



Where Do I Start?

by Sue Cook

The world of foreign exchange can be quite confusing when you don't know where to start – but the worst place to start is with your bank!

Expertise

While many people go to banks for their international money transfer requirements, they're likely to wind up paying a lot more – both on the exchange rate and in fees and commissions.

Luckily, there is another way. Foreign exchange specialists (like Currencies Direct) deal only in international payments and transfers – unlike a bank, which doesn't provide a dedicated service. Because we have a specific focus, Currencies Direct can offer you a better service, and expert dealers who are more knowledgeable than banks are when it comes to navigating exchange rate fluctuations and timing currency money transfers and international payments.

Safe and secure

Foreign exchange companies are regulated and authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). The FCA regulates all foreign exchange brokers to make sure the business is operating correctly and taking the right safety precautions with client money. It's important to buy currency only from FCA authorised and regulated foreign exchange brokers, like Currencies Direct.

Products that work for you

Rates can change in the blink of an eye – that holiday home by the sea that you haggled over for weeks could suddenly cost a lot more than you expected! But a specialist can make sure that you're not caught out.

For example, a forward contract is a "buy now, pay later approach" where you agree on the exchange rate in advance. Even if the rate moves against you later on, you'll be able to take advantage of the fixed rate that you agreed on when you booked your trade. Forward contracts offer you more stability and make it easier for you to work out how much currency you'll have once you've transferred your funds. Unfortunately, banks often don't offer this option, except to larger clients who are transacting millions in foreign exchange every year.

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Let's talk currency
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