THE ASH COLE TRADING SERIES

BOOK 7 — COMPANION

Companion Resources

Printable Templates, Checklists & Calculators for the Funded Trader

ASH COLE

HOW TO USE THIS PACK

Four One-Page Tools

Print them. Pin them. Fill them in. The book explains why — these pages are the how.

This companion pack contains the four printable resources referenced throughout Trading as a Business. Each tool fits on a single page so you can print it, write on it, and keep it next to your trading desk. Use them in the order the book introduces them, or jump to whichever one matches the decision in front of you today.

What's inside

1. Five Questions to Take to Your Accountant — the tax-appointment prep sheet from Chapter 5.

2. The Revenue Model Calculator — the three-pillar math from Chapter 9, with blank rows for your own numbers.

3. The Fleet Maintenance Calendar — the weekly, monthly, and quarterly checks from Chapter 11.

4. The 12-Month Business Plan Template — the four-quarter structure and three decision gates from Chapter 12.

None of these replace the chapters. They are the working copies of the frameworks those chapters explain. If a tool doesn't make sense on its own, the chapter is where the reasoning lives.

TOOL 1

Five Questions to Take to Your Accountant

Companion to Chapter 5. Print one copy per meeting. Bring it. Use it.

The point of this page is not to give you the answers — it is to make sure you leave the meeting with the answers. Hand this sheet to your accountant at the start of the appointment. Write their answers in the space below each question. Date and keep the page. When rules or circumstances change, book the meeting again and fill in a fresh copy.

The Five Questions

1. How will my trading income and prop firm payouts be classified in this jurisdiction — income, capital gains, business income, or something else — what determines the classification, and is there any reclassification risk as the business grows?

Their answer: ____

2. At my current and projected income, when does a limited company (or equivalent entity) beat trading as an individual, and what are the one-off and ongoing costs of that structure?

Their answer:

3. Which expenses — challenge fees, data feeds, VPS, software subscriptions, home office, hardware — are deductible, and what records do you need me to keep, in what format, for how many years?

Their answer:

4. Are there registration or disclosure rules if I sell trading signals or run a copy trading service, and what would compliance cost?

Their answer:

____

5. What is my quarterly or annual tax reserve percentage, what advance or estimated payments do I owe, and which account should I be sweeping that reserve into on payout day?

Their answer: ____

Treat every payout as fully taxable income until a qualified professional tells you otherwise.

Jurisdiction: ______________________ Date of meeting: ______________________

Accountant: ______________________ Next review: ______________________

TOOL 2

The Revenue Model Calculator

Companion to Chapter 9. Model the three pillars. Stress-test the numbers before you commit the capital.

The scaling math in Chapter 9 collapses to a single idea: one edge, three pillars, one combined monthly figure. Use this page to write in your own assumptions. Do the arithmetic twice — once at your realistic monthly return, once at half of it — and only commit to a plan that survives the pessimistic pass.

Pillar A — Personal Capital

Input	Your number	Notes
Deployed capital	$ ______________	Money actually at risk
Monthly return %	______________ %	Use your 12-month average
Gross monthly ($)	$ ______________	Capital × return %
Retained (100%)	$ ______________	No profit split

Pillar B — Funded Accounts

Input	Your number	Notes
Number of funded accounts	______________	Live, not in evaluation

Average account size	$ ______________	Nominal, not buying power
Monthly return %	______________ %	Net of drawdown days
Profit split retained	______________ %	Typically 80–90%
Challenge fee reserve/mo	$ ______________	Replacement & new attempts
Tax reserve/mo	$ ______________	From Tool 1 — sweep on payout
Net monthly ($)	$ ______________	(Accts × size × return% × split%) − reserves

Pillar C — Copy Trading

Input	Your number	Notes
Follower AUM	$ ______________	Capital following the master
Monthly return %	______________ %	Same edge, same number
Performance fee %	______________ %	Typical range 20–30%
Subscription fee/mo	$ ______________	Flat-rate layer, if used
Platform/payment fees	$ ______________	Deduct before net
Net monthly ($)	$ ______________	Sum of fee streams, before tax reserve

Combined Monthly

Pillar	Realistic case	Pessimistic case (50%)
A — Personal	$ ______________	$ ______________
B — Funded	$ ______________	$ ______________
C — Copy	$ ______________	$ ______________
Total before tax	$ ______________	$ ______________
Tax reserve (from Tool 1)	$ ______________	$ ______________
Take-home	$ ______________	$ ______________

Rule of thumb: if the pessimistic take-home doesn't pay your baseline bills, the realistic case isn't a plan — it's a hope.

