KLA Corporation / KLAC

Equity | Generated Nov 16, 2026 11:31 PM EST

Current price	Daily move	Bid / Ask	Previous close
$146.29	-6.03 -3.96%	$145.57/$146.54	$152.32

Market	**NYSE**
Industry	**Semiconductors**
Market data as of	**Nov 16, 2026 11:31 PM EST**

JW Intelligence Report

Complete | 3 of 3 sections | Nov 16, 2026 6:50 PM EST

JW Rank	Rank label	Confidence	IV percentile
40.8 / 100	Cautious	high	82 / 100

Model reference	Upside scenario	Risk reference	Wheel strategy fit
$140.50	$152.50	$133.00	52 / 100

Options stance	**bearish**
Tail-risk safety	**38 / 100**
JW Rank data coverage / as of	**100.0% | Nov 16, 2026 6:50 PM EST**

Key insight

KLAC Faces Headwinds from Sector Weakness and AI Capex Concerns

Market read

KLAC is experiencing a significant decline, driven by broader semiconductor-equipment sector weakness fueled by concerns over AI capex cuts and tighter US export regulations. While recent earnings and guidance exceeded expectations, the stock's price action reflects investor uncertainty surrounding China exposure and margin pressures. Technical indicators point to a bearish trend with support levels around $140.

Strategy context

The current market sentiment is cautious to bearish, with traders citing lower highs and lower lows. While some posts highlight KLAC's process-control leadership and strong guidance, the overall tone does not support chasing the decline.

JW AI conclusions

Short- and medium-term model interpretation

AI context bias	**Bearish**
AI analysis updated	**Nov 16, 2026 2:36 PM EST**

Short-term scenario

Avoid chasing. For a 1-3 week tactical long, wait for a hold near support instead of buying the breakdown. Momentum and the sector tape are bearish, and today's move looks sector-driven, so a further slide is plausible. Uncertainty is high; this is not a high-conviction call, and the levels are invalid if support fails.

Three-month outlook

Fundamentals can still support a recovery if AI-related wafer-fab and advanced-packaging spending holds: process-control intensity, a higher WFE outlook, and December guidance above prior expectations are intact, and analyst targets cluster well above the current price. That is not the near-term base path. Uncertainty is high. A three-month base case is choppy stabilization and only a partial recovery toward the mid-$160s to high-$170s if the sector de-risks and results track the $4.7B guide. The bear case is a retest of $128-$130 or lower if AI capex fears, export rules, China mix, or margins worsen. Conflicting models, from DCF values below spot to targets near $220, add to that uncertainty. Not investment advice; these levels can be invalidated quickly in this volatility regime.

Market sentiment

Actionable X discussion is thin and mostly cautious to bearish. Traders describe lower highs and lower lows, with bounces failing at declining moving averages, so the path of least resistance still looks lower. Same-day posts tie the slide to new US licensing rules and cuts to AI capex forecasts and note KLAC is down roughly 12% over the past month. A smaller set of posts still cites process-control leadership and the strong guide, but social tone does not support chasing the drop. Much of the ticker stream is promotional noise rather than analysis.

