

Sabrient leverages a process-driven methodology to build robust quantitative models and produce actionable equity research, investor tools, stock & ETF rankings, stock portfolios, and rules-based indexes to help investors seek to outperform market benchmarks.

Portfolio Update and Market Outlook

Baker's Dozen - Dividend - Small Cap Growth - Forward Looking Value

- 1. Summary talking points for advisors and investors
- 2. Market observations & outlook
- 3. Sabrient overview and our enhanced selection process
- 4. Performance update
- 5. Overview of <u>new Q4 2024</u> Baker's Dozen and Forward Looking Value 12
- 6. David Brown's new **book** is now available on Amazon!



Scott Martindale President & CEO (former Chevron engineer)



David Brown Founder & Chief Market Strategist (former NASA engineer on Apollo 11 moon landing)

This presentation, including the gross historical performance shown in this presentation, pertains solely to the theoretical *model portfolios* published by Sabrient Systems, LLC. Sabrient is not responsible for the usage of such portfolios by any third party, including without limitation the *Baker's Dozen* UITs sponsored by First Trust. In addition, the performance numbers herein do not reflect the deduction of brokerage commissions, execution fees, or other expenses that may be paid by any third party making its own investment in the portfolios. First Trust UITs are subject to the imposition of fees, and to variation in the construction of the portfolios, which will over time reduce the performance of such UITs in comparison with the performance of Sabrient's model portfolios.

Updated 10/21/2024

Summary Talking Points

- Sabrient leverages a process-driven methodology developed by former engineers and forensic accountants to build quantitative, fundamentals-based, multifactor models and a "quantamental" (quantitative screen plus fundamental review & selection) approach.
 Sabrient founder David Brown unveils it all in his <u>new book</u>, *How to Build High Performance Stock Portfolios* (on <u>Amazon</u>).
- The majority (66%) of Sabrient portfolios created since major process enhancements were implemented in December 2019 have either outperformed or stayed close to their benchmarks (gross total return), despite narrow market breadth dominated by the Magnificent Seven (MAG-7) stocks that has made the cap-weighted S&P 500 (SPY) hard to beat. Sabrient portfolios include *Baker's Dozen*, Dividend, Small Cap Growth, and Forward Looking Value.
- 3. Stocks have displayed **extreme divergences** in Large over Small-Mid Caps, Growth over Value, and the Technology sector over all others for some time. But recent market action as the Fed cuts rates suggests a nascent <u>broadening</u> into other market segments.
- 4. Rather than investing in the passive indexes, **investors may be better served by active stock selection** that seeks to identify underthe-radar and undervalued gems primed for explosive growth. <u>This is what Sabrient seeks to do in our various portfolios</u>, all of which provide exposure to Value, Quality, Growth, and Size factors and to both secular and cyclical growth trends.
- 5. The new **Q4 2024** *Baker's Dozen* launched 10/18 with 13 concentrated positions across large/mid/small caps (4/6/3) with a split between value/growth (7/6). It offers <u>potential "rocket fuel</u>" for outsized gains.
- 6. The annual **Forward Looking Value 12** launched 7/31. It is a <u>less-concentrated and more value-oriented</u> version of our *Baker's Dozen*. Greater market breadth and a rotation into value stocks and cyclicals could make this a timely investment opportunity.
- 7. The latest **Small Cap Growth 43** launched 7/29. It provides an <u>alpha-seeking alternative</u> to a passive position in the Russell 2000 or S&P 600 for small-cap exposure in a climate of falling interest rates and greater market breadth. The next **SCG 44** will launch 10/25.
- 8. The latest **Dividend 49** launched 8/19. It employs a <u>GARP & Income strategy</u> that seeks capital appreciation from quality companies with a solid growth history and reliable dividends. Current yield is **4.1%** (as of 10/18). The next **Dividend 50** will launch 11/15.
- 9. A key proprietary alpha factor is our Earnings Quality Rank (EQR), an accounting-based risk assessment signal used in all our portfolio strategies. It is also licensed as a prescreen to the **First Trust Long-Short ETF (FTLS)**, an absolute return portfolio (beta=0.52).