TOOL 3

The Fleet Maintenance Calendar

Companion to Chapter 11. If you run more than one bot or more than one account, this is the page that keeps the operation alive.

Bot / Account count on this date: _______ Review date: _______

A trading fleet fails the same way a neglected car fails — slowly, then all at once, usually on the worst possible day. The checks below are the ones that matter. Tick them off. Initial and date the line. When a check fails, open a note, fix the underlying cause, and add the fix to next week's review.

Daily — pre-session (5 minutes)

☐ VPS and platform connectivity verified — all accounts logged in

☐ Bot heartbeat / log file updated in the last 30 minutes

☐ Today's scheduled news events flagged against running strategies

☐ Available margin across all accounts above minimum threshold

Weekly — end of week (30 minutes)

☐ Per-account P&L reconciled against broker statements

☐ Drawdown distance to daily and trailing limits reviewed per account

☐ Error logs scanned — any repeated warning investigated, not dismissed

☐ Copy-trading latency and slippage sampled on at least three trades

☐ Backup of bot configs, journals, and trade logs completed

Monthly — first weekend (90 minutes)

☐ Strategy-level metrics refreshed: win rate, expectancy, max DD, Sharpe

☐ Prop firm rules re-checked for any changes since last review

☐ Tax reserve swept from each payout into the reserve account

☐ VPS cost, data feed cost, and platform cost reviewed vs. revenue

☐ One underperforming component identified — fix, replace, or retire

Quarterly — deep review (half a day)

☐ Every running bot re-validated on the last 90 days of live data

☐ Correlation matrix across accounts and strategies refreshed

☐ Sandbox environment updated — live-equivalent, not demo

☐ Accountant appointment booked and Tool 1 refreshed

☐ Business plan (Tool 4) reviewed against the quarter's actuals

If it does not change a decision, it does not belong on this page.

TOOL 4

The 12-Month Business Plan Template

Companion to Chapter 12. One page. Four quarters. Three decision gates. Sign it.

The year you build the business happens on purpose or it doesn't happen at all. Write this page in pen. Revisit it at the end of each quarter. At each gate, answer the gate question honestly — the honest answer is what lets you scale; the dishonest answer is how operations break.

The North Star

My 12-month outcome (one sentence): ____

My non-negotiable baseline monthly take-home: $ __________________

Q1 — Foundation (Months 1–3)

☐ Edge documented in writing; baseline statistics confirmed from the last 6 months

☐ One funded account passed and live

☐ Accountant engaged; Tool 1 completed

☐ VPS, journaling, and backup infrastructure live

Q1 Gate (Month 3): Did the compliance layer work, did you pass the challenge without forcing it, and did the first funded month end inside plan? Yes / No. If No — repeat the quarter. Do not add accounts or pillars until it is fixed.

Q2 — Expansion (Months 4–6)

☐ Second and third funded accounts live — same edge, same rules

☐ First public track record started (verified where possible)

☐ Brand: one channel chosen, one post per week minimum

☐ Fleet Maintenance Calendar (Tool 3) running on a fixed cadence

Q2 Gate (Month 6): Is the multi-account cadence holding — correlation below 0.7, circuit breaker untouched all quarter? Yes / No. If No — pause at current count, diagnose, fix before adding more.

Q3 — Distribution (Months 7–9)

☐ Copy trading master account live on chosen platform

☐ First follower onboarded; fee structure and disclaimers in place

☐ Revenue Model Calculator (Tool 2) refreshed with real figures

☐ Tax reserve discipline verified across every pillar

Q3 Checkpoint (not a gate): Does the three-pillar combined income clear the non-negotiable baseline — in the pessimistic case? Yes / No. If No — do not quit anything yet.

Q4 — Scale & Review (Months 10–12)

☐ Funded account count at target; no unapproved additions

☐ Follower AUM at target; onboarding process documented

☐ Full annual review: strategy, operations, tax, brand

☐ Next year's Tool 4 drafted before this one expires

Q4 Gate (Month 12): Full-time, part-time, or pivot? All three are honest answers. Decide at the gate, not in the middle of a month.

You build the edge once. You distribute it three ways. You review it every quarter.

Signed: ________________________ Date: ________________________

Ash Cole Trading Series — Book 7 Companion

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