

# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

Aussie Markets Update using "4 Windows"



## "4 Windows"

One way to analyse stocks and the market  
aka: Where's the market going?

**Stocks and market analysis using contemporary Technical Analysis tools**  
February 2024  
Robert Brain

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**Introduction**

### So many questions...

- "Is now the right time to buy into the market?"
- "Are any stocks worth buying right now?"
- "How do we find the stocks that are worth buying?"
- "Should we use a market 'Go/No-Go' filter to minimise risk?"
- "What is the best way to periodically review stocks and the market?"

There are literally thousands of different ways to answer these questions, and many of them might be right.  
Here is just one method...

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**Introduction**

### Some background

- It took me 4 years from 2006 to learn about the broad field of technical analysis (attending no less than 40 ATAA chapter meetings);
- It then took a few more years to pull together the aspects that interested me, and ignore the rest;
- After another couple of years I structured my methods and compartmentalised my thinking and arrived at the "4-Windows" approach.

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

 **Introduction**

### About this presentation

- This presentation explains "4 Windows" approach;
- Including an analysis of the Australian share market utilising Robert's "4 Windows" approach (using the All Ordinaries XAO index);
- An earlier version was delivered in 2013 to the ATAA chapters in Toowoomba (by webinar) and in-person in Melbourne;
- Even earlier versions were presented in January 2013 in Melbourne, and in July in Brighton (Stock Doctor group);
- And with a lack of time, it includes some old price charts and more than 100 slides!!

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 **Introduction**

### Apology for this presentation delivery...

**My apology:**

- This presentation includes way too many slides;
- So we will need to skip through many slides;
- BUT I will pause long enough so that if you watch the video recording, you can pause viewing on each slide and read the contents of each slide.
- AND all slides will be in the PDF version of the slide set.

One reason for lack of time in removing or updating older slides:

insert photo of adorable 1 year old grandson in high chair eating lunch (pending Mum's approval)

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 **Introduction**

### Today's session:

- ➔ Explain my "4 Windows" approach;
- ➔ Real analysis of Australian share market using key Technical Analysis tools and **current price charts**;
- ➔ Some tips to help with learning more about Technical Analysis.

**TIP!**

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

 **Introduction**

**No prediction; no forecast!**

**Understand the underlying market sentiment by interpreting the price charts**

Showing "current" price charts can be risky.

- **There is no prediction**
- **There are no forecasts.**

(technical analysis considers the balance of probabilities)



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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Introduction**

Important Notice



**No predictions**

**No forecasts**

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**Introduction**

About... Robert Brain

**Nimble Short term Investor**  
consultant, educator and part-time\* share trader  
web-based sharemarket-support business

- Many years experience as trainer, presenter, conference facilitator (Scouts)
- Share Market – active 20+ years\* (slowly at first)
- Chartist ie. technical analyst (ATAA member and national director)
- Provide support and tuition to traders and investors **Brainy's Share Market Toolbox**
- Former member Mensa
- Engineering Degree (structured thinking with an eye for charts and diagrams)
- 30+ years – professional experience (IT and management)
- Do not hold AFS license! (Can't give advice)
- BullCharts software (convenor Australian BullCharts User Group and authorised reseller with special pricing)

**Conflict of interest?**

\* - Not yet enough capital to live off the proceeds of trading (after trading as a hobby until a career change in 2008).

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**Introduction**

**Underlying premise**

**The price charts of stocks and the market indexes summarise the underlying opinions and emotions of the real market participants.**

- Therefore, every chart can tell a story;
- It is very useful to be able to understand the stories in the price charts.

**Every chart tells a story.  
Understand the stories in the charts.**

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Introduction**

My "4 Windows" approach:

- Plain price charts (line and candles), both short-term and long-term;
- Chart patterns;
- Levels of support and resistance;
- Some chart indicators: Momentum, GMMA, OBV, ...
- Some "favourite" approaches;
- The market is like an elephant!

