

Five Benefits of Trading Cryptocurrencies

When it comes to trading cryptocurrencies, you have to speculate whether the market you have chosen will go up or down in value. And the interesting thing is that you never own the digital asset. Actually, the trading is done with derivative products like contract for differences (CFDs). Let's take a look at the benefits of trading crypto currencies. Read on to find out more.

Volatility

While the cryptocurrency is a new market, it's quite volatile because of the short-lived speculative interest. The price of bitcoin dropped to \$5851 from \$19,378 in 2018, in just one year. However, the value of other digital currencies is quite stable, which is good news.

What makes this world so exciting is the volatility of the value of crypto currency. The price movements offer a lot of opportunities for traders. However, this comes with a lot of risk as well. Therefore, if you decide on exploring the market, just make sure you do your research and put together a risk management strategy.

Business Hours

Typically, the market is open for trade 24/7 because it is not regulated by any government. Moreover, the transactions are done between buyers and sellers across the world. There may be short downtimes when the infrastructural updates take place.

Improved Liquidity

Liquidity refers to how quickly a digital currency can be sold for cash. This feature is important as it allows quicker transaction times, better accuracy and better pricing. Generally, the market is kind of illiquid as the financial transactions happen across different exchanges. Therefore, small trades can bring large changes in the prices.

Leveraged Exposure

Since CFD trading is considered a leveraged product, you can open a position on what we call "margin". In this case, the value of the deposit is a fraction of the trade value. So, you can enjoy a great exposure to the market without investing a lot of money.

The loss or profit will reflect the value of the position at the time of its closure. Therefore, if you trade on margin, you can earn huge profits by investing a small amount of money. However, it also amplifies losses that may exceed your deposit on a trade. Therefore, make sure you take into account the total value of the position prior to investing in CFDs.

Also, it's important to ensure that you are following a solid risk management strategy, which should involve proper limits and stops.

Quick Account Opening

If you want to buy crypto currencies, make sure you do so through an exchange. All you need to do is sign up for an exchange account and keep the currency in your wallet. Keep in mind that this process may be restrictive and take a good deal of time and effort. However, once the account is created, the rest of the process will be quite smooth and free of complications.

Long story short, these are some of the most prominent benefits of crypto currency trading in the here and now. Hopefully, you will find this article quite helpful.



Crypto Is The next Evolution of Technology, The Key Is to Get in Early

Clearly, the crypto world is still in its initial stages of development and adoption. The role of Crypto Trend is to provide impartial information, so investors can better weigh the dangers and the future potential of this very volatile sector, one that we have labelled the "wild west". If you're willing to accept the risks, you can look forward to serious profit opportunities.

Crypto currencies hold great promise for the future. They can revolutionize money, infusing discipline into monetary policy. Unfortunately, the crypto space also has a dark side. It suffers from loose standards, questionable operators, excessive hype, and occasional market crashes. Also, buying the actual crypto currencies can be a cumbersome process, and as noted below, governments are now stepping in, trying to figure out how they can take a chunk of that action as taxes, fees, or some yet to be created method of taking your money from you.

If buying the actual crypto currency is not your cup of tea, understand that over the next few years we expect that the majority of the recommendations in the Crypto Trend Premium service will come from Blockchain, and other technological advances that will change the way we do business, much the same way that the internet has revolutionized our lives.

Times change, technologies evolve. Ten years ago there were no mobile apps, or data clouds. Today we have robots, which are changing the way people do business, in everything from manufacturing to drones. In China, face-detecting systems can now authorize payments, provide access to facilities, and track the movements of every single person in a smart city. Soon we will be passengers in driverless buses and cars.

We will also see cloud-based AI services, which will make artificial intelligence tools available to a wide range of businesses. And even "Dueling Neural Networks", a breakthrough in artificial intelligence that allows AI to create images of things it has never seen, giving AI a sense of imagination.

There will be some serious privacy, security, and other issues that will need to be addressed as we step into the next evolution of technology advances, but as an investor, each of these advancements gives you the opportunity to make massive gains. The key is to get in early with the right companies, in the right technological trend.

Be clear here, while some of the stocks we will be recommending in Crypto Trend Premium will be known leaders in their field, other stocks will be unknown and unproven technology stocks that are not on the radar of the masses.

Many of these companies you've never heard of will be household names in just a few years.

It's Tax Time - Are You Ready for Crypto-Currency Craziness?

Crypto currency investors have a lot to think about with the tax implications of buying and selling crypto coins. Many governments are still deliberating about how to get in on the action - in the form of taxation. They know there is big money at stake, and they know they are going broke, so they sure don't want to miss out. There seems to be no simple answer that all governments can agree on. Should crypto-currencies be treated as currency, as a commodity, as a security, as property, or some combination thereof?