David Brown's new book on his Investing Strategies



DAVID BROWN

Sabrient founder David Brown's new book, *How to Build High Performance Stock Portfolios*, is now available on Amazon.com. Here is the link to buy: <u>https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0DGWCJGR1</u>

(or simply paste that final identifier code into the search on your Amazon mobile app)

David has written a number of other books through the years. In this one, he describes his path from NASA engineer on the Apollo 11 moon landing project to building quant models for stock rankings. But the book's main goal is to share David's approach to creating stock portfolios for **four key investing styles—Growth**, **Value**, **Dividend**, **and Small Cap Growth**—which serve as the underlying strategies for Sabrient's *Baker's Dozen*, *Forward Looking Value*, *Dividend*, *and Small Cap Growth* portfolios.

Our "Next-Gen" Sabrient Scorecards:

You also are invited to access the next generation of our "Sabrient Scorecard for Stocks," which provides a weekly Top 30 stocks list for each of those four key investing strategies (using their underlying quant models). You can also paste your own list of tickers on the Score Your Own Stocks tab to monitor their alpha-factor scores.

I invite you to take advantage of the Free Download offer for the stock scorecard.

As a bonus, we provide a weekly "Sabrient Scorecard for ETFs" with the Top 30 ETFs based on our SectorCast Outlook Score, plus access to the Full Universe of scores for roughly 1,400 equity ETFs.

Both scorecards are quite user friendly for anyone with a basic knowledge of Excel. You can easily sort a list by a given alpha factor, or weight factors to your preferences and then sort the list by Weighted Score.

Learn more about the book and new Sabrient Scorecards at: http://DavidBrownInvestingBook.com

Market Observations & Outlook - 1/2

- 1. GDP and jobs growth remain over-reliant on government spending, which is relatively inefficient use of capital compared to private sector organic growth. Inflation is moderating, economic indicators are weakening, unemployment is elevated (above 4.0%), federal debt and budget deficit are surging with no end in sight, and tight monetary policy has hurt US consumers, businesses, and our trading partners.
- 2. The daily, real-time, blockchain-based "Truflation" metric, which historically presages CPI by several months, has crept higher to +2.28% YoY, as of 10/18. "Harmonized" Index of Consumer Prices (HICP, a European methodology) for September is +1.64% YoY. Looking at current trends by annualizing 3-month (MoM) averages, PPI fell to +1.27%, CPI and Core CPI rose to +2.11% and +3.08%, respectively, and HICP rose from +1.10% to +2.29% (matching Truflation). Keeping inflation in the 2-3% range might be appropriate to help reduce the federal debt—in conjunction with boosting GDP and reducing deficit spending.
- 3. The Fed remains behind the curve despite the 50-bp cut. Market rates suggest fed funds rate should be lower. As the last major central bank to cut, the Fed wants to weaken the dollar to: 1) allow China, Japan, and EU to inject liquidity while averting a global currency crisis; and 2) relieve the debt carrying costs for highly indebted federal government, consumers, businesses, and global economy. A terminal fed funds rate of 3.5% seems appropriate to relieve burden on borrowers while providing a solid real yield to savers.
- 4. High valuations on the cap-weighted indexes are primarily driven by the mega-cap Tech names. But minus those, market valuations are more reasonable. To illustrate, forward P/Es on cap-weighted Nas100 (QQQ) is now 27.2x and S&P 500 (SPY) is 23.0x, but equal-weight Nas100 (QQQE) is 23.7x and S&P 500 (RSP) is 18.1x, while the S&P 600 small-cap (SPSM) is just 16.1x, as of 10/18.

