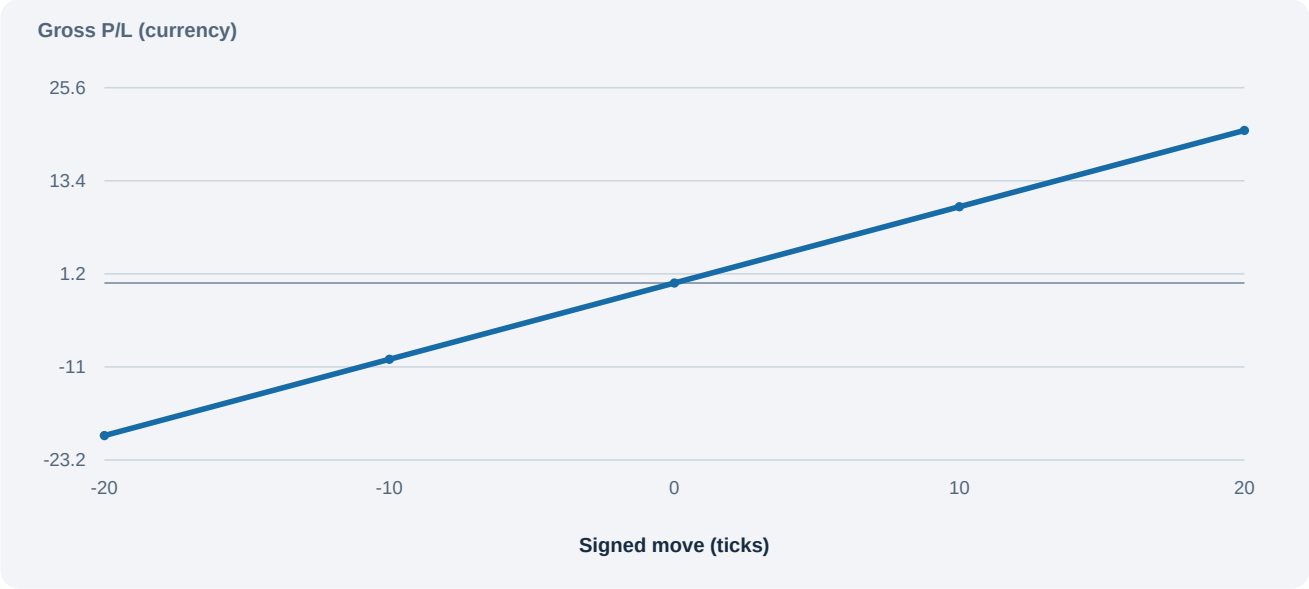
Futures profit in ticks

Derivatives mechanics | Original synthetic example | Edition 2026-11-26

A futures price move can be expressed as a number of ticks, then multiplied by currency per tick and the number of contracts. The sign follows the position direction.

FORMULA P/L = signed ticks x tick value x contracts

SCENARIO 01: 1 long contracts; tick value 1



WORKED EXAMPLE

A +10-tick move yields 10 for 1 contracts at 1 per tick; a -10-tick move loses 10.

COMMON MISTAKE

Calculating price-point profit without the contract multiplier understates exposure.

BEFORE YOU USE THE CALCULATION

1. Convert price move into ticks.
2. Apply the correct long or short sign.
3. Subtract trading costs separately.

COMPARE TWO MORE INPUT SETS

Scenario 05: 2 long contracts; tick value 5. A +10-tick move yields 100 for 2 contracts at 5 per tick; a -10-tick move loses 100.

Scenario 10: 1 long contracts; tick value 10. A +10-tick move yields 100 for 1 contracts at 10 per tick; a -10-tick move loses 100.

Synthetic values are not historical market data. Educational material; trading can result in substantial losses.