

# How to screen the market to find stock market winners

Screening Orientation Webinar



# Ed Page Croft, CFA

Co-Founder & CEO, [Stockopedia.com](https://www.stockopedia.com)

ex-GS Private Clients, Oxford Scholar

 @edcroft

# A powerful and easy-to-use screener, designed for DIY stock pickers

- Great data
- Easy to use
- Comprehensive coverage

The screenshot displays the Stockopedia website interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search our database of over 63,000 stocks" and a "UK focus" dropdown menu. The main heading is "Popular Screens" with a subtext "Browse the most popular stock screens from across the site." Below this, there are two sections: "Stockopedia Screens" and "Guru Screens".

**Stockopedia Screens:**

- The Screen of Screens:** A blended investment approach devised by Stockopedi...  
57 stocks, 5 yr return -6%
- Top StockRanks:** The Top StockRanks screen looks for the very highest ranking shares according to...  
136 stocks, 5 yr return 60%
- Top QM Rank:** The Top QM Rank screen looks for shares that are both "good" and "improving" based...  
162 stocks, 5 yr return 64%

**Guru Screens:**

- Greenblatt's Magic Formula:** The Magic Formula is a value investing strategy invented by the hedge fund manag...  
30 stocks, 5 yr return 4%
- William O'Neil CAN-SLIM-esque scre...:** The William O'Neil CAN-SLIM-esque strategy is a growth investing strategy...  
One stock, 5 yr return 43%
- Jim Slater ZULU Principle Screen:** Jim Slater Zulu Principle is a growth investing strategy inspired by UK investor Jim Slater i...  
0 stocks, 5 yr return 137%

At the bottom of the page, there are links for "Terms of use", "Privacy Policy", "Disclaimer & FSG", "Cookies", and "Version: v5.2.2". The footer includes logos for Stockopedia, REFINITIV, and FE fundinfo, along with a chat icon.

- 1 Why use stock screens?
- 2 Principles for effective screening
- 3 Preset Screens - StockRanks & GuruScreens
- 4 Creating a custom stock screen
- 5 Working your screening results
- 6 Going beyond - advanced screening



# Disclaimer

The following pages within this document have been produced by Stockopedia Ltd ("Stockopedia") for educational & informational purposes only. All rights regarding these pages are reserved. It is not for general circulation.

Stockopedia is a subscription-based data & screening web service for self directed individuals who have an adviser and/or are comfortable making their own decisions. Use of our data is subject to express Terms of Service. This service is intended to be used and must be used for informational purposes only. Our Stock Reports and screens are based on underlying data from other suppliers including Refinitiv which is believed but not guaranteed to be accurate. Any figures cited are subject to change or possible correction. If we are notified of a possible error, we will endeavour to notify our supplier of this issue, although we cannot be certain that they will be willing to correct the error identified. Any forward looking information is based on the Consensus Analyst Estimate as defined by Refinitiv and is subject to their assumptions but does not involve subjective judgement by Stockopedia.

We are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Stockopedia is not a broker/dealer, and we are not in the business of the giving or receiving of financial, tax or legal advice. None of our content constitutes or should be understood as constituting a recommendation to enter in any securities transactions or to engage in any of the investment strategies discussed in our content. We do not provide personalised recommendations or views as to whether a stock or investment approach is suited to the financial needs of a specific individual.

It is very important to do your own analysis before making any investment based on your own personal circumstances. You should take independent financial advice from a professional in connection with or independently research and verify any information you find in this presentation. Accordingly we will not be liable, whether in contract, tort (including negligence) or otherwise, in respect of any damage, expense or a loss you may suffer arising out of such information or any reliance you may place upon such information.

We would like to draw your attention to the following important investment warnings:

- The value of shares and investments and the income derived from them can go down as well as up
- Investors may not get back the amount they invested
- Past performance is not a guide to future performance

Please note that all data in this document is historic and dated when this document went to print in March 2023.

