



Dark pools, explained

Where the big money actually trades

Private exchanges

Dark pools are off-exchange venues where institutions trade large blocks without displaying orders publicly. Roughly 40% of US equity volume now happens away from the lit exchanges.

Size needs silence

A pension fund selling 2 million shares on the public order book would crash the price against itself. Dark pools let real size trade without signaling intent to the entire market first.

Prints are history, not signals

Dark pool prints are reported with a delay. By the time you see one, the trade is done. A single large print is noise. It tells you what happened, not what happens next.

Patterns, not prints

Persistent dark-pool buying while price rises suggests accumulation. Repeated selling into strength suggests distribution. One print means nothing. The pattern across weeks is the signal.



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