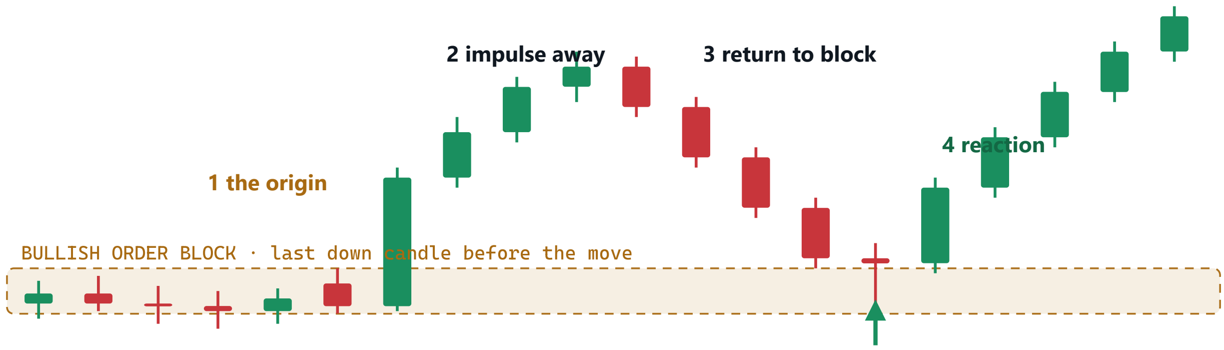
FIELD GUIDE · INSTITUTIONAL FOOTPRINTS

Order blocks

The last opposing candle before a strong move — the institutional footprint price so often comes back to.

QUANTREEF
market microstructure



PHASE 1 · THE ORIGIN

The last candle

The final opposing candle before a strong impulse: the last down candle before a rally (bullish OB), or last up candle before a drop.

PHASE 2 · THE MOVE

Impulse away

Price leaves the block fast — often leaving a fair value gap too. Big orders filled here; more may rest unfilled.

PHASE 3 · THE RETURN

Back to the block

Later price retraces to the block to fill the rest of that demand (bullish) or supply (bearish).

PHASE 4 · REACTION

Hold or break

If orders still rest there, price reacts and continues. A decisive close through it means the block is spent.

Key terms use the whole candle range

Bullish OB — last down candle before an up-impulse = a demand zone below.

Bearish OB — last up candle before a down-impulse = a supply zone above.

Origin range — the block is the candle's full range (body + wick), used as a zone.

OB + FVG — the strongest blocks launch a move that also leaves a gap — overlapping zones.

Why it works & how to use it

Why price returns

Unfilled institutional orders rest at the origin. Price is drawn back to that liquidity to fill them before continuing.

Order block vs. FVG

The OB is the **candle** that caused the move; the FVG is the **gap** the move left behind. When they overlap you get a high-value zone.

How to use it

Treat the block as a zone, look for a reaction on the tag, and invalidate on a decisive close all the way through it.

A NOTE ON THESE CONCEPTS

Order blocks are a **descriptive market-structure idea** shown here for learning. Quantreef surfaces structure and levels as **context** — not trade signals, guarantees, or predictions of the next move.