1

# Why use stock screens?

2

Principles for effective screening

3

Preset Screens - StockRanks and GuruScreens

4

Creating a custom stock screen

5

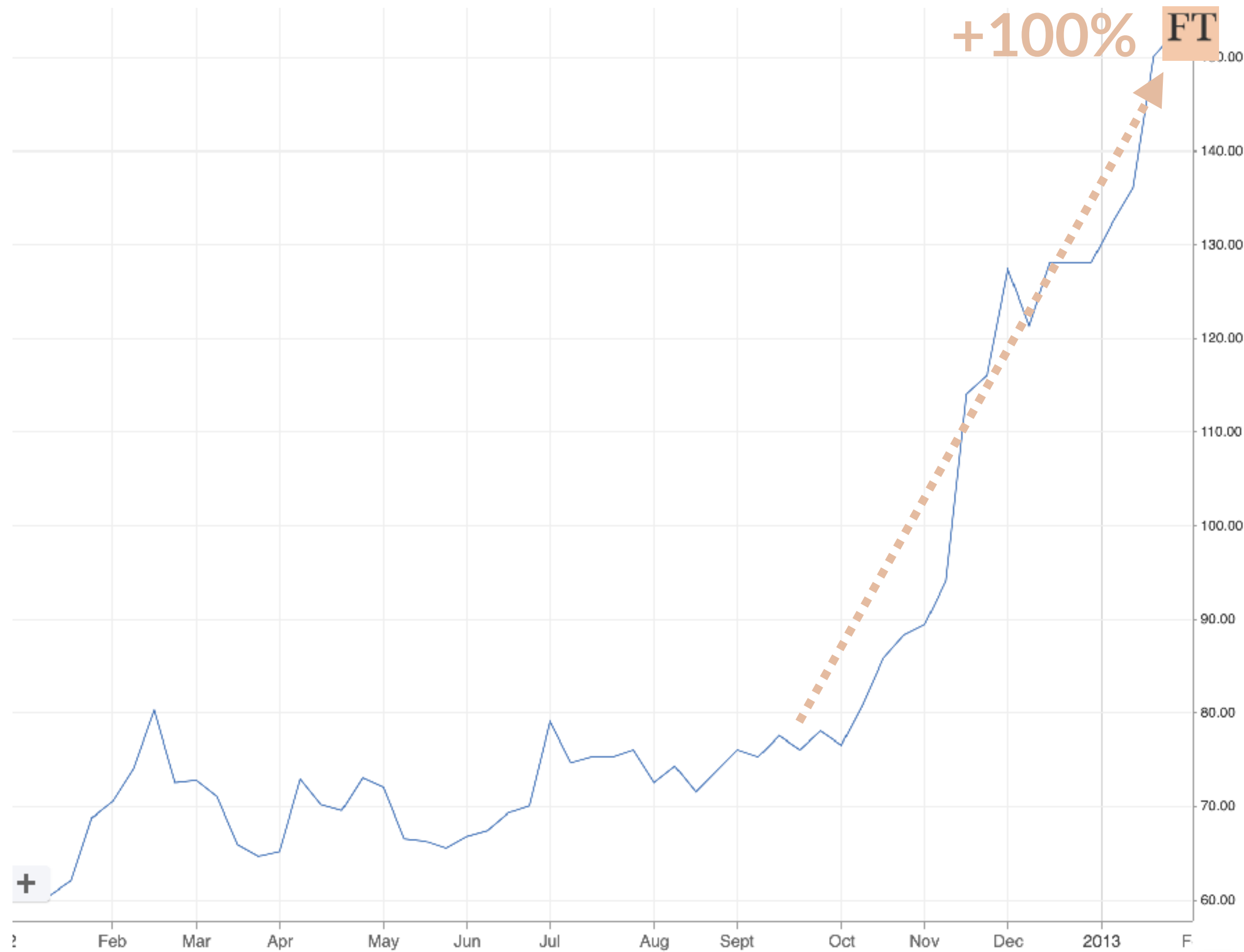
Working with your screening results

6

Going beyond - advanced screening



David Stevenson,  
FT Adventurous Investor Column



Opinion **Adventurous Investor**

## Stock screens to net the ones that got away

How to take some of the emotion out of investing

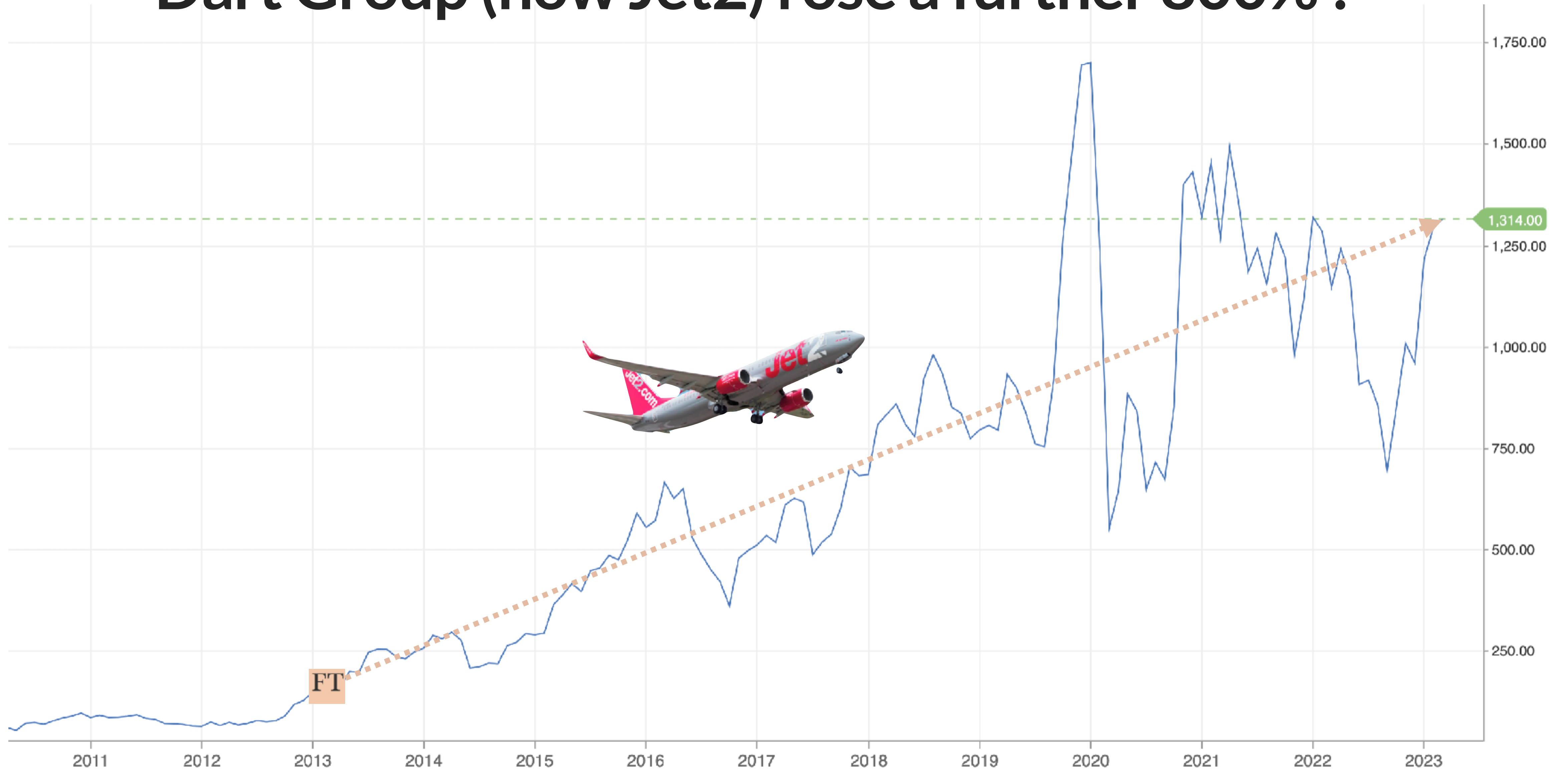
One of my big regrets for 2012 was not having bought into a small UK-based transport group called [Dart Group](#). Lots of quantitative and qualitative measures told me that the owner of the Jet2 airline and those Fowler Welch lorries was way too cheap. Yet, sadly, I found more interesting stories to chase and I let it get away – only to watch in horror as the price more than doubled.

How might an ordinary investor, who does his or her own stockpicking, unearth a gem like Dart? **Most likely using web based, online systems such as the ones developed by Stockopedia....** stock screening systems really, really matter.

<https://on.ft.com/3YdfQIO>



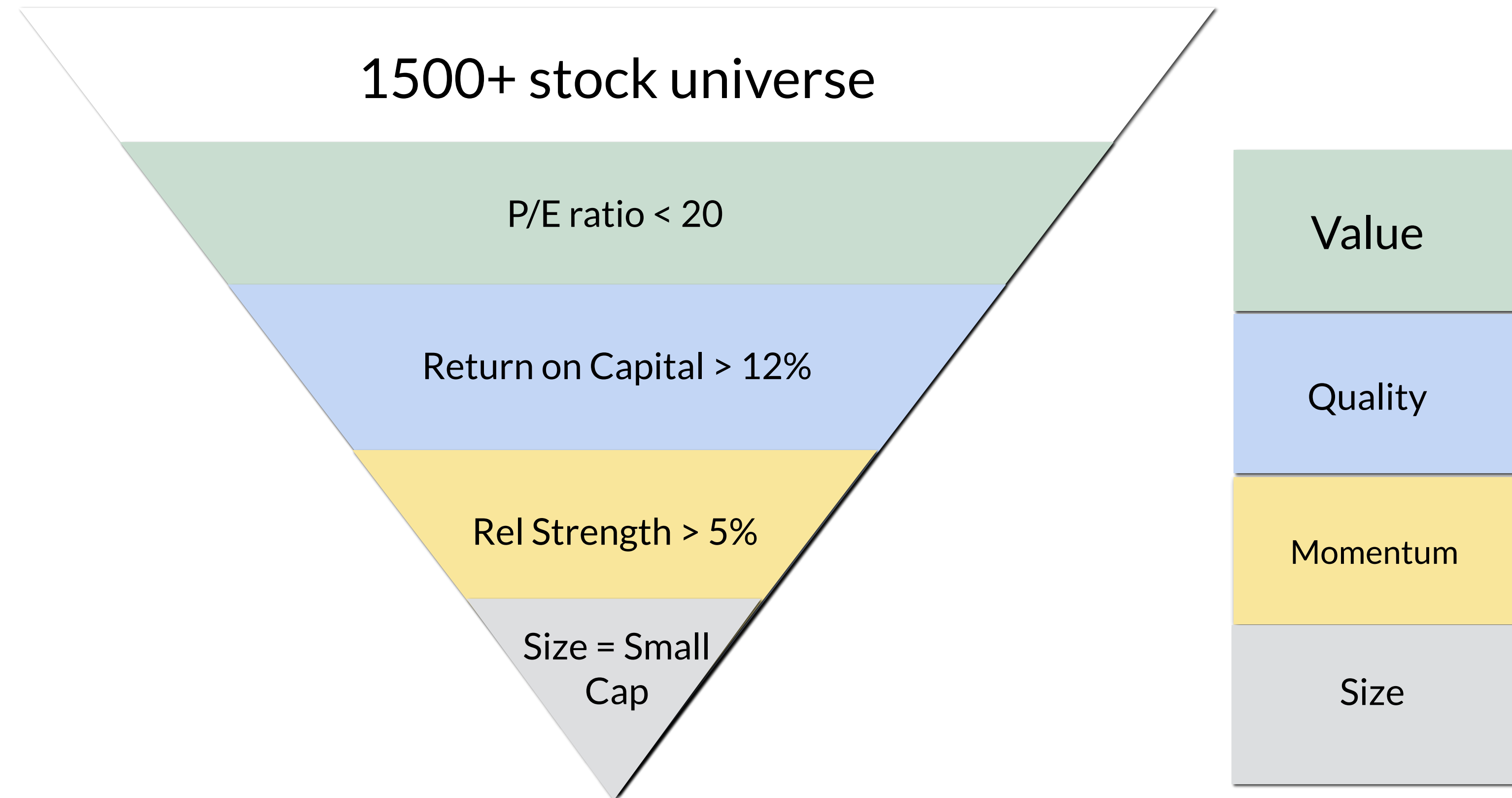
# Dart Group (now Jet2) rose a further 800% !





# Why use a stock screen?

Narrow a broad universe of stocks using financial rules...



...to a small set of (18) candidate stocks

# Further benefits of stock screening



**Save time** in your stock selection process



**Build discipline** by applying consistent rules



**Discover opportunities** that the crowd are ignoring








**Remove biases** from your stock selection process



**Improve your investment results**

# The limitations of stock screening

-  You can only screen on **quantitative parameters**
-  **Standardised financials** do not adjust for nuances
-  A screen is **only as good as the rules & data** it's based on
-  **Data anomalies**, while infrequent, do occur
-  **Not a substitute** for individual company research



1

Why use stock screens?

2

## Principles for effective screening

3

Preset Screens - StockRanks and GuruScreens

4

Creating a custom stock screen

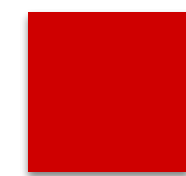
5

Working with your screening results

6

Going beyond - advanced screening

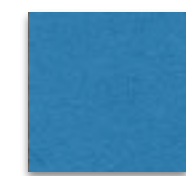
# Which factors really drive stock returns?