Supporting evidence

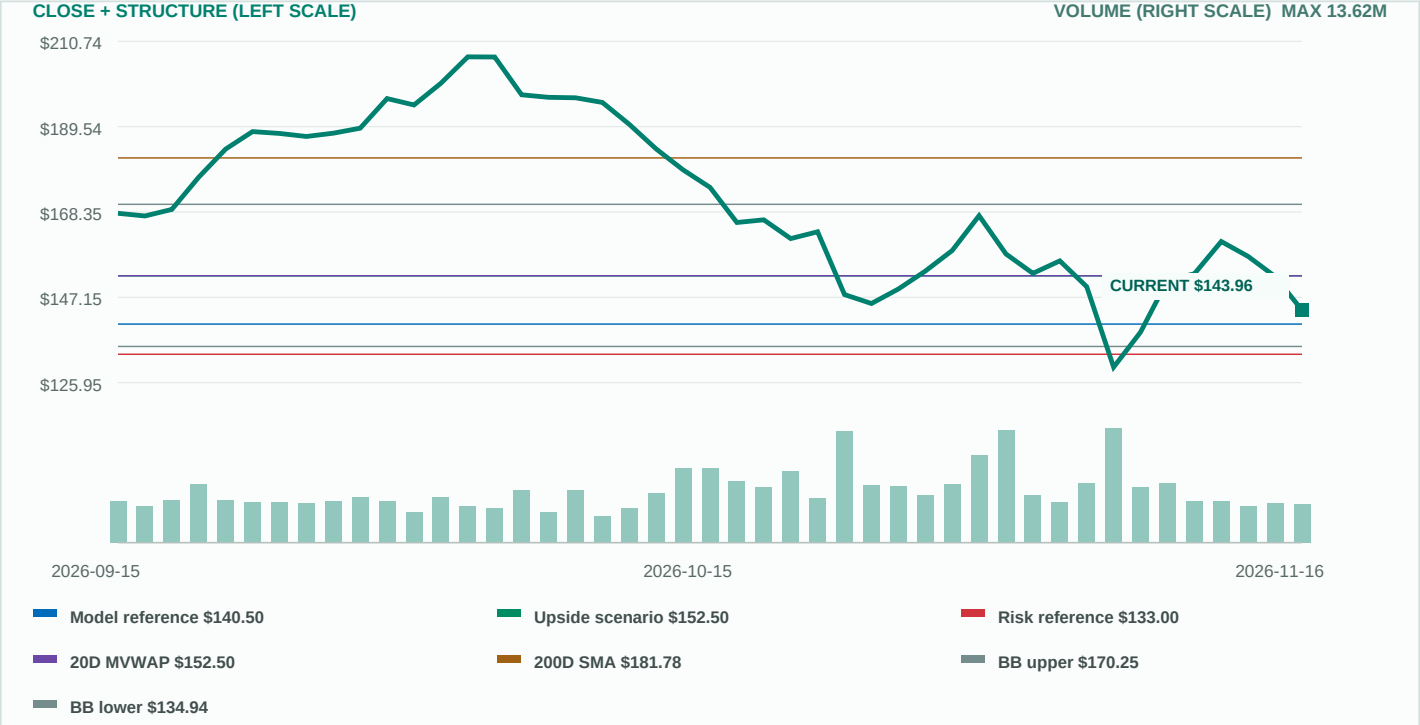
KLAC is down roughly 12% over the past month, driven by sector-wide weakness linked to AI capex fears and tighter US export scrutiny. | The stock's price action is below key moving averages (SMA20, SMA50, SMA200), indicating a strong bearish trend. | Technical indicators like RSI(14) are soft but not oversold, suggesting potential for further downside. | Analyst and narrative values sit well above the quote, while at least one DCF screen puts intrinsic value near $114, creating conflicting valuation signals.

Risk watch

Margin pressure from higher memory costs, delivery constraints, and export friction remains a live risk.

Enhanced price structure

45 trading days with volume, model levels and current technical reference bands



45 complete trading-session observations

JW Rank factors

Score, source coverage and interpretation for each decision factor



Decision summary

Primary model reads before the detailed indicator appendix

Momentum	Institutional flow	Structure	Volatility
strong_bear	Below MVWAP	Below 200D trend	high

Decision indicators

Detailed momentum, institutional and structural observations

Momentum kinematics

Direction, velocity and oscillator state

Current read	**STRONG BEAR | neutral | MACD accelerating**
Trend signal	**STRONG BEAR**
RSI signal	**neutral**
RSI (7 / 14 / 21)	**39.66 / 40.70 / 41.11**
RSI velocity	**-2.99**
MACD line / signal / histogram	**-6.77 / - / -7.80**
MACD acceleration	**0.32**
Stochastic K / D	**53.38 / 62.33**

Institutional footprints

Volume-weighted cost, price location and flow

Current read	**Below institutional MVWAP | Distribution bias**
Institutional flow	**-0.88**
20-day MVWAP	**$152.50**
Price vs 20-day MVWAP	**-4.07%**
Daily reference VWAP	**$144.65**
Price vs daily reference	**+1.13%**
Volume	**4.56M**

Structural context

Long-term trend and volatility boundaries

Current read	**Below 200-day trend | Negative macro velocity**
Macro velocity	**-0.88**
20-day / 200-day SMA	**$152.60 / $181.78**
Bollinger range	**$134.94 - $170.25**
Bollinger position	**0.255**

