

DDE for Excel API Quick Reference

This Quick Reference assumes that you are comfortable downloading and installing software.

1. Download and Install the API Software

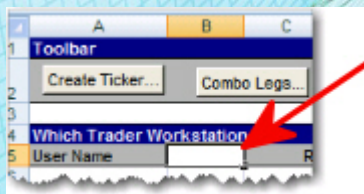
- Ensure that both Excel and TWS are closed.
- From the IB homepage, on the **Trading** menu, select *API Solutions*.
- Click the **IB API** button to display the IB API page, then find your operating system (Windows, MAC or Unix) and click *Download latest version*.
- Click *Save* or *Save File* in the Download dialog, then choose the location on your computer in which to save the installation file (**InstallAX_XXX.exe**, where **XXX** is the API version number). Choose a location that you will remember, such as your Windows Desktop if you are using Windows.
- Run the installation file from the "save" location in the previous step and follow the instructions in the installation wizard to install the software. Be sure to accept the default Destination Folder (C:\IB_API_X_XX, where X_XX is the API version number), which is where the Excel API sample spreadsheet, *TwsDde.xls*, will be installed.

2. Configure TWS to Support the DDE API

- Open TWS and log into your account.
- On the TWS Edit menu, select *Global Configuration*.
- Select *API* in the left pane, then click *Settings*.
- Check *Enable DDE Clients*.

3. Connect the Excel DDE Sample Spreadsheet to TWS

- Go to the API Excel folder on your computer and open the **TwsDde.xls** sample spreadsheet.
- If prompted, enable macros and links. If your security setting is too high, the macros will not run and you must reset your macro security as described on the next page.
- Ensure that TWS is configured to support the DDE API (see Step 2 above).
- Before you can use the Excel DDE sample spreadsheet, you must enter your TWS user name in the *User Name* field on all worksheets (except the Extended Order Attributes and Executions Reporting pages, which do not contain the *User Name* field.).



A quick way to enter your user name in all worksheets is to copy and paste it:

1. On the Tickers page, click in the *User Name* field to select it.
2. Type your user name in the Excel Formula Bar, then press **Ctrl+A** to select, then **Ctrl+C** to copy.
3. On a different worksheet, click in the *User Name* field, then click in the Formula Bar (not the cell) and press **Ctrl+V** to paste your user name into the field.
4. Repeat Step 3 on each worksheet in the spreadsheet.



How Do I?

Action	Worksheet	How?
Reset macro security in Excel if macro buttons (i.e., Create Ticker, Request Market Data, etc.), do not work.	Affects all.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In Excel 2003, on the Tools menu, select <i>Macro</i> and <i>Security</i>. In the Security dialog, set security to Medium or Low. Save, then restart Excel. In Excel 2007, click the Microsoft Office Button, click Excel Options, and then click Trust Center in the Excel Options window. Click Trust Center Settings, then click Macro Settings, and select <i>Enable all macros</i>.
Get market data.	Tickers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add a contract by selecting a blank row and clicking the Create Ticker button. Select the ticker row and click Request Market Data.
Place an order.	Basic Orders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Copy a ticker from the Tickers page and paste into a blank row on the Orders page. Fill out order description fields for that ticker, then click Place/Modify Order.
Place a Bracket, VOL, Trailing Stop Limit or Scale order.	Advanced Orders	Enter your ticker and order information, then enter special values for Bracket, VOL, Trailing Stop Limit and Scale orders on the Extended Order Attributes page. Highlight the row and click Apply Extended Template on the Advanced Orders page, then place your order.
See your trades.	Executions	Click Subscribe to Executions .
Find your available funds.	Account	Click Subscribe to Account Updates .
Find the current market value of positions.	Portfolio	Click Subscribe to Portfolio Updates , then find the intersection of the position row and the Market Value column.
Scan the markets to find the top 30 stock gainers.	Market Scanner	Highlight the <i>TOP PERC GAIN Scan Code</i> , change the value in the <i>Number of Rows</i> field from "20" to "30" and click Start Scanner Subscription .
Find out which order types are supported for a specific instrument.	Contract Details	Fill in the Contract Summary Description fields, then click Request Contract Details . Look in the <i>Order Types</i> field.
View all open orders.	Open Orders	Click Subscribe to Open Orders .
View historical data for an instrument.	Historical Data	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Add a contract by selecting a blank row and clicking Create Ticker. Select the description row and click Request Historical Data.
View alternative bids and offers away from the inside quote.	Market Depth	Use fields to enter the Contract Summary Description, then click Request Market Depth .
Set up an order that automatically submits after another has executed.	Conditional Orders	Enter contract and order descriptions for both orders. Fill in Condition statements for the second order.
Create a hidden order.	Extended Order Attributes	Change the value in the <i>Hidden</i> field (Line 20) from 0 (false) to 1 (true). Don't forget to change it back unless you want all of your orders from that point forward to be hidden!
Place orders for managed accounts using an allocation profile.	Advisors	Create the allocation profile in TWS, then enter the contract and order descriptions on this page. Enter a value for <i>FA Profile</i> on the Extended Order Attributes page, highlight the row and click Apply Extended on the Advisors page, then place the order.