**Company Specific**



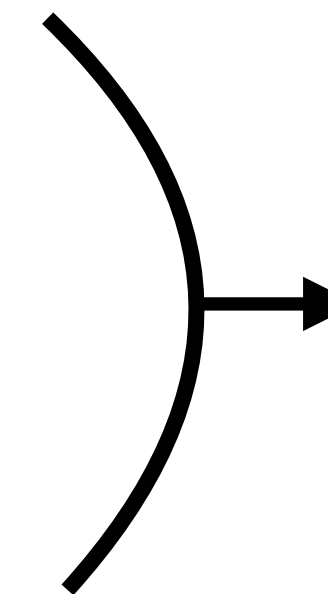
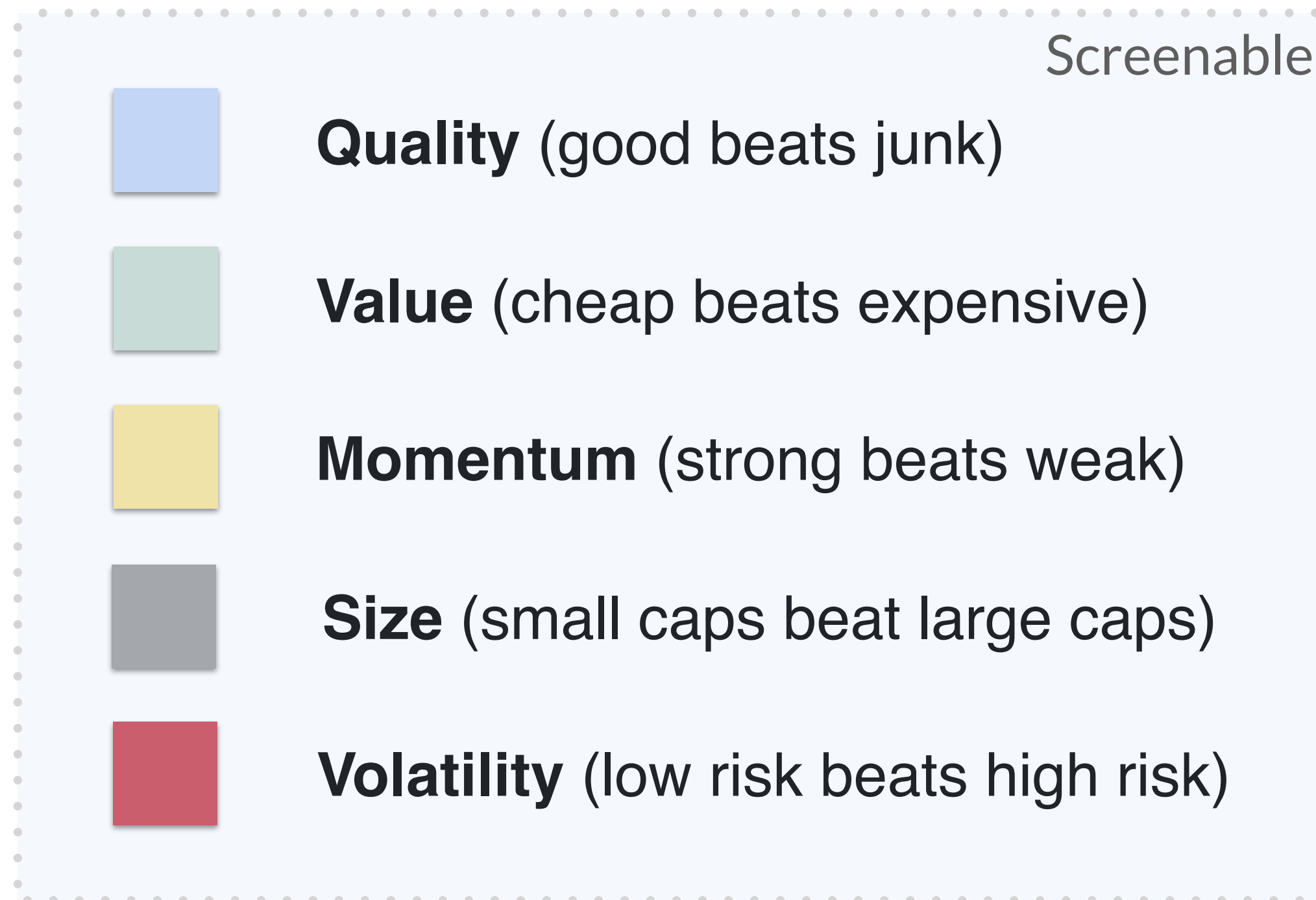
**Qualitative**



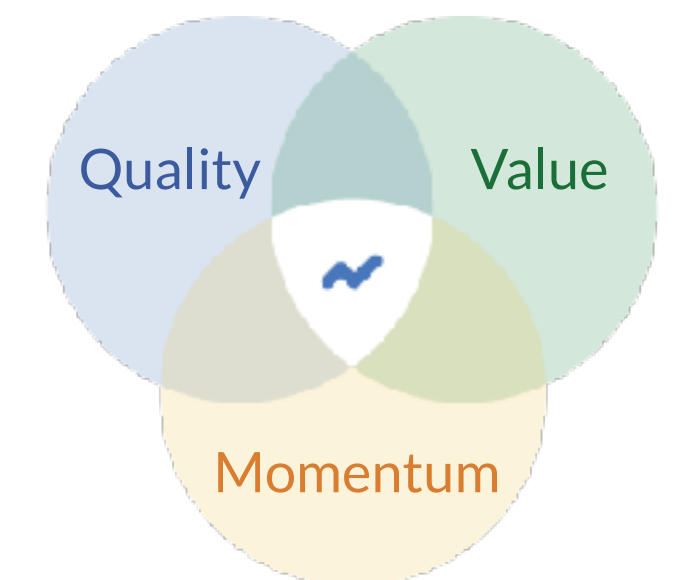
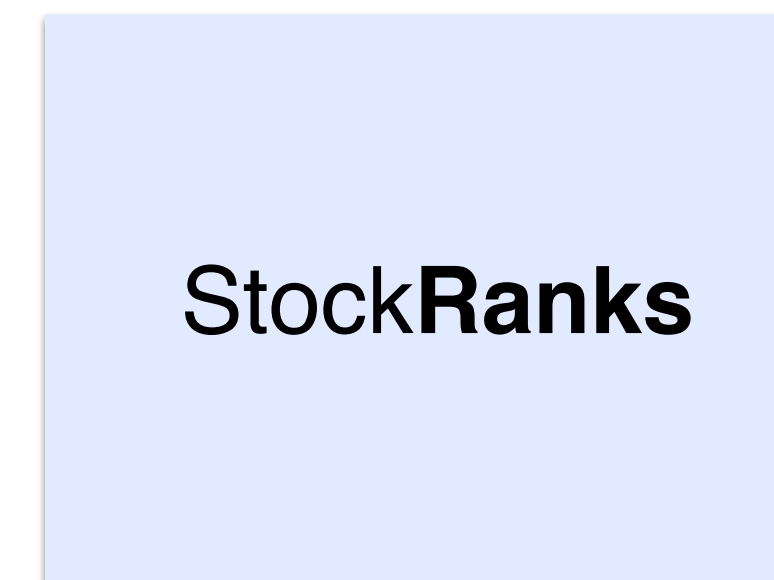
**The Market**



**Trend**

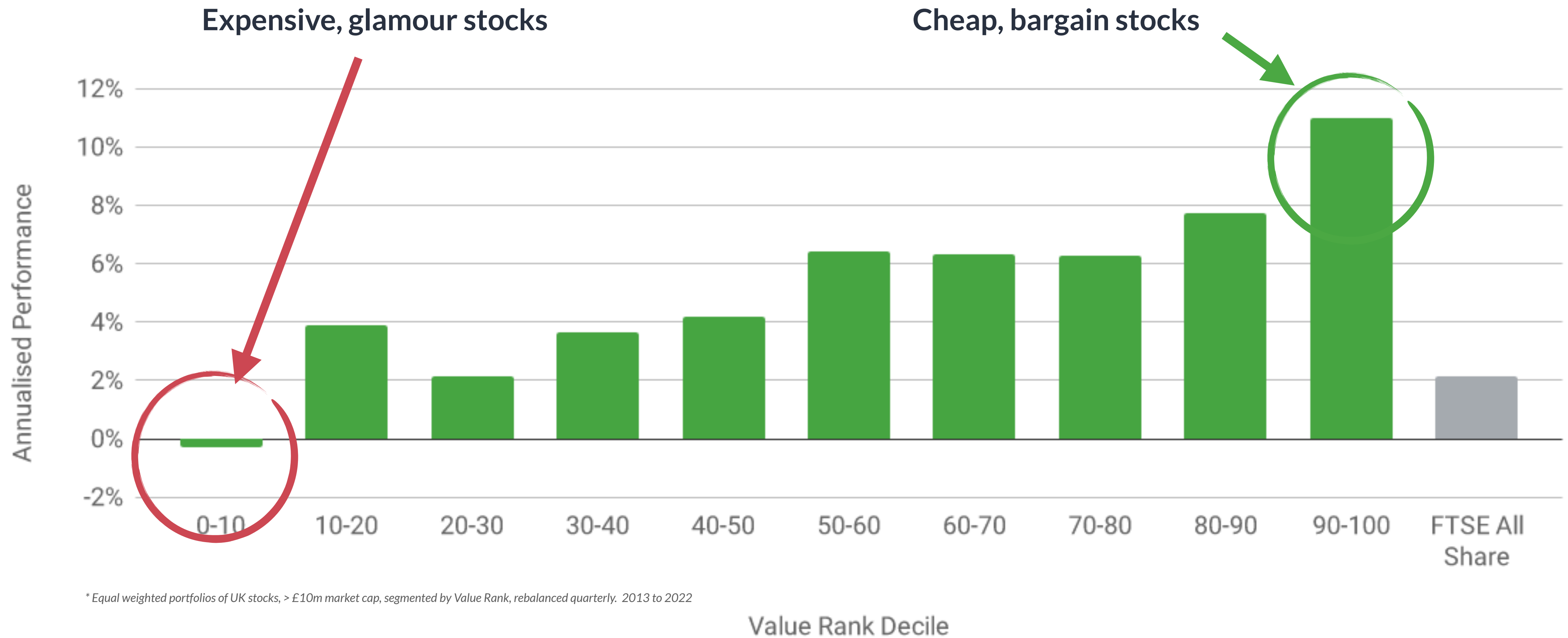


 **Stockopedia**



+ 382 other financial ratios and metrics

# Example: Value - cheap beats expensive





“ *Over time... tilts towards value, momentum and profitability have outperformed the market. A combined portfolio of these three has provided much higher reward... and a significant reduction in extreme risk.* ”



**Robert Novy Marx**

Distinguished Professor of Finance, Simon Business School.