Options and volatility intelligence

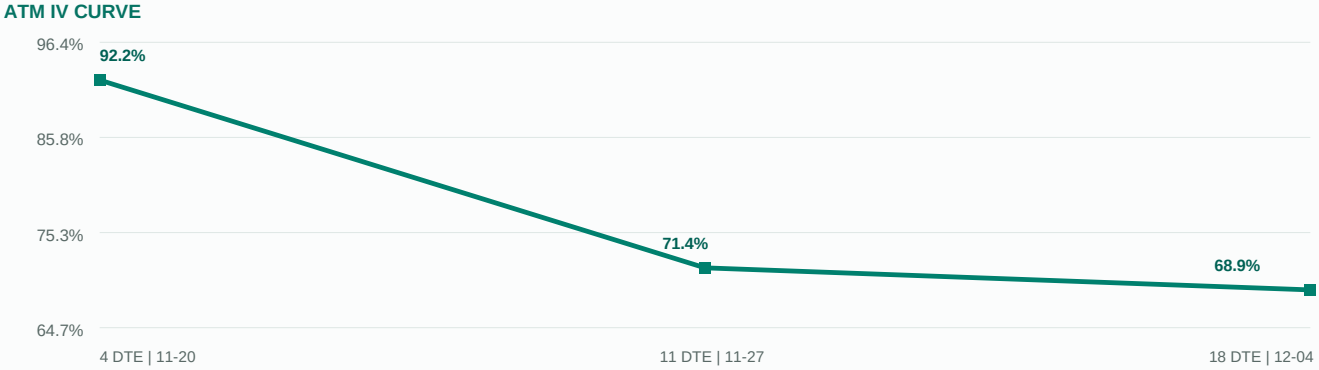
Structure, premium conditions and principal risks

IV rank	IV percentile	VVIX	SKEW
47 / 100	81 / 100	111.88	147.14

Market regime	**DANGER ZONE**
Tail-risk regime	**LOW TAIL RISK**
Term structure	**backwardation**
Term slope	**-23.30 pts**
Skew read	**PUT DEMAND ELEVATED**
Liquidity / quote coverage	**100.0%**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 16, 2026 2:48 PM EST**
Options data quality	**Coverage 88.9%**

Option term structure

ATM implied-volatility curve by days to expiration



Downward-sloping ATM volatility term structure

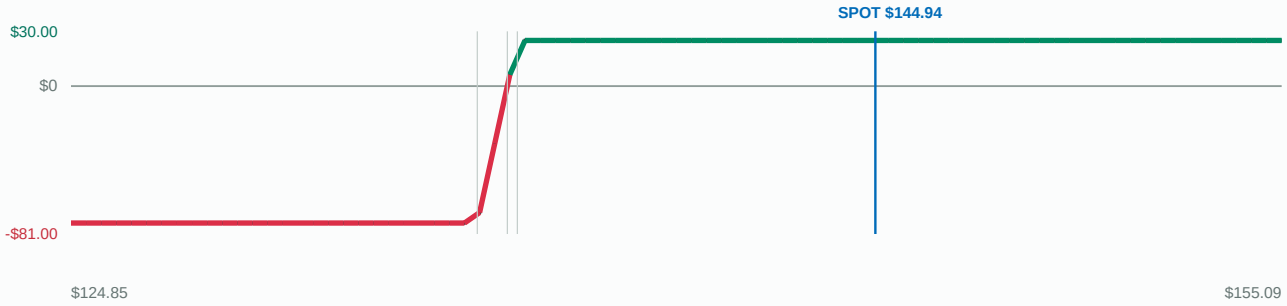
EXPIRATION	DTE	ATM IV	STATE
2026-11-20	4	92.2%	-
2026-11-27	11	71.4%	-
2026-12-04	18	68.9%	-

Reference spread payoff

Illustrative expiry profit/loss per one-lot structure, including quoted net credit

