/sell signals?	No. There is no signal system — no direction, no entries, no stops, no targets. It is an environment gauge; your method supplies the trade.
Does it work in replay?	Yes — it runs entirely on incremental aggregated depth, no MBO, so historical replay behaves like live.
Is there a trial?	No trial is offered at this time. Every element, its timing and its limits are documented in this manual; if anything is still unclear, ask before you buy.

⚠ Known limitations — said plainly

- **No signal system, by design.** THIN warns about execution conditions; it is not short advice. Thin air works in both directions — price can slip up through it just as fast as down.
- **The percentile is relative to the instrument's own recent window (~80 minutes).** It answers "how thin is it for this market, right now?" — not "versus the whole day" and not "versus other instruments."
- **LOW FIT periods are honestly unreadable.** When order flow stops explaining the price move, the reading is noise and the card says so; trust it less, not more.
- **An estimate is not a guarantee.** Conditions can change between the reading and your fill; "100 lots ~ X ticks" describes now, not your next execution.