# Breaking down an effective stock screen



“Tiny Titans” - by James O'Shaughnessy

[What Works on Wall Street](#)

Price to Sales Ratio <b>TTM</b>	less than ▾	1	<b>Value</b> “cheap”
Relative Strength <b>1y</b>	greater than ▾	0 %	<b>Momentum</b> “strong”
Market Capitalisation <b>GBP</b>	less than ▾	GBP 150 m	<b>Size</b> “small”
Market Capitalisation <b>GBP</b>	greater than ▾	GBP 15 m	
Bid-Ask Spread	less than ▾	1000 bps	

Sort by: Relative Strength **1y** ▾ Descending ▾



# Simplified screening using the StockRanks

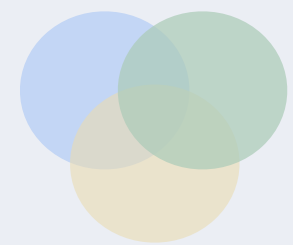
Stockopedia Quality Rank	greater than ▼	75	<b>Quality</b> “good”
Stockopedia Value Rank	greater than ▼	75	<b>Value</b> “cheap”
Stockopedia Momentum Rank	greater than ▼	75	<b>Momentum</b> “strong”
Size Group	includes ▼	Small Cap × ▼	<b>Size</b> “small”

Creates a small set of (18) candidate stocks



# Three ways of screening at Stockopedia

Standardised & Simple



“Stockopedia Screens” based on our StockRanks & Ratings



“Guru Screens” based on 65 famous investment books/papers

Personalised & Varied



“Custom Screens” based on your own rules

1

Why use stock screens?

2

Principles for effective screening

3

**Presets: StockRanks & GuruScreens**

4

Creating a custom stock screen

5

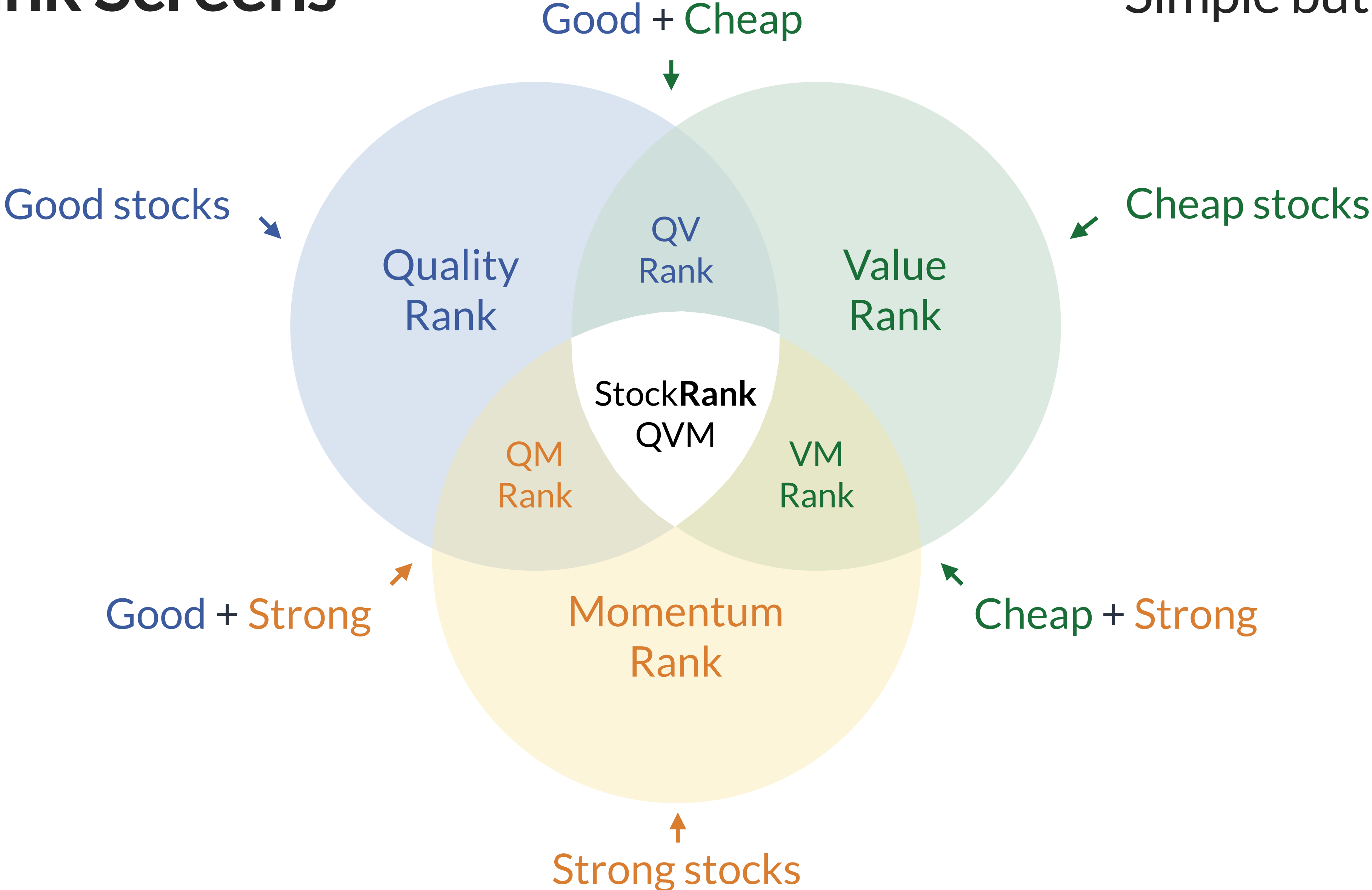
Working with your screening results

6

Going beyond - advanced screening

# StockRank Screens

Simple but effective



100

50

0



# GuruScreens

65 Models

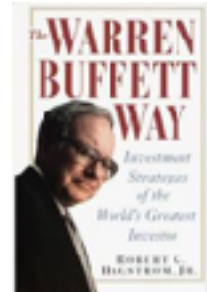
## Contrarian (under Quality, Value, Income Screens)



“Buying good companies at bargain prices works for companies of any size”

Joel Greenblatt

## Quality Screens



“I like buying quality merchandise when it’s marked down.”

Warren Buffett

## Bargain Screens



“Try to buy stocks that meet some criterion for being undervalued”

Benjamin Graham



## Growth Screens



“Charts plus earnings will help you tell the best stocks.”

William J O'Neil

## Turnarounds (under Momentum)



“Trending Value is the most successful strategy since 1963”