Market Observations & Outlook - 2/2

- 5. Each attempt this year at a market correction has been quickly met by a strong bid. Although large-cap leadership should continue, improvement in market breadth into small caps, value, quality, high dividend, and equal-weight bodes well for market health. And with several trillions of dollars still sitting defensively in money market funds as potential fuel, and with bond credit spreads still tight, there is little threat of disaster despite elevated valuations and the hyper-exuberant buzz around Gen AI. Even in there is a near-term selloff, stocks still should recover to new highs before year end, driven by a dovish Fed (i.e., the "Fed put").
- 6. At the core of an equity portfolio should be US large caps, given their huge cash stores, free cash flow, margins, and wide "moats." But as the market broadens out from its focus on Big Tech and the passive capweighted market indexes (which display high valuations and extreme divergences in performance and valuation versus the broader market and small-mid caps), we expect capital will continue to rotate into neglected market segments like value stocks, dividend payers, small caps, and cyclical industries—which suggest there may be better investment opportunities across large, mid, and small caps, and among market segments like energy, staples, industrials, transports, homebuilders, banks, insurers, and REITs.
- 7. Rather than investing in the passive cap-weighted indexes, which display high valuations and extreme divergences in performance and valuation from the broader market, investors may be better served by active stock selection that seeks to identify under-the-radar, undervalued, high-quality gems primed for explosive growth. This is what Sabrient seeks to do in our various portfolios, all of which provide exposure to Value, Quality, Growth, and Size factors and to both secular and cyclical growth trends. We also recommend hedges like gold, bitcoin, and out-of-the-money index put options.

=> All of this is discussed in greater detail in Scott's "Sector Detector" market commentaries.

Company Overview

Sabrient Systems LLC

- Independent equity research provider and SEC-registered RIA
- Founded in 2000 in Santa Barbara, CA
- Team of engineers and analysts, led by former NASA engineer (Apollo 11 moon landing) David Brown and former Chevron engineer Scott Martindale
- <u>Quantitative</u> fundamentals-based multifactor models
- Process-driven methodology leveraging a scientific hypothesis-testing approach to model development
- Numbers-driven; <u>bottom-up</u> rather than top-down
- Unlike most RIAs, we don't manage investor money directly but instead receive licensing/consulting fees

Products & Services:

- Quantitative equity research, models and data sets, rankings of stocks & ETFs, online investor tools, and insightful market commentaries
- Portfolio strategies for various investing styles, stock portfolios for UITs and SMAs, rules-based equity indexes for ETFs
- Best known for our *Baker's Dozen* franchise, a 13-stock portfolio first introduced in 2009 based on a proprietary Growth at a Reasonable Price (GARP) "quantamental" approach
- Baker's Dozen and 3 other offshoot strategies offered as UITs through First Trust Portfolios
- A key data set is our Earnings Quality Rank (EQR), which is a pure accounting-based risk assessment signal used in all our portfolio strategies. It is also licensed as a prescreen to the First Trust Long-Short ETF (FTLS), with beta=0.52.



1. <u>Quantitative screen to narrow large eligible universe (50-100 names)</u>

Forward P/E, forward EPS growth, recent dynamics of analyst consensus estimates, earnings quality, consistency & reliability of earnings growth

2. Fundamental analysis to identify top candidates (~25 names)

Still mainly numbers-driven, but not algorithmic

3. Final Stock Selection (13 names)

Manual process, adhering to sector concentration limits

We believe a GARP strategy is "all-weather." So, what could go wrong? Two things:

1) Consensus EPS estimates are reduced after portfolio launch or the company fails to achieve them.

2) Investor sentiment turns defensive, leading to narrow market breadth and avoidance of lesser-known firms.



> Q4 2024 Baker's Dozen (quarterly, 13 stocks) launched 10/18

⇒ Our flagship product is a concentrated, all-cap, alpha-seeking portfolio that balances value/cyclical growth with high-quality secular growers.

Small Cap Growth 43 (quarterly, 44 stocks) launched 7/29

- \Rightarrow Alpha-seeking alternative to the passive Russell 2000 for small cap exposure.
- \Rightarrow Poised to benefit from improving market breadth and rotation to small-mid caps.
- \Rightarrow The upcoming Small Cap Growth 44 will launch on 10/25.

> **Dividend 49** (quarterly, 47 stocks) launched 5/23/2024

- ⇒ High-quality GARP + Income portfolio; Current Yield of 4.1% (as of 10/18)
- \Rightarrow The upcoming Dividend 50 will launch on 11/15.

Forward Looking Value 12 (annual, 33 stocks) launched 7/31

 \Rightarrow Less-concentrated and more value-oriented version of the Baker's Dozen.

