Open the platform for the first time and it looks like a cockpit designed by someone who hates beginners. Four panels, a wall of tiny numbers, menus inside menus. Ignore most of it. Seven things are worth your attention, and the rest can wait until you're curious.



1. Market Watch. Top left, the list of symbols with live bid and ask prices. Right-click and hide everything you don't trade. A cluttered list invites random trades, and I speak from experience about the Thursday I bought a currency pair I couldn't have pronounced. 2. The Navigator and Expert Advisors. Automated robots live here. Most new traders discover them in week two and assume they've found a shortcut. Mostly they haven't. A bot is only as good as the logic behind it, so test any EA on a demo account for a few weeks before it touches real ringgit. 3. One-click trading. Handy and dangerous in equal measure. It skips the confirmation window, which is great when price is moving fast and terrible when your cat walks across the trackpad. Switch it on only after you know your lot sizes by heart. 4. Stop loss and take profit fields. They sit in the order window and take five seconds to fill in. Set the stop at the moment you enter, not "later." Later is when people talk themselves into holding a loser. 5. Trailing stops. Right-click an open trade and you can have the stop follow price automatically as it moves in your favour. It protects gains without you staring at the screen. One catch: it only works while the terminal is running, so a closed laptop means no trailing. A cheap VPS solves that, and a lot of traders rent one eventually. 6. Charts, timeframes and indicators. MT4 ships with around thirty built-in indicators and nine timeframes. You don't need thirty. Pick two or three you understand, say a moving average and RSI, and learn what they actually do. Stacking seven indicators on one chart mostly produces seven ways to be confused. continue reading 7. The History tab and Journal. Under the Terminal window, History shows every closed trade, with your real entry and exit prices. Read it weekly, honestly. The Journal logs connection errors and rejected orders, which matters when you're arguing with support about why a trade filled where it did. A small thing worth knowing for Malaysian traders: the same MT4 looks identical across brokers, but server time, spreads and execution differ a lot. Server time often runs on GMT+2 or +3, so daily candles close at odd hours for you, and that confuses people

comparing charts with a friend on another broker. Demo first. Everyone says it, almost nobody does it properly, and the ones who do tend to still be trading a year later.