James O'Shaughnessy

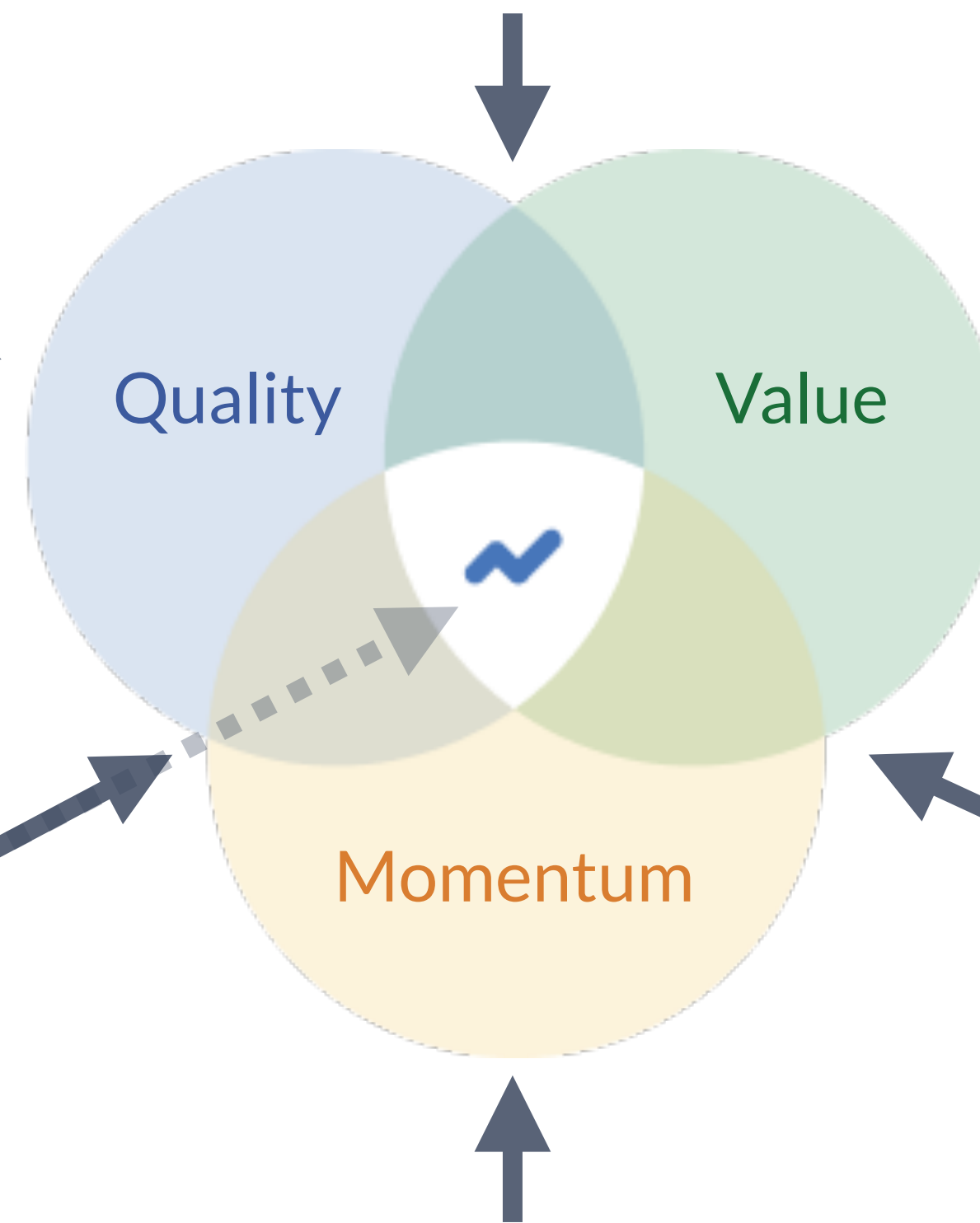


## Momentum Screens



“Buy stocks that have performed well in the past, sell stocks that have performed poorly”

Josef Lakonishok



# Preset Screens - StockRanks and GuruScreens

Learn how to use the screening tools on Youtube



<https://youtu.be/AaLc0pNyrnw>

# Understanding the performance tracking

¼ We use **quarterly rebalancing** on the top 25 screen results

💰 Transaction costs and Dividends are not included

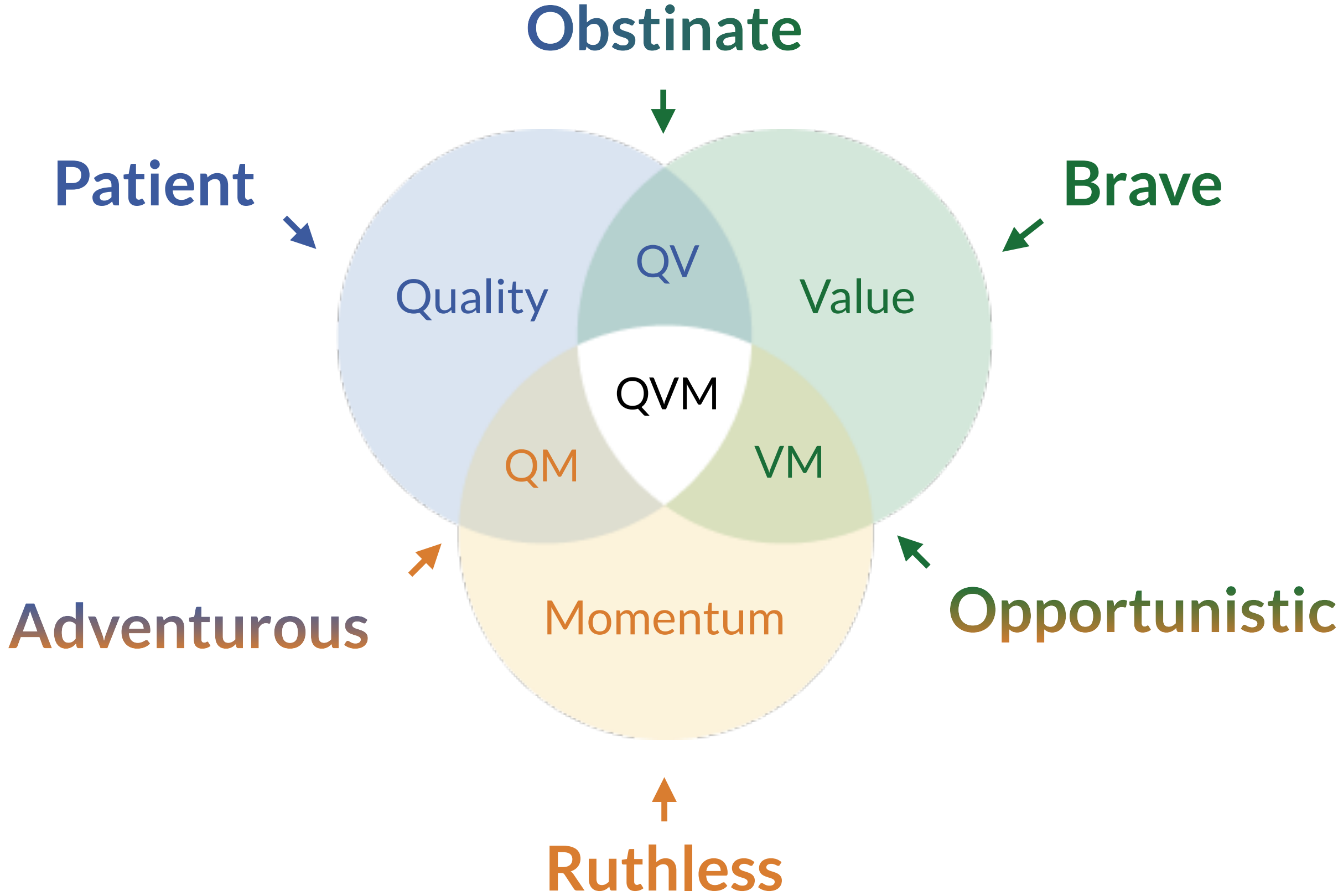
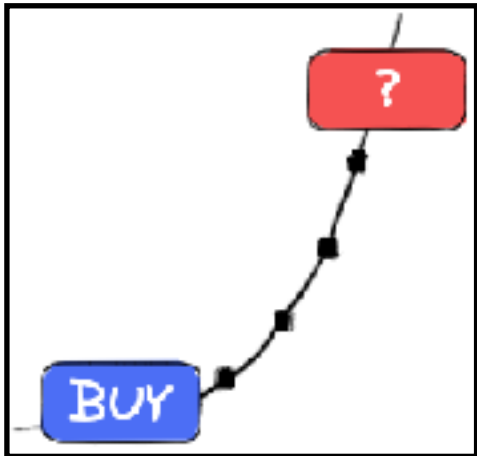


# Strategy Selection

# Match Style to Psychology

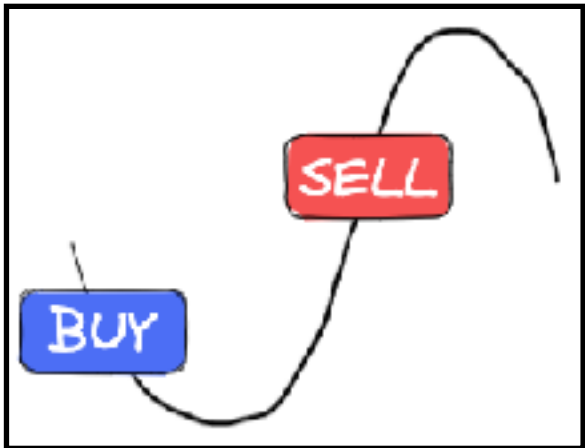
Quality stocks benefit from Compounding

1y to Forever



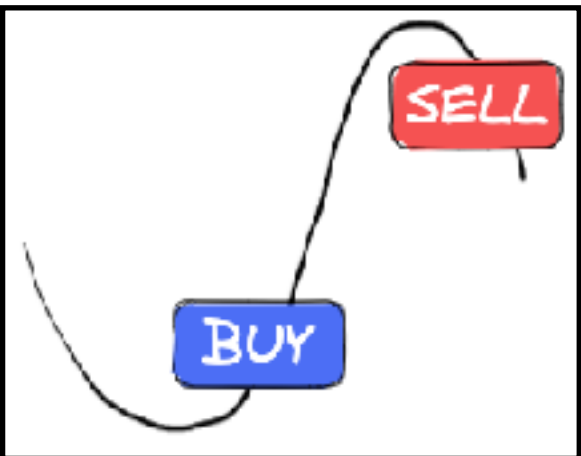
Value stocks benefit from Mean Reversion

1y to 3y







Momentum stocks benefit from Trend Continuation

3m to 1y





# Can I use stock screens as a complete investment system?

-  Screen results can have significant sector skews
-  Screen results can be illiquid (if no liquidity constraint)
-  Some screens can return risky results (e.g. Bargain Screens)
-  Screen results are dynamic and change daily

➡ ***Portfolio Construction & Rebalancing is essential***

# Learn about portfolio construction and rebalancing in our extensive “NAPS Portfolio Webinar”

<https://event.webinarjam.com/go/replay/47/44og5sxli6vfvv2s6>



1

Why use stock screens?