New Q4 2024 Baker's Dozen Portfolio – statistics upon launch

Launch date: 10/18/24

Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Industry	Mkt Cap (\$B)	NTM EPS Growth	Fwd PE	Fwd PEG	Div Yield	EQR	GQR
ALL	Allstate	Financials	Property & Casualty Insurance	51.6	21.3%	12.1	0.57	1.9%	5	8
CE	Celanese	Materials	Specialty Chemicals	14.8	29.5%	11.4	0.39	2.1%	5	6
CPRX	Catalyst Pharmaceuticals	Health Care	Biotechnology	2.6	114.1%	10.8	0.09	0.0%	5	8
FTI	TechnipFMC	Energy	Oil & Gas Equipment and Services	11.4	57.5%	16.8	0.29	0.8%	4	5
HALO	Halozyme Therapeutics	Health Care	Biotechnology	6.8	36.7%	12.0	0.33	0.0%	4	10
HMN	Horace Mann Educators	Financials	Multi-line Insurance	1.5	50.1%	11.6	0.23	3.7%	4	5
MGNI	Magnite	Communication Services	Advertising	1.7	38.0%	14.5	0.38	0.0%	4	5
RCL	Royal Caribbean Cruises	Consumer Discretionary	Hotels, Resorts & Cruise Lines	54.1	24.1%	16.1	0.67	0.8%	4	8
SQ	Block	Financials	Transaction & Payment Processing	45.4	43.0%	18.5	0.43	0.0%	NA	7
STX	Seagate Technology	Information Technology	Technology Hardware & Storage	23.5	425.6%	16.6	0.04	2.5%	4	7
SWK	Stanley Black & Decker	Industrials	Industrial Machinery and Supplies	16.2	45.1%	20.0	0.44	3.1%	5	6
TSM	Taiwan Semiconductor	Information Technology	Semiconductors	835.4	35.3%	24.4	0.69	0.0%	4	9
TSN	Tyson Foods	Consumer Staples	Packaged Foods & Meats	21.3	28.3%	18.3	0.65	3.2%	5	5
Notes:			Average:	83.6	73.0%	15.6	0.21	1.4%	4.4	6.8

Notes:

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Average: 83.6

- Large/Mid/Small cap mix of 4/6/3
- > 7 Value and 6 Growth stocks
- > 7 secular growth and noncyclicals from Semiconductors, Biotech, Insurance, Payments, Food balanced with 6 cyclicals from Travel, Oil & Gas, Tech Hardware, and Advertising



EQR has quintile scale of 1-5 (5 is best) GQR has decile scale of 1-10 (10 is best)

Latest Forward Looking Value Portfolio (FLV 12) – 2024

Launch date 7/31/2024

Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Ticker	Company Name	Sector
ALL	The Allstate Corporation	Financials	NOMD	Nomad Foods Limited	Consumer Staples
ALLY	Ally Financial Inc.	Financials	ODP	The ODP Corporation	Consumer Discretionary
APTV	Aptiv PLC	Consumer Discretionary	OPRA	Opera Limited	Information Technology
CIVI	Civitas Resources, Inc.	Energy	PPC	Pilgrim's Pride Corporation	Consumer Staples
US: CLS	Celestica Inc.	Information Technology	PR	Permian Resources Corporation	Energy
CRBG	Corebridge Financial, Inc.	Financials	PSFE	Paysafe Limited	Financials
DHT	DHT Holdings, Inc.	Energy	RCL	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	Consumer Discretionary
ECVT	Ecovyst Inc.	Materials	REVG	REV Group, Inc.	Industrials
EQH	Equitable Holdings, Inc.	Financials	RNG	RingCentral, Inc.	Information Technology
FNF	Fidelity National Financial, Inc.	Financials	SCSC	ScanSource, Inc.	Information Technology
GM	General Motors Company	Consumer Discretionary	SGH	SMART Global Holdings, Inc.	Information Technology
HALO	Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	Health Care	ТІХТ	TELUS International (Cda) Inc.	Industrials
US: HBM	Hudbay Minerals Inc.	Materials	TRV	The Travelers Companies, Inc.	Financials
HMN	Horace Mann Educators Corporation	Financials	UHS	Universal Health Services, Inc.	Health Care
JACK	Jack in the Box Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	VIST	Vista Energy, S.A.B. de C.V.	Energy
JAZZ	Jazz Pharmaceuticals plc	Health Care	WT	WisdomTree, Inc.	Financials
NCLH	Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd.	Consumer Discretionary			