For example, here is what's happening in the USA. In 2014 the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) determined that "convertible virtual currency", such as Bitcoin, will be treated as property. This decision means that purchases using crypto-Currencies are subject to capital gain (or loss) and investment tax treatment, with all the associated reporting requirements. Given that there are many retailers who now accept Crypto-Currencies as payment, this means that the IRS requires everyone to do all this when spending their crypto-currency:

- record the amount of coins spent
- allocate the cost basis of the coins spent
- subtract the cost basis of the coins spent from the actual price paid
- report the difference to the IRS, and calculate the capital gain or loss, factoring in the date of when the coins were purchased

This all goes in your annual tax return, and you must pay the taxes owed, or claim the capital loss. All this work is generated by the consumer's choice of "payment method". Many analysts and commentators are calling this a prohibitive, crazy, quagmire. Can you imagine the nightmare if you purchased two cups of coffee every day, using Bitcoin as your payment method? You might need an army of accountants.

In the USA there are going to be other problems, as there are four departments that want to treat Crypto-Currencies in their own special way:

- The Commodity Futures Trading Commission views crypto-currencies as a commodity
- The Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) is treating "some" coins as a security
- The Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) has stated that "certain activities involving convertible virtual currency constitute money transmission"
- as shown above, the IRS insists on treating crypto-currencies as property

So here we have four different, inconsistent categories for the same thing, which prompts us to remind you to carefully check what's happening with the crypto-currency tax rules in your jurisdiction. We can't promise you that it will make sense, or be easy to understand. It is another example of the "wild west" nature of this market space.



Crypto Trend 2017 to Date

Everyone has heard how Bitcoin and other crypto currencies have made millionaires of those who bought as recently as a year ago. Gains of 1,000% or more are not just possible, they have been common place with many of these crypto currencies. Someone who bought Bitcoin in May 2016 at less than \$500, would have had a gain of 1,400% in about 17 months. Then over the past few days, we saw Bitcoin lose almost \$1,000, so to say these crypto currencies are volatile would be a massive understatement.

Since the inception of Bitcoin in 2008, we at Trend News have been sceptical of crypto currencies' ability to survive, given that they present a very clear threat to governments who want to see and tax all transactions. But while we may still be cautious on the actual crypto currencies, we are very aware of the potential of the underlying technology that powers these electronic currencies. In fact, we believe that this technology will be a significant disruptor in how data is managed, and that it will impact every sector of the global economy, much like how the internet impacted media.

Here are some questions & answers to get us started;

Q: What are Crypto Currencies?

The most well known crypto currency is Bitcoin. It was the first crypto-currency, started in 2008. Today there are more than 800 crypto currency's, including Ethereum, Litecoin, Dash, Zcash, Ripple, Monero, and they are all "virtual". There are no "physical" coins or currency.

Q: How do Crypto Currency's work?

Crypto-Currency's are virtual currencies that exist in very large distributed databases. These databases use Blockchain technology. Because each Blockchain database is widely distributed, it is thought to be immune to hacking, as there is no central point of attack and every transaction is visible to everyone on the network. Each crypto-currency has a group of administrators, often called "miners", who validate transactions. One crypto-currency called Ethereum uses "smart contracts" to validate transactions. Crypto Trend will provide more details in upcoming news publications.

Q: What is Blockchain?

Blockchain is the technology that underpins all Crypto-Currency's. Each transaction for the purchase, sale, or exchange of cryptocurrency is entered into a Block that is added to the chain. This technology is complex and will not be explained here, but it has the potential to revolutionize the financial services industry, as transactions can be executed quickly and easily, reducing or eliminating fees. The technology is also being examined for applications in many other industries.

Q: Are Crypto-Currency Exchanges regulated by government?

For the most part, the answer is NO, which, for some users, is a big attractions of this market. It is the "wild west" right now, but governments in most developed countries are examining this market to decide what regulation may be needed. A big decision is whether to treat Crypto-Currency's as a currency or a commodity / security. Canada and USA have so far declared that crypto-currency's are legal, however the situation remains fluid as for reporting and tax implications. Crypto Trend will be following and reporting on these developments.

Q: How do I invest in this market?

You can buy, sell, and exchange cryptocurrencies using the services of specialized "Exchanges" that act as a brokerage. You start by selecting an Exchange, setting up an account, and transferring fiat currency into your account. You can then place your BUY and SELL Crypto-Currency orders. There are many exchanges around the world. Opening an account is fairly simple and these exchanges all have their own rules about initial funding and withdrawals.

Q: Where do I keep my Crypto-Currency?