**TIP!** 

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**Introduction**

If you're looking for "guidance"...

**The "4 Windows" approach** will help you to follow the detail, and remember the detail, by using a sensible "framework".



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**Firstly:**

**Is the "big picture" useful?**



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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

## Big Picture?

Think about this...

- Is it useful to view long-term charts?
- Day traders might regard just 5 days as long term;
- Short to medium term traders & investors might regard several months or a few years as long term.



Consider the following charts...

*[if time is limited, then skip the next 13 or so slides]*

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## Big Picture?

Does this chart mean much?



very simple chart;  
no detail;  
not very helpful

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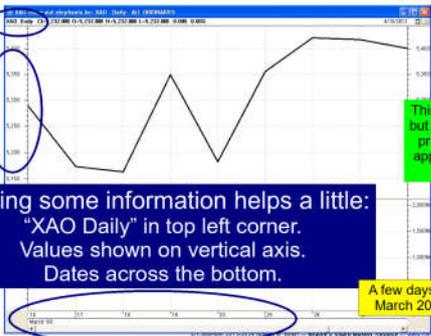
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## Big Picture?

A little detail helps a little...



Adding some information helps a little:  
"XAO Daily" in top left corner.  
Values shown on vertical axis.  
Dates across the bottom.

This is an index, but the following principles still apply to stocks as well.

A few days in March 2008

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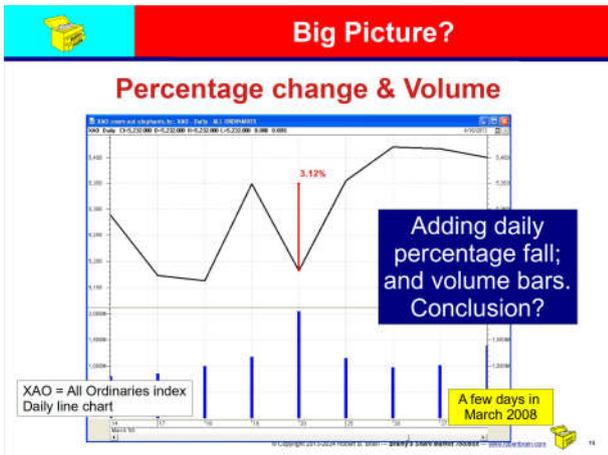
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update



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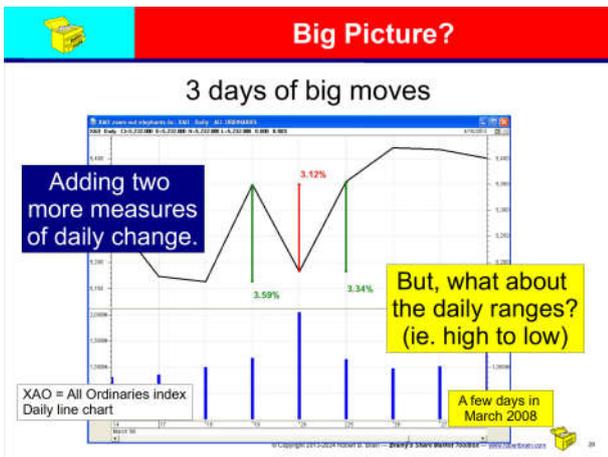
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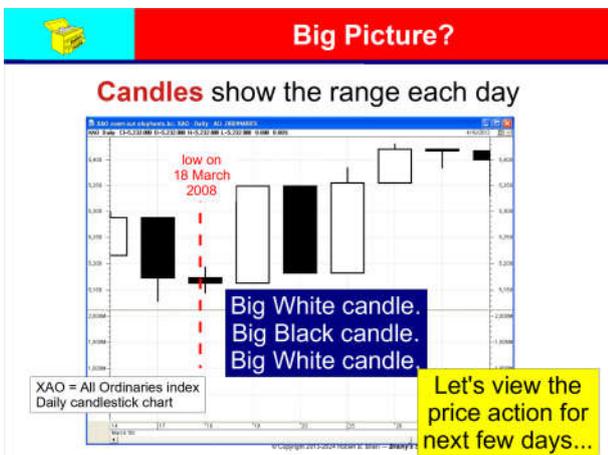
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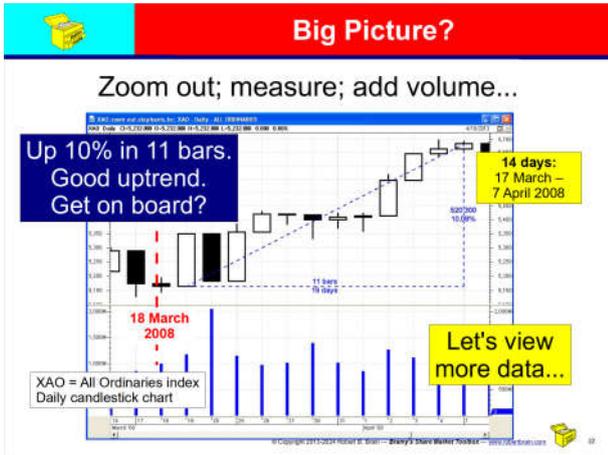
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update



