

EA Settings Record Sheet: Change One Thing, Write It Down

An expert advisor has dozens of inputs, and every undocumented change makes the next result unreadable: you no longer know which settings produced which trades. This sheet is the record to keep for every EA — what ran, when it changed, and what happened next.

1. Baseline record (fill in when the EA is installed)

Field	Your entry
EA name, version, source	
Account (broker, number, demo/live)	
Pairs / timeframe / chart template	
Settings file name (.set) and where it is stored	
Risk inputs: lot mode, risk %, max spread, magic number	
Session inputs: trading hours, news filter, Friday rules	
Exit inputs: stop, target, trailing, basket/equity stop	

2. Change log

Date	Input changed	From → To	Why	Result after 2 weeks

3. Rules that keep the record honest

- ☐ One change at a time. Two changes share the credit and the blame, and you learn neither.
- ☐ Export and save the .set file after every accepted change, named with the date. Your future self cannot reconstruct settings from memory.
- ☐ Magic numbers: one unique number per EA per pair. Shared magics make two robots manage each other's trades.
- ☐ Record the changes you rejected too, with the reason. A rejected change tried again in three months wastes the same three months.
- ☐ Vendor update? Save the old .set, note the version change here, and re-run at least a short demo before the new build touches live money.

The settings rule: if it isn't written on this sheet, it didn't happen — and any result you cannot trace to a settings record is a result you cannot repeat.

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