

# Intermediate Guide to Bitcoin Ordinals

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### Chapter 8: Strategies for Investing in Ordinals

#### 8.1 Active vs. Passive Investing

- Active: The active investor tracks early project launches, seeks out rare inscriptions (e.g., from historical blocks or special sats), participates in Discord or Twitter communities, and is open to experimenting with new standards like BRC-20 or BRC-721. This strategy requires constant market monitoring and deep ecosystem knowledge. It may also include "sniping" rare items.
- Passive: The passive investor prefers acquiring established Ordinals that have proven value, such as works from renowned creators, early collections, or historically significant inscriptions. This strategy suits long-term holders who want to avoid the hype cycles.

#### 8.2 Diversification

- Diversify across types of inscriptions:
  - Digital Art (e.g., unique pieces, generative series)
  - Historical Texts (e.g., manifestos, political statements)
  - Technical inscriptions (e.g., BRC-20 JSON, HTML)
  - Memes and Humor (e.g., viral Ordinals)
- Also diversify by inscription date (early vs. recent), satoshi rarity, creator reputation, and theme.

#### 8.3 Market Tracking

- Key platforms: Magic Eden (BTC), Unisat, Ordinals Market, Gamma.io
- Explorers: ordinals.com, ord.io

- Analytics: GeniiTools (for rarity and sat tracking)
- Health indicators: growing number of holders, stable floor price, active community and creators

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## Chapter 9: Technical and Advanced Ordinals

### 9.1 Cursed Ordinals

- Inscriptions that do not comply with official standards due to syntax or technical errors but are still permanently stored on the blockchain.
- While often dismissed, some may gain value over time due to their rarity or unique stories.
- Require specialized tools like OpenOrdex for viewing.

### 9.2 Inscriptions on Historic Blocks

- Some satoshis carry added value because of the block they were mined in:
- Genesis Block (Block #0)
- Halving Blocks (every 210,000 blocks)
- Anniversary Blocks (e.g., first block of a year)
- Use sat tracker tools to identify and inscribe these valuable sats.

### 9.3 BRC-20 and Emerging Standards

- BRC-20: Experimental fungible tokens written as JSON inscriptions.
- BRC-721: Structured NFTs for Bitcoin.
- ARC-20: Token standard on Stacks (Layer 2 for Bitcoin).
- Many of these standards are not officially recognized and may lack cross-wallet or marketplace support.

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## Chapter 10: Creating Your Own Ordinals

### 10.1 What You Need

- Wallets:
- Xverse: user-friendly and beginner focused
- Hiro Wallet: good for integration with Stacks
- Unisat: popular for BRC-20 interaction and visual display
- Inscription platforms:
- ord.io, Gamma.io, OpenOrdex
- File types: Preferably under 400 KB, formats like PNG, SVG, HTML, or plain text

### 10.2 Step-by-Step Process

1. Prepare and optimize your file
2. Connect your wallet to an inscription tool
3. Upload and pay the inscription fee (fee depends on file size and network congestion)
4. Wait for confirmation on the Bitcoin network
5. Check your inscription on explorers like [ordinals.com](https://ordinals.com)

### 10.3 Costs and Considerations

- Costs range from ~\$1 to over \$100 depending on the mempool
- Common mistakes:
- Uploading unsupported or corrupted files
- Using a wallet that doesn't display inscriptions
- Not verifying the successful transfer to your wallet

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## Chapter 11: Perspectives

### 11.1 Trend or Substance?

- Some Ordinal projects are driven by speculation, but others explore legitimate use cases:
- Immutable publishing
- Academic or legal certifications
- Political permanence or censorship resistance

### 11.2 Technical and Cultural Challenges

- Blockspace limitations: Bitcoin was designed for transactions, not large data
- Rising transaction fees: Popularity of inscriptions congests the network
- Philosophical opposition: Some Bitcoin maximalists see Ordinals as spam

### 11.3 Possibilities

- Integration with Layer 2s like Stacks
- On-chain identity markers
- Permanent recordkeeping (e.g., patents, authorship, voting)
- NFT gaming or decentralized content

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## Final Insights

This intermediate guide expands your understanding of the Bitcoin Ordinals space. From smart investment strategies and technical nuances to creative inscription workflows and real-world applications, you now have a comprehensive toolkit.

Recommended next steps:

- Follow Bitcoin Ordinals developers (e.g., Casey Rodarmor)
- Join community hubs: Discord, Reddit, BitcoinTalk
- Start small and test inscriptions to learn

Bitcoin Ordinals are reshaping what is possible on the most secure blockchain in the world and you're part of it.