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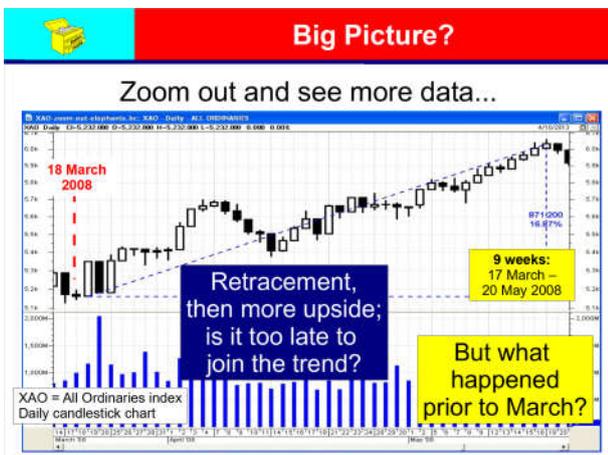
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Big Picture?**

*The trend is your friend*

In the last few slides we have seen a nice rising trend. If this was a price chart of a stock we might be tempted to join the trend (if we hadn't done so already).

As this chart is the index, we could have bought the index (trading CFDs or the SPI).

BUT, before we jump in, shouldn't we zoom out and look back in time to see where the price has come from? (perhaps there is a bigger timeframe influence...)

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**Big Picture?**

7 months: October 2007 - May 2008

Looking back in time

Looking back to the 5 months before March

Big down move

18 March 2008

And what happened after May 2008?...

XAO = All Ordinaries index  
Daily candlestick chart

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**Big Picture?**

What happened after May?

4 months: May 2008 - July 2008

The earlier down trend continued

And what happened after JULY 2008?...

XAO = All Ordinaries index  
Daily candlestick chart

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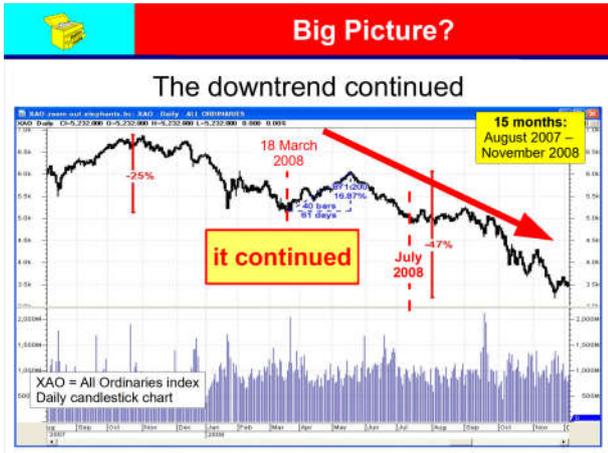
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update