2

Principles for effective screening

3

Preset Screens: StockRanks & GuruScreens

4

**Creating a custom stock screen**

5

Working with your screening results

6

Going beyond - advanced screening

# Custom Screening

Learn how to use the screening tools on Youtube



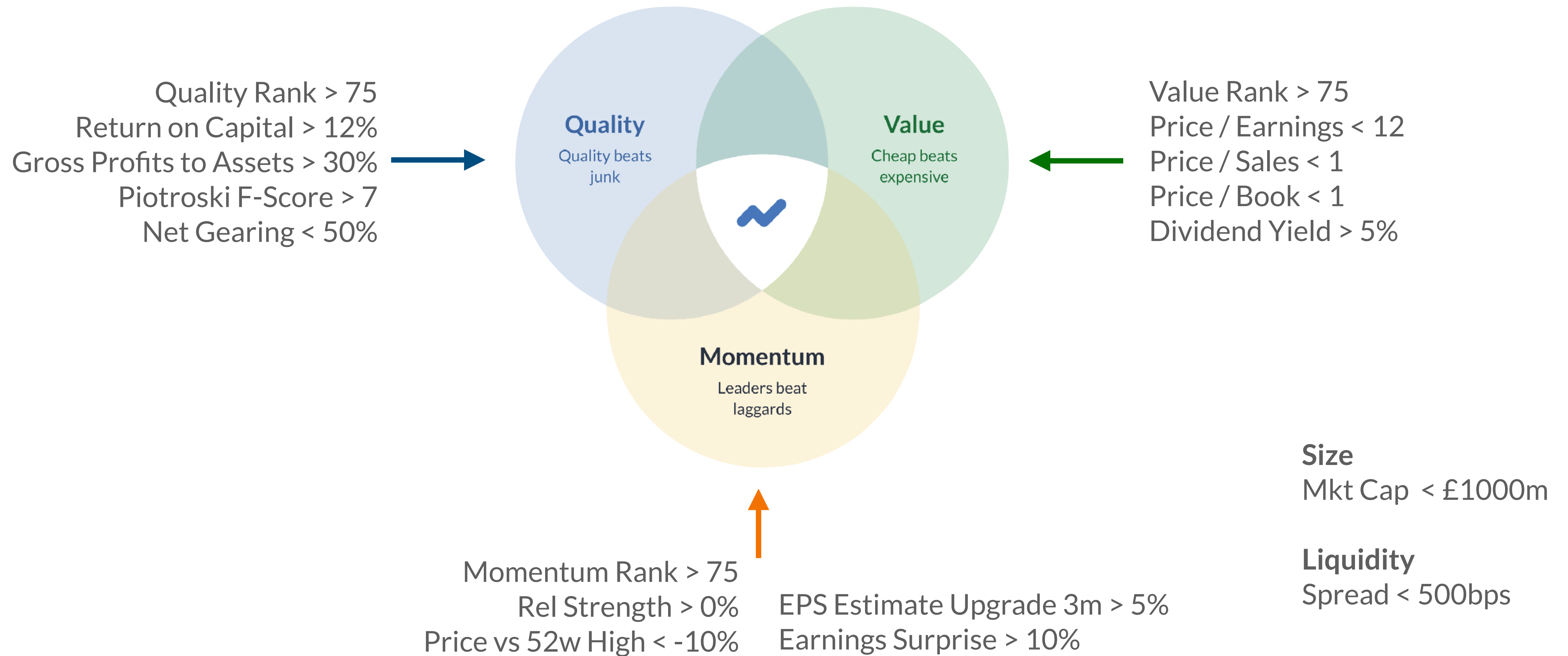
<https://youtu.be/sD-gMrvWr2s>



# Download the “Ratio Cookbook”



# Essential Ratios for Custom Screening



# Selecting the ratio timeframe

The screenshot shows a 'Select metric' dialog box with a search bar and a list of metrics. The 'Value' category is selected, and the 'P/E' metric is highlighted. A dropdown menu for 'Price to Earnings Ratio' is open, showing options: 5y Avg, TTM, Rolling, Rolling 1y, Rolling 2y, Forecast 1y, Forecast 2y, and 5y Avg. A red arrow points to the '5y Avg' option in the dropdown. The dialog also includes 'ADD ADVANCED RULE' and 'ADD RULE' buttons at the bottom.

**Select metric**

Search for, or select a column below...

Search metrics...

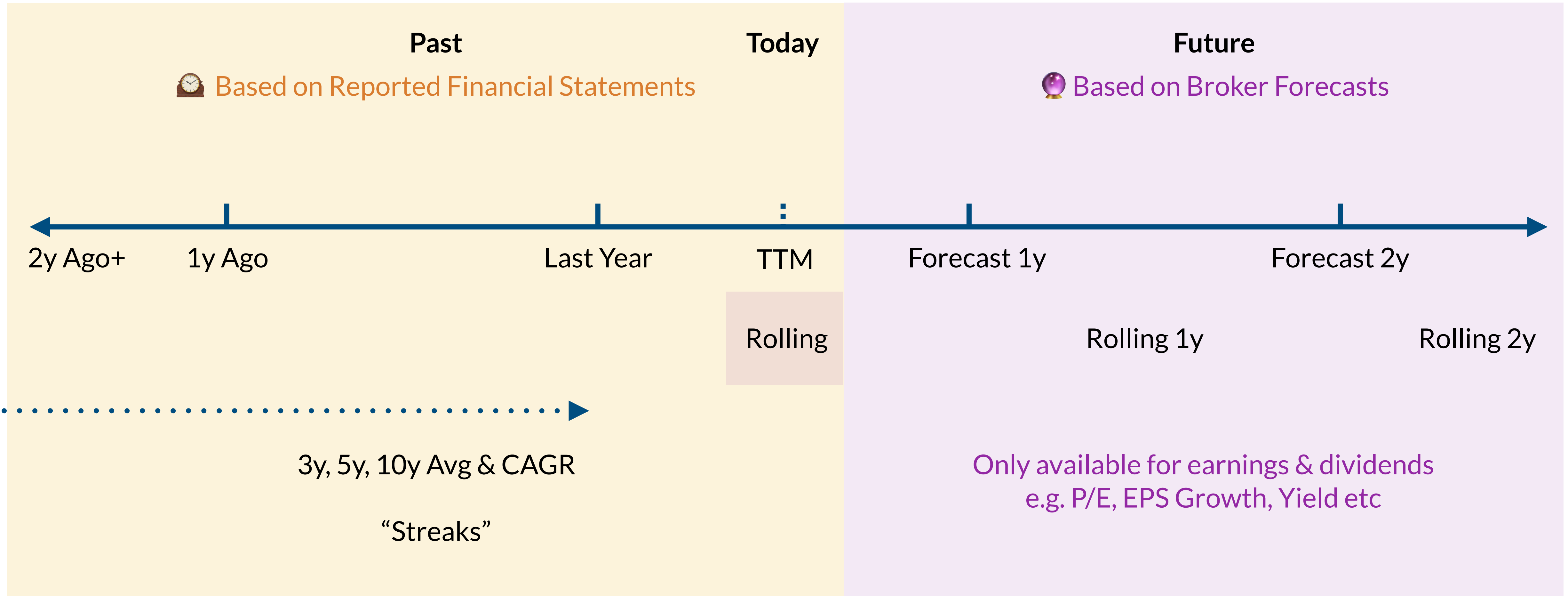
Profile	>	VALUE RANKINGS
Size	>	Value Rank
StockRanks	>	QV Rank
Quality	>	VM Rank
<b>Value</b>	>	<b>VS INCOME</b>
Momentum	>	<b>P/E</b>
Growth	>	P/S
Dividends	>	CAPE
Analysts	>	PEG
Miscellaneous	>	PEGY
Statements	>	PEGR

**Price to Earnings Ratio**

- 5y Avg
- TTM
- Rolling
- Rolling 1y
- Rolling 2y
- Forecast 1y
- Forecast 2y
- 5y Avg**