Bull Put Spread reference

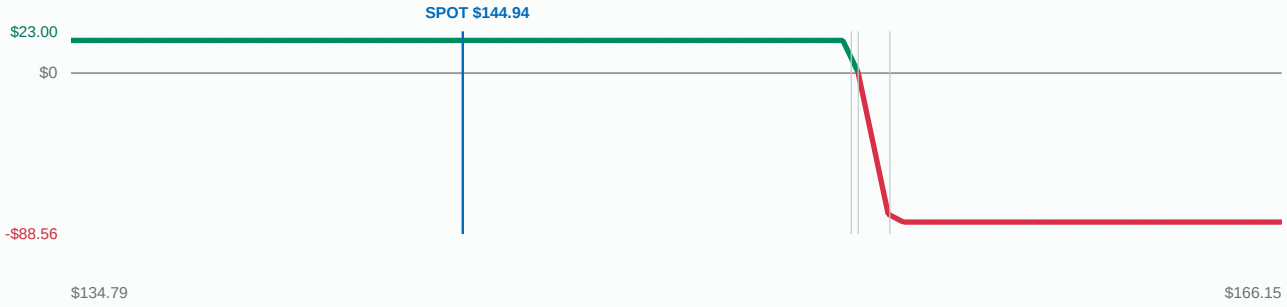
Short $136.00 | Long $135.00 | Width $1.00 | Net credit $0.25



Max profit $25.00 | Max loss -$75.00 | Break-even $135.75 | Per contract at expiry

Bear Call Spread reference

Short $155.00 | Long $156.00 | Width $1.00 | Net credit $0.18



Max profit $18.00 | Max loss -$82.00 | Break-even $155.18 | Per contract at expiry

Event and tail-risk context

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

Next earnings date	**2027-01-28**
Earnings IV-crush risk	**NOT MEASURED**
VIX	**23.50**
VVIX	**111.88**
SKEW index	**147.14**
Observation confidence	**high**
Option quote quality	**reliable**
Contracts observed	**132**

Event and tail-risk context (continued)

Known event windows and broad volatility conditions

FIELD	VALUE
Contracts with quotes	**132**

Strategy fit

Generalized structure fit; not a personalized recommendation

Market structure

KLAC is experiencing a significant decline, driven by broader semiconductor-equipment sector weakness fueled by concerns over AI capex cuts and tighter US export regulations. While recent earnings and guidance exceeded expectations, the stock's price action reflects investor uncertainty surrounding China exposure and margin pressures. Technical indicators point to a bearish trend with support levels around $140.

Options context

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Wheel context

The current market sentiment is cautious to bearish, with traders citing lower highs and lower lows. While some posts highlight KLAC's process-control leadership and strong guidance, the overall tone does not support chasing the decline.

Observed evidence

KLAC is down roughly 12% over the past month, driven by sector-wide weakness linked to AI capex fears and tighter US export scrutiny. | The stock's price action is below key moving averages (SMA20, SMA50, SMA200), indicating a strong bearish trend. | Technical indicators like RSI(14) are soft but not oversold, suggesting potential for further downside. | Analyst and narrative values sit well above the quote, while at least one DCF screen puts intrinsic value near $114, creating conflicting valuation signals.

Principal risks to monitor

Margin pressure from higher memory costs, delivery constraints, and export friction remains a live risk.

Fundamentals and events

Business quality, valuation and upcoming event context

Market capitalization	P/E (TTM)
$187.26B	**37.74**
ROE	Revenue growth
87.0%	**9.0%**
EPS growth	Operating margin
14.9%	**42.6%**
Net profit margin	Gross margin
36.3%	**-**
Free cash flow CAGR	Debt / equity
14.0%	**0.93**
Dividend yield	Beta
1.0%	**1.50**

52-week range

$107.20 - $307.37

Company or fund profile

Issuer identity and classification

Name	Market
KLA Corporation	**NYSE**
Industry	Country
Semiconductors	**US**
Currency	IPO date
USD	**1980-10-08**
Shares outstanding	52-week return
1.30B	**31.1%**
Book value per share	Revenue per share
$5.00	**$11.06**

Website	kla.com

Latest strategy observation

Most recent shared general market signal available when this report was generated

KLAC Covered Call signal

Nov 11, 2026 11:06 AM EST

Covered Call | 2026-11-13

At signal $160.95 | Current $146.29

SHORT **Option $155.00 B $7.60 / A $8.70**

Conservative | CR $8.15

Complete technical details

Full supporting indicator set used by the symbol detail experience

Volatility and options market

Price movement and premium conditions

ATR	**$9.59**
ATR as % of price	**6.7%**
Volatility environment	**high**
Current IV	**67.8%**
IV rank	**49 / 100**
IV percentile	**82 / 100**
Technical Snapshot IV source	**Private fundamentals snapshot**
Technical Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 16, 2026 6:31 PM EST**