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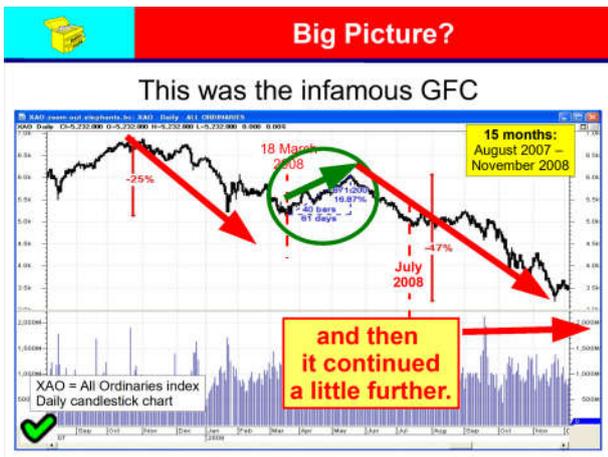
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**Big Picture?**

What did we observe?

In the last few slides we have seen that there was a bigger-picture (aka large timeframe) downtrend in place, and this downtrend continued.

So the nice uptrend that we spotted from March 2008 until May 2008 was simply a short-term retracement within the bigger downtrend.

Lucky we remembered about the elephants...



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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

 **Big Picture?**

**So: Remember the elephants...**

- It can be very useful to check out the bigger picture...
- Understand what has happened "recently"
- And where the price has come from.

Remember:  
*The market is like an elephant...*  
(and if we just stand in the way we might get trampled).



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**My weekly routine**

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 **My routine**

**My approach (every Friday night)**

- What is the Australian market doing? (use the All Ordinaries index – XAO)
- If "bearish", then in the days ahead, invest with caution:
  - (1) Don't open multiple positions at same time;
  - (2) Wait until in profit before opening more;
  - (3) Have a tighter Stop Loss;
  - (4) Monitor positions more frequently and cautiously;
  - (5) Be able to close positions quickly if need be;
  - (6) If really bearish, then be prepared to go to all cash.

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**My routine**

### Weekly routine overview

Four key aspects to the weekly routine:

1. Study the **plain price chart** (in different periods);
2. Check "**big picture**" and consider popular "studies" (eg. Stan Weinstein);
3. Use some **T.A. indicators**;
4. Consider **volume**.

*This gives me four "views" of the market.*

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**My routine**

### Weekly routine overview

My "4 Windows" analysis approach is a good check list, and it offers four different "views":

1. Plain price chart – trends, support, resistance, chart patterns;
2. Coppock (very big picture), Weinstein, candle patterns;
3. Technical analysis indicators;
4. Volume.

Technical Analysis

- 1. Plain price
- 2. Big picture & Specific "strategies"
- 3. Indicators
- 4. Volume

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# The detail...

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Window 1 – Plain price**

1 – Plain price

Plain price chart (line chart and/or candle chart).

Looking for:

- (a) Trend lines
- (b) Support
- (c) Resistance
- (d) Chart patterns

**Window 1**

Trend lines	Support
Chart patterns	Resistance

Trend lines

1. Plain price
2. Big picture & Specific "strategies"
3. Indicators
4. Volume

Both short term (days, weeks, a few months) and long term (several months to years).

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**Window 1 – Plain price**

Quarterly, monthly, weekly...?

- The period of the price chart is important:
  - Quarterly
  - Monthly
  - Weekly
  - Daily

}

Which one(s) should we use?

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**Window 1 – Plain price**

Quarterly, monthly, weekly...?

- The period of the chart is important:
  - Quarterly
  - Monthly
  - Weekly
  - Daily
- The **daily price** can be considered most important... TIP!

} We should be studying at least two periods

*BUT WHY?*

Let's see in the next few slides...