ADD ADVANCED RULE ▾ ADD RULE

# Understanding the ratio timeframes



# Classifications - *a huge time saver*

## Under “Profile”

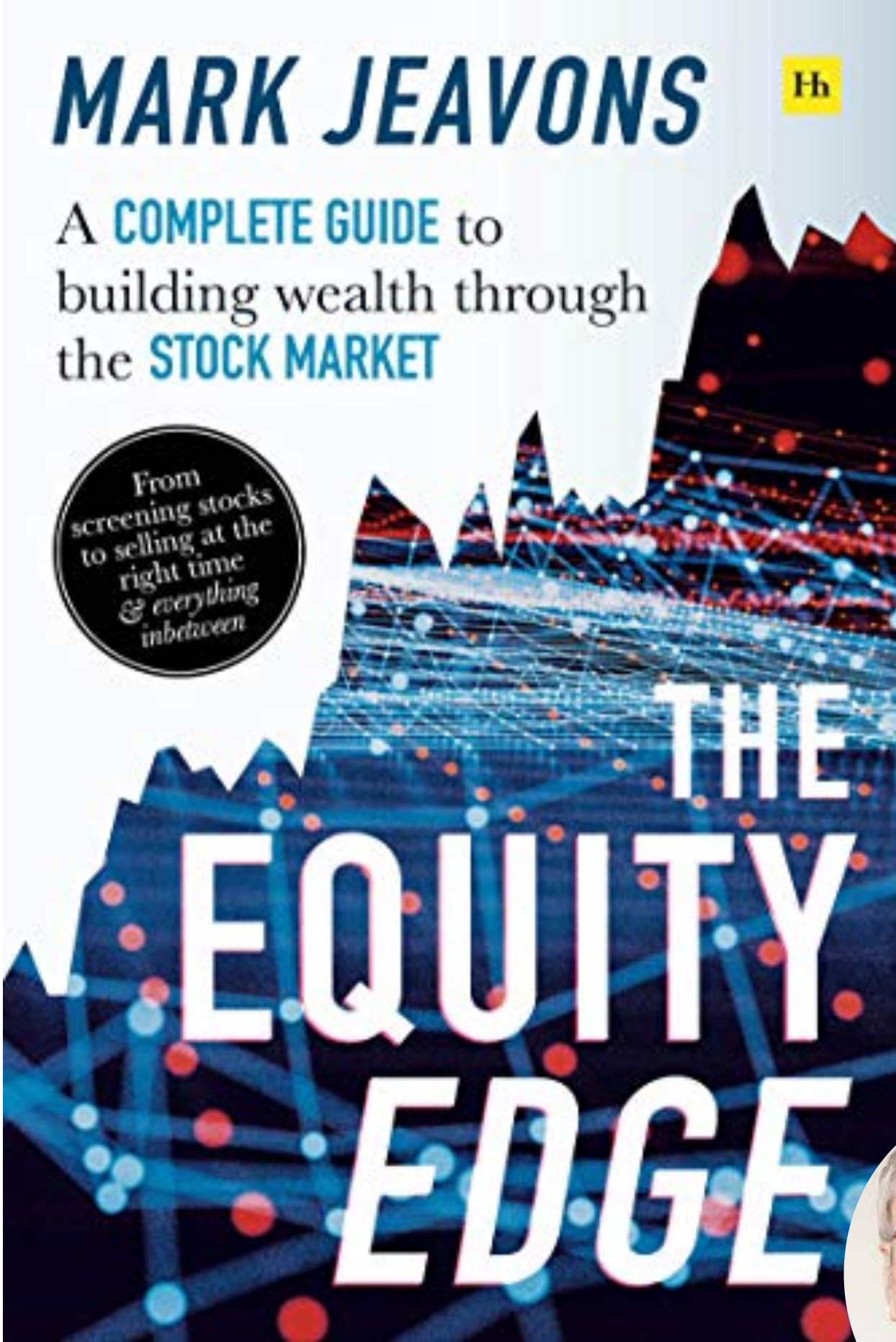
Profile	>	CLASSIFICATION
Size	>	Sector
StockRanks	>	Industry Grp
Quality	>	Risk Rating
Value	>	Size Group
Momentum	>	StockRank Style
Growth	>	Country
Dividends	>	Region
Analysts	>	TRADING INFORMATION
Miscellaneous	>	Indices
Statements	>	Primary List
		Exchange Sgmnt
		Exchange

## Available Classifications:

- Countries & Regions
- Sectors & Industry Groups
- RiskRatings (low risk to high risk)
- Size Groups (micro cap to large cap)
- StockRank Styles
- Index membership
- Stock Exchanges



# Put these on your shopping list





1

Why use stock screens?

2

Principles for effective screening

3

Preset Screens: StockRanks & GuruScreens

4

Creating a custom stock screen

5

**Working with your screening results**

6

Going beyond - advanced screening

# What if you can't find many candidate stocks?

- ⚠️ Could be a sign that you should stay out of the market !
  - ↔️ Loosen your criteria, to bring in more candidates
- 🌍 Broaden your investment universe to other regions

## Example



**Zulu Principle**  
Growth Screen



**United Kingdom**  
0 Results  
19% annualised



**Europe**  
24 Results  
26% annualised

# Working with your Screen Results

Learn how to use the screening tools on Youtube



<https://youtu.be/zPJYbQ5Q-I0>

1

Why use stock screens?

2

Principles for effective screening

3

Preset Screens - StockRanks and GuruScreens

4

Creating a custom stock screen

5

Working with your screening results

6

**Going beyond - advanced rules & principles**



# Advanced Screening Rules

Learn how to use the screening tools on Youtube



[https://youtu.be/k4\\_8T77j8qc](https://youtu.be/k4_8T77j8qc)



# Common Questions

Answers to queries we are often asked

# What markets can I screen on?

We provide a screener across 7 “regions” and 32,000 stocks around the world



- **UK** - LSE, AIM and Aquis Exchanges
- **Pan Europe** - excluding some minor exchanges
- **USA** - Nasdaq, NYSE plus OTC and Pink Sheets
- **Canada** - Toronto & Vancouver
- **Australia & New Zealand** - ASX, NSX, NZC
- **India** - BSE & NSI
- **Developed Asia** - Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore & HK

# Where does the data come from?

1. Our data sources, employ **hundreds of analysts** who scan, audit & standardise financial data into their databases & upload to their financial clouds.



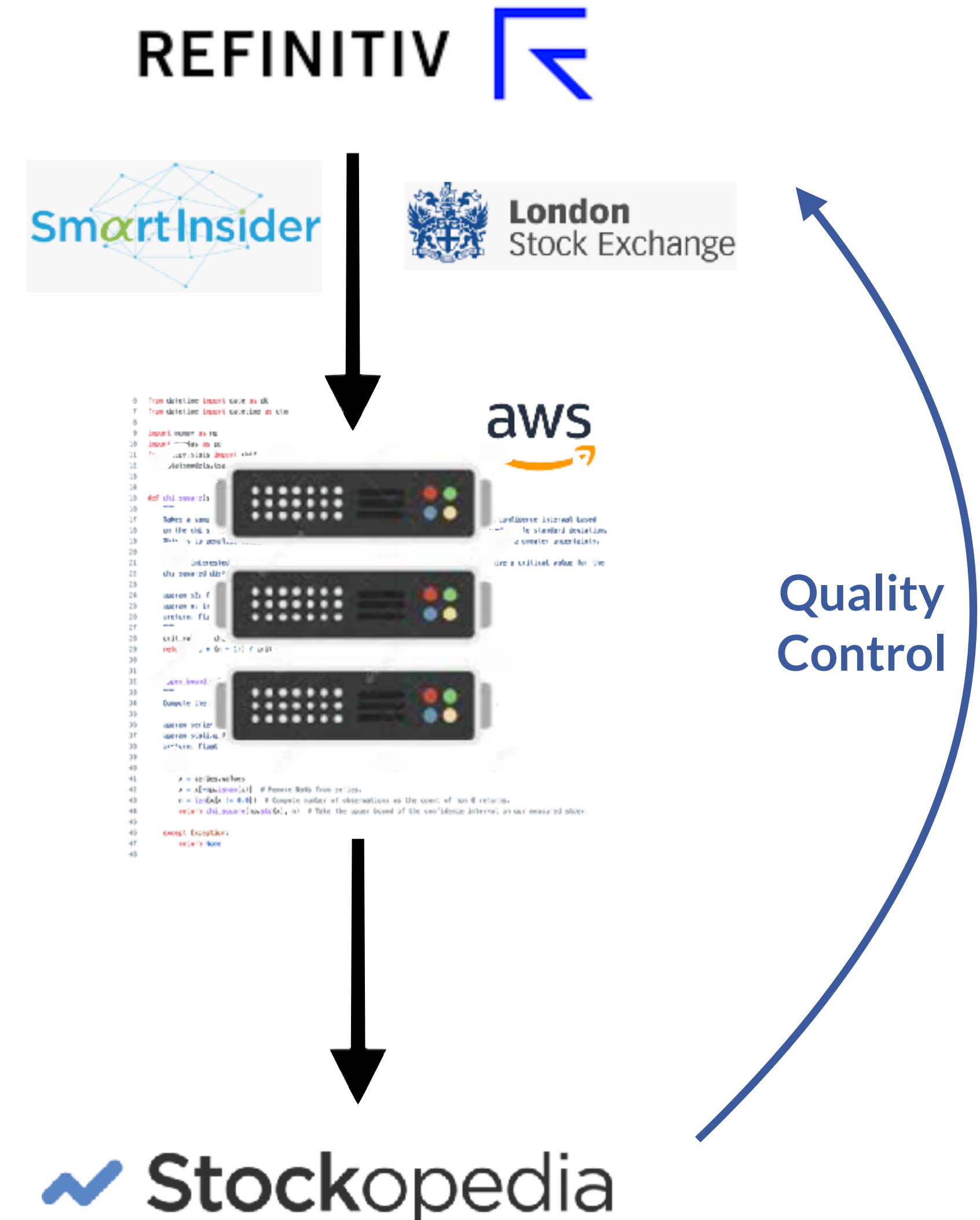
2. Each day we download **financial statements, forecasts, price histories, major shareholders, director deals, news and profile info** to our databases.






3. Our analysts & developers structure & clean the data, before **computing 60 million computations daily** to generate a **library 2000+ essential, accurate statistics** on every stock. From simple PE Ratios to Piotroski F-Scores.



4. We then rank and screen the market and perform quality control before publishing the data on our **StockReports** and in our **Screening Database**.



