

# Economics 104

## Stock Portfolio Assignment (assignment 1)

In this class you are required to build a portfolio of at least 5 common stocks and, using **Yahoo's** excellent portfolio management feature, you will monitor the performance of these stocks and some stock indexes, and some equity mutual funds throughout the course of the semester

### Part 1 .. getting familiar with the program

Follow these steps to complete this assignment.

1. First, visit Yahoo's site for stock quotations and portfolio management at [finance.yahoo.com](http://finance.yahoo.com) to get used to how the site works. Sign up at Yahoo's site as a guest member, which will require you to choose a name and password. This is free and easy, so take care of it. After you have your password, ask for quotations for a couple of stocks. To do this, enter the name of the company in the box for **Get Quotes** at the top of the page and choose the symbol from the drop-down options.. For example, find the symbol for Walt Disney Corporation (DIS). Use the symbol to retrieve the stock quote. Peruse the resulting page to see what information it offers. Click on the chart to get an interactive chart.
  2. After you have looked up a couple of quotes, find the link on the page **My Portfolio** that will allow you to build your own portfolio (you must be signed in). Select that. Here you will build a trial portfolio of a couple of stocks plus an index just so you can see how it works. Select a **New Portfolio**. This portfolio eventually will be deleted and replaced with your real portfolio, so don't worry about mistakes. Give your portfolio a name and follow the instructions on the page and select at least two companies (you will need to know their symbols, which can be looked up on this page .. if in doubt, use Disney's DIS and IBM). Also select at least one index (like the Dow Jones Industrial Average). Before you submit your portfolio choice choose the **detailed** and not the **basic** view for the Default View. Submit your portfolio and take a look at it. Pretty amazing, isn't it. Look at all of the data you get.
  3. Over the next few days, go back daily if possible and find your portfolio and get your briefing. There it all is, updated every day! Peruse your document when you have an hour or so to become familiar with what information is available. We'll talk about what some of these statistics mean in class.
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