To have the freedom to move your crypto currencies around, and to pay bills, you will need to have a digital wallet. These wallets come in several formats, such as desktop, cloud based, hardware (USB), mobile phone, and paper. Many of them are FREE, however, security is a big factor as no one ever wants to lose their wallet or have it stolen. Crypto Trend will be recommending digital wallets in future.

Q: What can I do with my Crypto-Currency?

As well as investing in Crypto-Currency products, you can also use crypto currency for some financial transactions, such as money transfers and paying bills. The list of companies accepting crypto currency is growing fast, and includes big hitters like Microsoft, GAP, JC Penny, Expedia, Shopify, Bloomberg.com, Dish Network, Zynga, Subway, and WordPress.

Q: What's next?

As we start off, we will keep each of the Crypto Trend articles short and keep the scope of each one as narrow as possible. As we noted earlier, we believe that the crypto currency technology will be a game changer and potential investment opportunities like this come by once or twice in a lifetime. Make no mistake, early investing in this sector will be only for your most speculative capital, money that you can afford to lose.

Even if you do not want to invest at this time, gaining an early understanding of this new disruptive technology will put you in an advantageous position to profit from our recommendations as we move forward.

Expect to see more news and specific recommendations from Crypto Trend as we start this journey into what may seem to be a foreign jungle at first. This is a volatile market and may not appeal to all investors, however, Crypto Trend will be your guide if and when you are ready.



Is Cryptocurrency the Future of Money?

What will the future of money look like? Imagine walking into a restaurant and looking up at the digital menu board at your favourite combo meal. Only, instead of it being priced at \$8.99, it's shown as .009 BTC.

Can crypto really be the future of money? The answer to that question hinges on the overall consensus on several key decisions ranging from ease of use to security and regulations.

Let's examine both sides of the (digital) coin and compare and contrast traditional fiat money with cryptocurrency.

The first and most important component is trust

It's imperative that people trust the currency they're using. What gives the dollar its value? Is it gold? No, the dollar hasn't been backed by gold since the 1970s. Then what is it that gives the dollar (or any other fiat currency) value? Some countries' currency is considered more stable than others. Ultimately, it's people's trust that the issuing government of that money stands firmly behind it and essentially guarantees its "value."

How does trust work with Bitcoin since it's decentralized meaning their isn't a governing body that issues the coins? Bitcoin sits on the Blockchain which is basically an online accounting ledger that allows the whole world to view each and every transaction. Each of these transactions is verified by miners (people operating computers on a peer to peer network) to prevent fraud and also ensure that there is no double spending. In exchange for their services of maintaining the integrity of the Blockchain, the miners receive a payment for each transaction they verify. Since there are countless miners trying to make money each one checks each others work for errors. This proof of work process is why the Blockchain has never been hacked. Essentially, this trust is what gives Bitcoin value.

Next let's look at trust's closest friend, security

How about if my bank is robbed or there is fraudulent activity on my credit card? My deposits with the bank are covered by FDIC insurance. Chances are my bank will also reverse any charges on my card that I never made. That doesn't mean that criminals won't be able to pull off stunts that are at the very least frustrating and time consuming. It's more or less the peace of mind that comes from knowing that I'll most likely be made whole from any wrongdoing against me.

In crypto, there is a lot of choices when it comes to where to store your money. It's imperative to know if transactions are insured for your protection. There are reputable exchanges such as Binance and Coinbase that have a proven track record of righting wrongs for their clients. Just like there are less than reputable banks all over the world, the same is true in crypto.

What happens if I throw a twenty dollar bill into a fire? The same is true for crypto. If I lose my sign in credentials to a certain digital wallet or exchange then I won't be able to have access to those coins. Again, I can't stress enough the importance of conducting business with a reputable company.

The next issue is scaling. Currently, this might be the biggest hurdle that's preventing people from conducting more transactions on the Blockchain. When it comes to the speed of transactions, fiat money moves much quicker than crypto. Visa can handle about 40,000

transactions per second. Under normal circumstances, the Blockchain can only handle around 10 per second. However, a new protocol is being enacted that will skyrocket this up to 60,000 transactions per second. Known as the Lightning Network, it could result in making crypto the future of money.

The conversation wouldn't be complete without talking about convenience. What do people typically like about the their traditional banking and spending methods? For those who prefer cash, it's obviously easy to use most of the time. If you're trying to book a hotel room or a rental car, then you need a credit card. Personally, I use my credit card everywhere I go because of the convenience, security and rewards.

Did you know there are companies out there providing all of this in the crypto space as well? Monaco is now issuing Visa logo-ed cards that automatically convert your digital currency into the local currency for you.