# How timely is the data?

-  Database is updated daily ~3-4 hours before the open
-  Computes run regionally (Europe, Asia, Americas)
-  Financial Results are processed as soon as received from vendors
  - Large Caps within 24-48 hours
  - Small Caps take longer



# We take data quality seriously - our data analysis team



**Ed Page Croft**  
CEO  
Chartered Financial Analyst



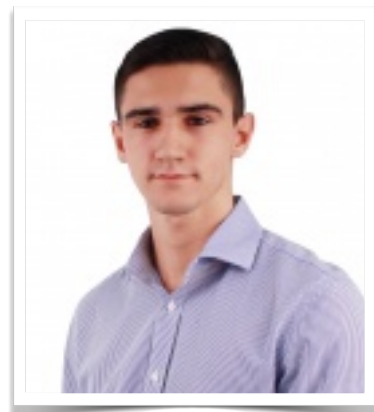
**Oliver Cooper**  
Head of Product  
Chartered Financial Analyst



**Alex Naamani**  
Senior Technical Product Manager  
MSc LSE, CFA L1



**Dan Smith "HollandSmith"**  
Product Analyst  
Former Subscriber, Active Trader

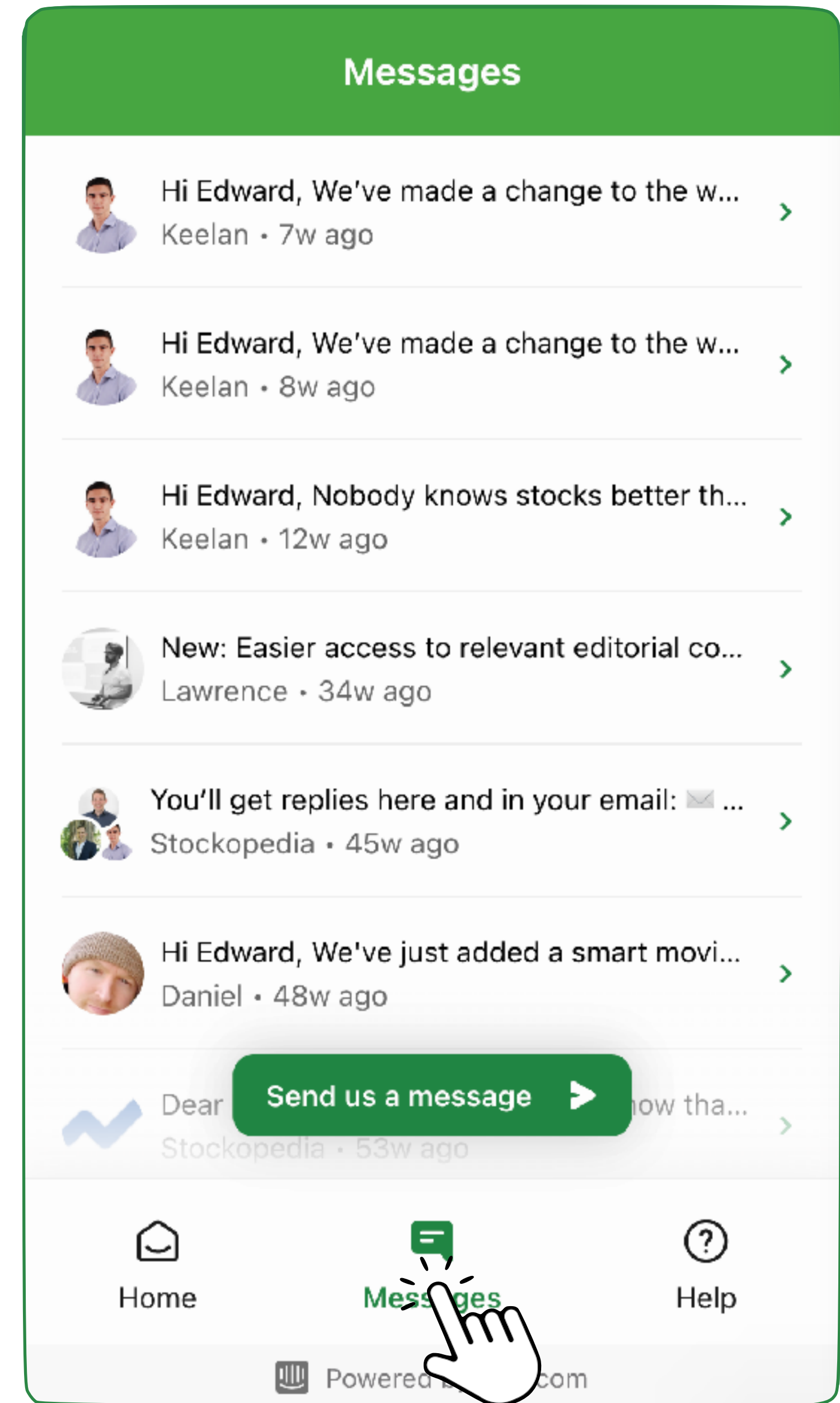


**Keelan Cooper**  
Research Analyst  
BSc in Banking, Finance and Management

**Plus...**  
Editorial Team  
Engineering Team  
And all our Subscribers !

# How do I get help?

We provide 1-1 support, and help articles through the green button at the **bottom-right** of the website

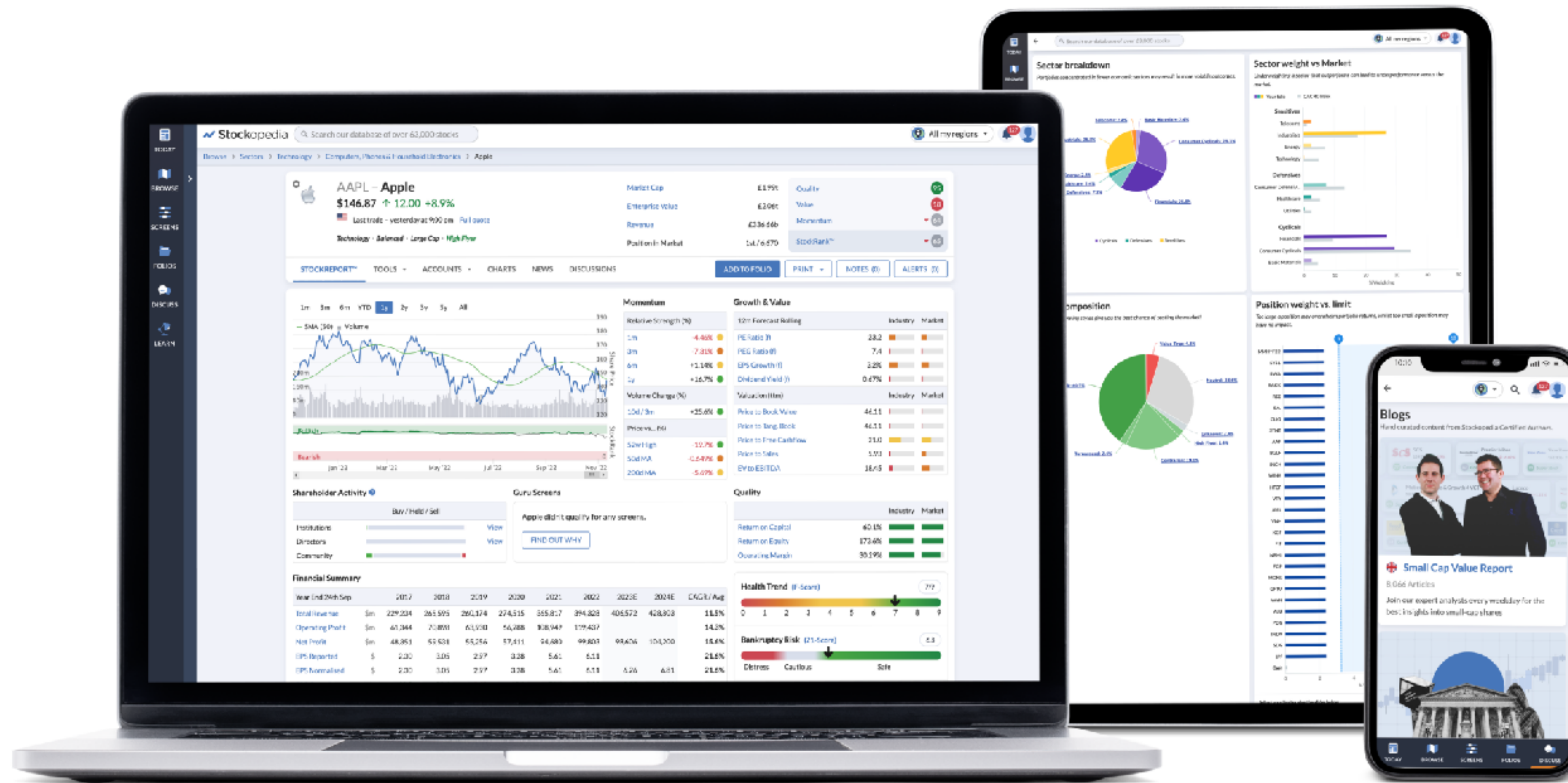








# Everything you need to improve your stock screening



[www.stockopedia.com](http://www.stockopedia.com)