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

### Window 1 – Plain price

Daily chart is important

- The daily price chart does show extraneous and distracting “noise” as the price swings up and down;
- But the weekly chart does not do a good enough job of showing the moves that take place during the week;
- The extremes of price can be useful to see, especially if there are multiple extremes to a specific price level.

*[if time is limited, then skip the next few slides]*

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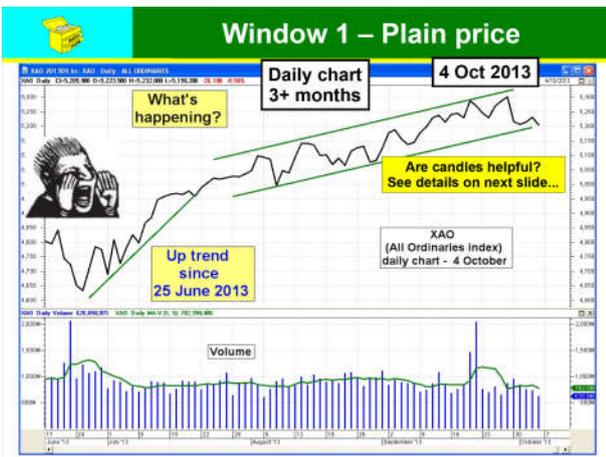
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update




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Trend lines, support levels, patterns...

These chart features are caused by: ...

- the real market participants (not the *commentators*),
- who have different opinions about what a share is actually worth, and
- their opinions can converge towards agreement, or diverge in disagreement, and
- news (eg. company announcements) can easily change the opinions and move the price, and
- broker buy/sell/hold recommendations can also influence the investors and traders to buy or sell.

**TIP!**

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**"Fat Pencil"?** – Remember:

- The XAO index is an aggregation of about 500 stocks;
- And is heavily weighted to the large-caps;
- And a "fat pencil" is valid when drawing Support and Resistance levels, and chart patterns.

Also:

- Need to "zoom out" and check the bigger picture because *the market is like an elephant...*

**TIP!**

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Window 1 – Plain price**

1 – Plain price re-cap

Plain price chart (line and/or candles).

Looking for:

- (a) Trend lines
- (b) Support
- (c) Resistance
- (d) Chart patterns

**Window 1**

Trend lines	Support
Chart patterns	Resistance

Both short term (days, weeks, a few months) and long term (several months to years).

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**Window 1 – Plain price**

Plain price ~ "Primary analysis"

**BTW**

Leon Wilson talks about this in his book:  
*The Business of Share Trading*

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**Window 2 – Big picture+**

2 – Big picture + more...

Very big picture + own preferred "strategies"

- Reminder to look at long-term view
- Coppock indicator or other (very long term)
- Weinstein view (weekly chart)
- Candlestick patterns (including *composite candles*)
- Your favourite (indicator or strategy).

**Window 2**

Coppock	Weinstein
Candles	your favourite

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

## Window 2 – Big picture+

Weinstein – CURRENT OBSERVATIONS?

Following are my latest "Big Picture" observations (as at 3 February 2024):

- Simple line chart;
- Weinstein approach;
- Looking for:
  - index above Moving Average
  - Moving Average rising
  - Stage Analysis

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## Window 2 – Big picture+

**CURRENT**

**Weekly Chart over 4 months**

Stage	Start	End	Notes
Stage 1	2023-11-01	2023-11-15	Initial rise
Stage 2	2023-11-15	2023-11-25	Consolidation
Stage 3	2023-11-25	2024-01-05	Strong rise
Stage 4	2024-01-05	2024-01-20	Peak and start of decline
Stage 5	2024-01-20	2024-02-03	Current stage

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## Window 2 – Big picture+

### Who is Weinstein?

*Secrets for Profiting in Bull and Bear Markets*  
Stan Weinstein, 1988  
About the best book for novices in TA.  
And he won't write another.

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Window 2 – Big picture+**

A book on candles?