If you've ever tried wiring money to someone you know that process can be very tedious and costly. Blockchain transactions allow for a user to send crypto to anyone in just minutes, regardless of where they live. It's also considerably cheaper and safer than sending a bank wire.

There are other modern methods for transferring money that exist in both worlds. Take, for example, applications such as Zelle, Venmo and Messenger Pay. These apps are used by millions of millennials everyday. Did you also know that they are starting to incorporate crypto as well?

The Square Cash app now includes Bitcoin and CEO Jack Dorsey said: "Bitcoin, for us, is not stopping at buying and selling. We do believe that this is a transformational technology for our industry, and we want to learn as quickly as possible."

He added, "Bitcoin offers an opportunity to get more people access to the financial system".

While it's clear that fiat spending still dominates the way most of us move money, the fledgling crypto system is quickly gaining ground. The evidence is everywhere. Prior to 2017 it was difficult to find mainstream media coverage. Now nearly every major business news outlet covers Bitcoin. From Forbes to Fidelity, they're all weighing in with their opinions.

What's my opinion? Perhaps the biggest reason Bitcoin might succeed is that it's fair, inclusive and grants financial access to more people worldwide. Banks and large institutions see this as a threat to their very existence. They stand to be on the losing end of the greatest transfer of wealth the world has ever seen.

Still undecided? Ask yourself this question: "Are people trusting governments and banks more or less with each passing day?"

Your answer to that question just might be what determines the future of money.

If you'd like to learn more about cryptocurrency, please visit the crypto site today.



Practical Tips on How to Trade Cryptocurrencies

For some time now, I have been closely observing the performance of cryptocurrencies to get a feel of where the market is headed. The routine my elementary school teacher taught mewhere you wake up, pray, brush your teeth and take your breakfast has shifted a little to waking up, praying and then hitting the web (starting with coinmarketcap) just to know which crypto assets are in the red.

The beginning of 2018 wasn't a lovely one for altcoins and relatable assets. Their performance was crippled by the frequent opinions from bankers that the crypto bubble was about to burst. Nevertheless, ardent cryptocurrency followers are still "HODLing" on and truth be told, they are reaping big.

Recently, Bitcoin retraced to almost \$5000; Bitcoin Cash came close to \$500 while Ethereum found peace at \$300. Virtually every coin got hit-apart from newcomers that were still in excitement stage. As of this writing, Bitcoin is back on track and its selling at \$8900. Many other cryptos have doubled since the upward trend started and the market cap is resting at \$400 billion from the recent crest of \$250 billion.

If you are slowly warming up to cryptocurrencies and wish to become a successful trader, the tips below will help you out.

Practical Tips on How to Trade Cryptocurrencies

Start Modestly

You've already heard that cryptocurrency prices are skyrocketing. You've also probably received the news that this upward trend may not last long. Some naysayers, mostly esteemed bankers and economists usually go ahead to term them as get-rich-quick schemes with no stable foundation.

Such news can make you invest in a hurry and fail to apply moderation. A little analysis of the market trends and cause-worthy currencies to invest in can guarantee you good returns. Whatever you do, do not invest all your hard-earned money into these assets.

Understand How Exchanges Work

Recently, I saw a friend of mine post a Facebook feed about one of his friends who went on to trade on an exchange he had zero ideas on how it runs. This is a dangerous move. Always review the site you intend to use before signing up, or at least before you start trading. If they provide a dummy account to play around with, then take that opportunity to learn how the dashboard looks.

Don't Insist on Trading Everything

There are over 1400 cryptocurrencies to trade, but it's impossible to deal with all of them. Spreading your portfolio to a huge number of cryptos than you can effectively manage will minimize your profits. Just select a few of them, read more about them, and how to get their trade signals.

Stay Sober

Cryptocurrencies are volatile. This is both their bane and boon. As a trader, you have to understand that wild price swings are unavoidable. Uncertainty over when to make a move makes one an ineffective trader. Leverage hard data and other research methods to be sure when to execute a trade.

Successful traders belong to various online forums where cryptocurrency discussions regarding market trends and signals are discussed. Sure, your knowledge may be sufficient, but you need to rely on other traders for more relevant data.

Diversify Meaningfully

Virtually everyone will tell you to expand your portfolio, but no one will remind you to deal with currencies with real-world uses. There are a few crappy coins that you can deal with for quick bucks, but the best cryptos to deal with are those that solve existing problems. Coins with real-world uses tend to be less volatile.

Don't diversify too early or too late. And before you make a move to buy any crypto-asset, ensure you know its market cap, price changes, and daily trading volumes. Keeping a healthy portfolio is the way to reaping big from these digital assets.

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that understands your needs? Get in touch with me via Twitter or LinkedIn and I'll help you out	