Technical health and risk radar

Derived indicator health and event context

Overall health	**44 / 100**
Trend health	**25 / 100**
Momentum health	**74 / 100**
Volatility health	**10 / 100**
Structure health	**76 / 100**
Earnings risk / date	**low | 2027-01-28**
Macro risk	**unknown**
Volatility risk	**high**
Structure risk	**low**

Structural indicator levels

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

SMA (20 / 50 / 200)	**$152.60 / $172.16 / $181.78**
EMA (9 / 21)	**$151.22 / $156.50**
Bollinger upper / middle / lower	**$170.25 / $152.60 / $134.94**

Structural indicator levels (continued)

Moving averages, volatility bands and observed trading ranges

FIELD	VALUE
Bollinger %B	**0.255**
True high / low	**$152.32 / $142.21**
5-day true high / low	**$164.33 / $142.21**

Three-day indicator history

Short-horizon change and the underlying three-session observations

INDICATOR	3-DAY CHANGE	SESSION 1 / 2 / 3
SMA20	-0.884	**-**
SMA50	-0.515	**-**
MVWAP20	-0.884	**-**
MACD	0.323	**-**
RSI	-2.987	**-**
Volume	-122210.330	**-**
ATR	-0.041	**-**
T1	-	**-6.47 / 153.45 / 157.30 / 146.79**
T2	-	**-6.85 / 154.19 / 161.74 / 155.36**
T3	-	**-7.74 / 155.15 / 164.33 / 152.99**

Detailed options evidence

Supporting option-chain, execution and data-quality observations

Underlying price at observation	**$144.94**
Options Snapshot IV sources	**ATM: option chain | Rank/percentile: fundamentals**
Options Snapshot IV observed at	**Nov 16, 2026 2:48 PM EST**
Options data coverage	**88.9%**
SKEW regime	**HIGH TAIL RISK SKEW**
VVIX regime	**VVIX FALLING**
Front expiration / DTE	**2026-11-20 | 4 DTE**
Front at-the-money IV	**92.2%**
25-delta skew	**6.24**
Put / Call 25-delta	**$136.00 Delta -0.250 / $155.00 Delta 0.253**
Median option bid/ask spread	**20.3%**
Bid/ask spread	**-**
Contracts observed / quoted	**132 / 132**

Price context

Last Price: 144.94 | Bid: 144.89 | Ask: 145.03 | Previous Close: 152.32 | Change: -7.38 | Daily change: -4.85% | Update Time: 2026-11-16T14:48:47.758640-05:00 | Latest History Date: 2026-11-16 | Latest History Price: 144.93

Historical context

Trading-day sample: 60 sessions | First Date: 2026-08-24 | Latest Date: 2026-11-16 | Latest Price: 144.93 | Max Drawdown 60d Percent: -37.26%

Fundamental context

Current Iv Percent: 66.67% | Iv Rank: 47.21 | Iv Percentile: 81.27 | Next Earnings Date: 2027-01-28 | Ex Dividend Date: 2026-11-15

Important disclosures

Scope, limitations, risk and permitted interpretation

General market information only

This report is general quantitative research and market commentary. It is not investment, legal, tax or accounting advice; it is not an offer, solicitation, order, recommendation or promise of performance. It does not consider any reader's holdings, objectives, financial circumstances, risk tolerance or suitability.

Model observations - not instructions

JW Rank, strategy fit, model reference, upside scenario and risk reference levels are model observations. They are not entries, price targets, stops, position sizes or instructions to buy, sell, open, close or hold a security or option. A higher score does not imply lower risk or a guaranteed favorable outcome.

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Prices, volumes, fundamentals, options data, news-derived context and model outputs reflect the timestamps shown and may be delayed, incomplete, revised or inaccurate. AI-generated explanations can omit context or produce errors. Models can fail when volatility, liquidity, correlations or market regimes change.

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Options are complex and are not suitable for all investors. They may involve total or substantial loss, assignment, early exercise, margin calls, liquidity and spread risk, volatility and Greek exposure, event risk, regime shifts and expiration risk. Multi-leg positions may not execute or close at modeled prices.

Investor responsibility and ODD

Use current market information, assess suitability independently and consult qualified professionals when appropriate. Before trading listed options, read Characteristics and Risks of Standardized Options (ODD) available from the Options Clearing Corporation at theocc.com.

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Reference documents

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