*The Secret of Candlestick Charting*  
Louise Bedford

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**Window 2 – Big picture+**

2 – Big picture + more... Recap

Very big picture + own preferred "strategies"

- Long-term view
- Coppock indicator (very long term)
- Weinstein view
- Candlestick patterns (including *composite candles*)
- Your favourite.

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**Window 3 – Indicators**

3 – Indicators

**Note: some people don't use chart indicators at all.**

But my favourite indicators include:

- GMMA – trend "health" (short and longer term)
- Momentum indicator
- Twigg's Money Flow (momentum + volume)
- On Balance Volume (with MA)

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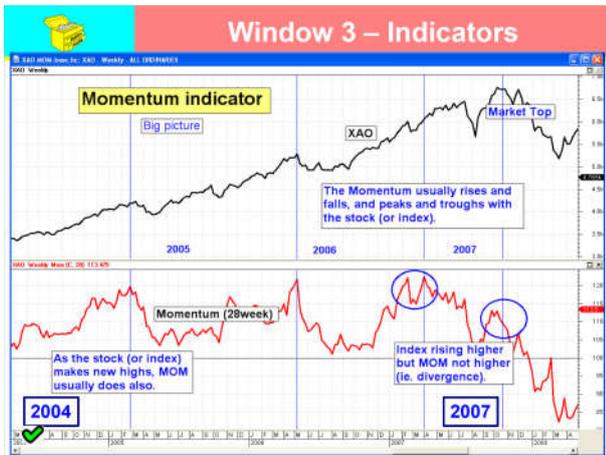
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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update




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**Window 3 – Indicators**

**CURRENT OBSERVATIONS?**

Following are my latest “Big Picture” observations (as at 3 Feb 2024):

- **Simple monthly line chart;**
- **Momentum indicator;**
- Looking for:
  - index and MOM rising together and falling together;
  - possible divergence (bullish or bearish);
  - Moving Average of MOM – rising.

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

**Summary & Wrap up**

### Key points

- Always consider **big picture** because the **market is like an elephant...**
- **Daily close** price is very important
- Technical analysis **indicators** can be useful
- Look for **divergence** on indicators
- **Volume** is important.



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### The "4 Windows" approach

Technical Analysis

- A good "framework" and check list
- Also apply to individual stocks, as well as a market index.



1. Plain price

2. Big picture & Specific "strategies"

3. Indicators

4. Volume

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**Summary & Wrap up**

### How to implement?

- Identify your own stock universe, and eye-ball the price charts – but this might be many.
- Use some sort of market scanning tool to look for those stocks meeting your own criteria which is a topic for another day.

BTW – My favourite is BullCharts software.

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# "4 Windows" approach and Market Update

 **Summary & Wrap up**

## Summary

- Analysis of the Aussie market – Done
- Brief look at the "4 Windows" approach
- How to implement?

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 **Summary & Wrap up**

## THANK YOU

Robert analyses the market (as shown here) every Friday night and shares the charts with **Share Market Toolbox** Members.

These slides will be on the ATAA web site soon, and in my Share Market Toolbox:  
[www.robertbrain.com/presentations/](http://www.robertbrain.com/presentations/)

The "4 Windows" approach:  
[www.robertbrain.com/4-windows/](http://www.robertbrain.com/4-windows/)

 **BullCharts** - my favourite charting software.

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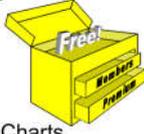
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 **Summary & Wrap up**

## Don't forget my Toolbox

- Brainy's **Share Market Toolbox**
  - (1) [www.robertbrain.com](http://www.robertbrain.com)
  - (2) Loads of eBook (PDF) Articles
  - (3) Info: share market, charting, BullCharts
  - (4) Weekly Market Updates and Watch List
- Good charting software – BullCharts  
[www.robertbrain.com/bullcharts/](http://www.robertbrain.com/bullcharts/)
- My contact details:  
web site above, or phone: 0438 355 910



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