

Starting your trading journey can be exciting but also daunting — especially when choosing the right forex broker and deciding how much money to put down initially. Plus500, a well-known name in the UK trading scene, requires a minimum deposit of £100, which raises a natural question:



Is Plus500's £100 minimum deposit a good entry point for beginners?

In this detailed **Plus500 review UK**, we'll unpack everything you need to know including regulatory safety, deposit guidelines, and how to make the most of demo accounts before risking real money. Along the way, we'll also mention alternatives like TIOmarkets (TIO Markets UK Ltd) and the reputed IG Group, plus popular trading platforms like MetaTrader 4 (MT4) and MetaTrader 5 (MT5).

Understanding FCA Regulation and Safety Basics

When choosing a forex broker in the UK, the first checkpoint should always be whether the broker is FCA-regulated. The **Financial Conduct Authority (FCA)** is the strict watchdog responsible for overseeing financial firms in the UK.

- Plus500UK Ltd is authorised and regulated by the FCA under the reference number **509909**. You can verify this on the FCA register.
- TIOmarkets (TIO Markets UK Ltd) also holds FCA authorisation with FRN **792808**.
- IG Group, one of the largest and longest-established UK brokers, operates under FCA FRN **195355**.

Why does this matter? FCA regulation means brokers must adhere to strict rules such as:

- Keeping customers' funds segregated from company money
- Submitting to periodic audits and regulatory reviews
- Providing transparent information about fees, risks, and products
- Adhering to the rules for marketing and responsible trading

Brokers without FCA regulation may expose you to unnecessary risks including fraud or difficulty withdrawing funds.

FSCS Protection: What it Does and Does Not Cover

Being FCA-regulated also means your funds are covered by the **Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS)** up to £85,000 per person, per firm. Essentially, if the broker goes bankrupt or can't meet its obligations, the FSCS may compensate you.

But it is crucial to understand what FSCS **does not cover**:

- Losses due to your own trading decisions
- Market risks like sudden price movements or volatility
- Fraud by companies or products not authorised or regulated in the UK

So while FSCS protection adds an important safety net, it is not insurance against trading losses.

The Plus500 Minimum Deposit: £100 to Start Trading?

Plus500's minimum deposit of £100 (£100 or equivalent in other currencies) is fairly standard among UK brokers, especially those offering CFDs, forex, and indices trading. Here's what that means in practical terms for beginners:

- **Affordability:** £100 is a relatively small sum to risk when learning the ropes, without requiring a massive upfront commitment.
- **Risk management:** Starting with £100 lets you practice good risk management, such as using low leverage or small trade sizes.
- **Accessible platform features:** With £100 on Plus500, you get access to all standard products, mobile and desktop platforms, and continuous education materials.

But some caveats apply:

- Unlike traditional stock brokers, Plus500 deals primarily in CFDs, which are leveraged and can amplify losses quickly.
- The effective amount you can risk on any single trade might be quite limited unless you increase your deposit.
- Other brokers may offer lower minimum deposits or flexible micro-lot trading to accommodate ultra-low budgets.

Comparing Minimum Deposits: Plus500 vs TIOmarkets and IG Group

Broker	FCA Reference Number	Minimum Deposit	Platform(s)	Available	Good for Beginners?
Plus500UK Ltd	509909	£100	Proprietary Web & Mobile	Yes	– easy interface, but limited MT4/MT5 support
TIO Markets UK Ltd	792808	£50	MT4, MT5	Yes	– supports popular MT platforms, lower deposit
IG Group	195355	£250	Proprietary Web & Mobile + MT4	Yes	– industry veteran, higher initial commitment

As you can see, Plus500's £100 deposit sits somewhat in the middle: lower than IG's more premium requirement but higher than TIOmarkets' £50 minimum. For beginners, £100 strikes a reasonable balance between affordability and seriousness.

Why Demo Accounts are Essential for UK Beginners

One universal truth for new traders is **never to start live trading without thorough practice**. This is where the **forex demo account UK** becomes your best friend.

Plus500 offers a free demo account with virtual funds, allowing you to trade using real market prices but without risking a penny. Demo accounts are vital because they let you:

- Learn the platform interface confidently
- Experiment with different trading instruments (forex, commodities, indices)
- Develop and test your trading strategies in simulated conditions
- Understand margin, leverage, and order types before committing capital

While Plus500 uses its own proprietary platform, many traders prefer MetaTrader 4 (MT4) or the newer MetaTrader 5 (MT5), industry-standard platforms known for charting and expert advisors (automated trading).

TIOmarkets notably supports MT4 and MT5, which can be useful for those wanting a more advanced technical setup from the start. IG also offers MT4 alongside its own platform, though IG's minimum deposit at £250 is higher.

How to Build a Practice Routine with a Demo Account

1. **Set clear learning goals:** Are you practicing order execution, chart reading, or risk management?
2. **Trade under realistic conditions:** Limit your virtual trade sizes to mimic what you'd risk live.
3. **Track your results:** Keep a trading journal to note what worked and what didn't.
4. **Gradually transition:** When ready, fund your account starting with the minimum £100 and trade small.

Using [deeside](#) a broker with a credible demo account means less anxiety and more confidence when you move to real money trades.

Is Plus500 Worth It for Beginners?

Based on regulatory standing, deposit flexibility, and user experience, here's how Plus500 stacks up for brand-new traders:

- **Regulation & Safety:** Fully FCA-regulated with FSCS protection, ensuring your funds are protected and operations transparent.
- **Deposit Requirements:** £100 minimum is reasonable, neither too low to attract casual dabblers nor too high to exclude serious learners.
- **Demo Account:** Available and easy to use on their own platform.
- **Platform Suitability:** Proprietary platform is intuitive but less flexible than industry-standard MT4/MT5 — a consideration if you want to use automated systems.
- **Fees & Spreads:** Plus500's spreads fluctuate per instrument but being upfront about numbers rather than "tight spreads" is always advised. Always check current conditions before you start.

Overall, Plus500 is a solid, safe, and cost-effective broker for beginning traders looking to start with £100 in the UK market. However, if you prefer trading with MT4/MT5 or want a smaller initial deposit, brokers like TIOmarkets might better suit your needs.

Final Thoughts and Recommendations

Choosing your first forex broker and setting your deposit amount sets the tone for your trading career. Remember:



- Always confirm FCA regulation (check the FCA register and FRN number)
- Use a demo account to build practice and confidence
- Risk only what you can comfortably afford to lose, starting small around £100 is prudent
- Compare the platforms offered and see which suits your trading style best

Plus500 offers a regulated, user-friendly entry into trading with its £100 minimum deposit – making it a worthwhile choice for UK beginners. But don't hesitate to explore other FCA brokers like TIOmarkets or IG Group, especially if you want MT4/MT5 support or tailored spreads.

Happy trading – and remember, education and caution are your best allies!