

Essential Crypto Tools and Sites Every Investor Should Bookmark

The Research Stack That Separates Informed Investors From the Crowd

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The difference between an investor who makes informed decisions and one who reacts to noise is not intelligence — it is infrastructure. The right tools, used consistently, turn hours of scattered research into a focused, repeatable process that produces better decisions across every market condition.

Category	Tools
Price & Market Data	CoinMarketCap, CoinGecko, Live Coin Watch
On-Chain Analytics	Glassnode, DeFiLlama, Dune Analytics, Etherscan
Sentiment & Cycle	Fear & Greed Index, Crypto Bubbles
Charting & TA	TradingView, Market Cipher
News & Research	CoinDesk, Cointelegraph, Real Vision Crypto
Tax & Compliance	TaxBit

Price Tracking and Market Data

CoinMarketCap — coinmarketcap.com

The global standard for cryptocurrency price tracking — real-time prices, market capitalizations, trading volumes, and circulating supply data for thousands of cryptocurrencies.

Use it to: Use it to track market cap rankings, monitor 24-hour volume for liquidity assessment, and get a quick overview of market-wide performance.

CoinGecko — coingecko.com

An alternative to CoinMarketCap with additional data points including developer activity scores, community metrics, and exchange trust scores. Particularly useful for researching smaller altcoins.

Use it to: Use it to cross-reference price data, access developer activity metrics, and research altcoin fundamentals.

Live Coin Watch — livecoinwatch.com

A dynamic real-time price tracking platform with customizable watchlists and portfolio tracking.

Use it to: Use it to build and monitor a focused watchlist of high-conviction positions.

On-Chain Analytics

Glassnode — glassnode.com

The leading on-chain analytics platform for Bitcoin and Ethereum — providing institutional-grade metrics including SOPR, MVRV ratio, exchange flows, miner behavior, and long-term holder accumulation data.

Use it to: Use it to assess cycle positioning, monitor exchange inflows and outflows, and track long-term holder behavior during accumulation and distribution phases.

DeFiLlama — defillama.com

The definitive source for Total Value Locked data across every DeFi protocol and every blockchain — tracking TVL in real time and providing protocol revenue data.

Use it to: Use it to evaluate DeFi protocol health, compare ecosystem TVL across Layer 1 and Layer 2 networks, and assess whether protocol growth is genuine.

Dune Analytics — dune.com

A community-powered on-chain analytics platform where analysts build and share custom dashboards tracking specific protocols, ecosystems, and metrics.

Use it to: Use it to access custom research dashboards for specific protocols and verify on-chain activity claims made by project teams.

Etherscan — etherscan.io

The primary block explorer for the Ethereum network — allowing you to verify any transaction, track any wallet address, and review smart contract code.

Use it to: Use it to verify transactions, track large wallet movements, review token unlock schedules, and audit smart contract interactions.

Sentiment and Cycle Indicators

Crypto Fear and Greed Index — alternative.me

A composite sentiment indicator measuring market-wide fear and greed on a scale from 0 to 100.

Extreme fear historically correlates with market bottoms. Extreme greed historically correlates with market tops.

Use it to: Use it to calibrate emotional positioning against market sentiment and identify when the broader market is at sentiment extremes that historically produce mean reversion.

Crypto Bubbles — cryptobubbles.net

An interactive bubble chart visualization of cryptocurrency market performance across multiple time frames — providing an immediate visual overview of which sectors are leading and lagging.

Use it to: Use it to identify narrative momentum, spot sector rotation, and get a rapid visual overview of market-wide performance.

Charting and Technical Analysis

TradingView — tradingview.com

The industry standard charting platform used by retail and institutional traders globally — providing real-time charts for every major cryptocurrency pair and a full suite of technical analysis tools.

Use it to: Use it to analyze price structure, identify key support and resistance levels, apply technical indicators, and study historical price behavior.

Market Cipher — marketcipher.com

A specialized indicator suite built on TradingView combining momentum, trend, and sentiment signals. Market Cipher A functions as an EMA ribbon — transitioning from blue during bullish trends to gray during bearish phases.

Use it to: Use it to confirm trend direction, identify momentum shifts, and add a structured technical layer to fundamental research conclusions.

News and Research

CoinDesk — coindesk.com

One of the most established crypto news publications covering market developments, regulatory updates, institutional activity, and blockchain technology across all major asset categories.

Use it to: Use it to stay current on regulatory developments, institutional crypto activity, and major market events that affect the investment thesis.

Cointelegraph — cointelegraph.com

A global crypto media platform covering Bitcoin, Ethereum, altcoins, and market analysis with strong coverage of emerging narratives and technology developments.

Use it to: Use it to monitor narrative development, track technology updates, and stay informed about emerging ecosystem developments.

Real Vision Crypto — realvision.com

An institutional-grade research and media platform providing in-depth analysis from experienced macro investors, crypto fund managers, and industry insiders.

Use it to: Use it to access institutional-quality research and macro context that informs long-term positioning decisions.

Tax and Compliance

TaxBit — taxbit.com

A crypto tax software platform integrating with major exchanges including Coinbase, Binance, and Gemini to automatically calculate taxable crypto events and generate tax reports.

Use it to: Use it to manage crypto tax obligations, generate accurate records of taxable events, and avoid compliance issues that create significant legal and financial risk.

How to Build Your Research Workflow

Daily — 15 to 30 minutes: Check price action on CoinGecko or CoinMarketCap. Review the Fear and Greed Index. Scan CoinDesk or Cointelegraph for major news events that could affect open positions or the broader thesis.

Weekly — 1 to 2 hours: Review on-chain data on Glassnode for Bitcoin cycle signals. Check DeFiLlama for TVL changes in protocols you hold or are researching. Use TradingView to review charts across multiple time frames for key positions.

Before any new entry — 3 to 5 hours: Full research process using the seven-step evaluation framework — utility, team, tokenomics, narrative, competitive position, on-chain data, and exit planning. Use all relevant tools to verify each dimension before committing capital.

Key Takeaway

The right research stack does not guarantee returns — but it dramatically reduces the probability of making uninformed decisions that destroy capital. Bookmark these tools. Learn them deeply. Use them consistently. The investors who know this infrastructure better than anyone else in the market are the ones with the clearest picture of what is actually happening — and the most confidence to act on it.