<u>Notes</u>

- ➤ 33 Stocks
- Diverse (but SMID-biased) Large/Mid/Small cap mix of 4/13/16
- Value-biased, with 23 Value and 10 Growth stocks
- > 39% international exposure

> Sector breakdown: 9 Financials/Insurance, 6 Consumer Discretionary, 5 Technology,

4 Energy, 3 Healthcare, 2 Industrials, 2 Materials, and 2 Consumer Staples

Baker's Dozen: Performance of Annual Model Portfolio (rebalanced each January)

(1/1/2009 inception thru 9/30/2024, <u>end-of-month</u> data points, updated quarterly)



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Performance of live and recently terminated portfolios – as of 10/18/24

Baker's Dozen & Fl	.V - Gross re	eturn thru:	10/18/2024		
			Gross Return		Active
Portfolio	Launch	Close	(FTP website)	SPY Return	Return
Q4 2021 BD	10/20/21	1/20/23	9.1%	-10.8%	19.9%
Q1 2022 BD	1/20/22	4/20/23	4.5%	-6.0%	10.5%
Q2 2022 BD	4/20/22	7/20/23	28.3%	3.8%	24.5%
Q3 2022 BD	7/20/22	10/20/23	15.8%	8.8%	7.0%
FLV 10	7/15/22	10/24/23	24.0%	12.2%	11.8%
Q4 2022 BD	10/20/22	1/22/24	-5.3%	34.9%	-40.2%
Q1 2023 BD	1/20/23	4/22/24	1.0%	28.5%	-27.6%
Q2 2023 BD	4/20/23	7/22/24	35.2%	37.1%	-1.8%
Q3 2023 BD	7/20/23	10/21/24	24.0%	31.5%	-7.5%
FLV 11	7/24/23		21.0%	30.9%	-9.9%
Q4 2023 BD	10/20/23		39.9%	40.7%	-0.8%
Q1 2024 BD	1/19/24		39.2%	22.3%	16.9%
Q2 2024 BD	4/19/24		11.1%	18.8%	-7.7%
Q3 2024 BD	7/19/24		8.7%	6.8%	1.8%
FLV 12	7/31/24		-1.8%	6.5%	-8.3%

Sabrient Divider	nd - Gross re	eturn thru:	10/18/2024		
Portfolio	Launch	Close	Gross Return	FGD Return	Active
Div 36	6/22/21	6/22/23	7.0%	-7.5%	14.4%
Div 37	9/20/21	9/20/23	21.3%	-1.8%	23.1%
Div 38	12/20/21	12/20/23	15.3%	0.9%	14.4%
Div 39	3/18/22	3/18/24	5.0%	-0.4%	5.4%
Div 40	6/15/22	6/14/24	21.3%	10.3%	11.0%
Div 41	9/12/22	9/12/24	12.0%	24.6%	-12.6%
Div 42	12/9/22		20.4%	23.2%	-2.8%
Div 43	3/8/23		28.7%	18.2%	10.5%
Div 44	6/5/23		32.7%	22.8%	9.9%
Div 45	9/1/23		23.8%	21.0%	2.8%
Div 46	11/29/23		21.4%	20.1%	1.3%
Div 47	2/26/24		15.5%	14.1%	1.4%
Div 48	5/23/24		9.5%	7.6%	1.9%
Div 49	8/19/24		3.9%	3.7%	0.2%

Small Cap Grow	th - Gross re	eturn thru:	10/18/2024		
Portfolio	Launch	Close	Gross Return	IWM Return	Active
SCG 32	12/6/21	3/6/23	3.5%	-12.3%	15.8%
SCG 33	3/4/22	6/5/23	0.4%	-8.0%	8.3%
SCG 34	6/1/22	9/1/23	12.4%	5.5%	6.9%
SCG 35	8/29/22	11/29/23	5.0%	-2.4%	7.4%
SCG 36	11/14/22	2/14/24	2.8%	9.9%	-7.0%
SCG 37	2/10/23	5/10/24	3.5%	9.2%	-5.8%
SCG 38	5/8/23	8/8/24	23.1%	20.8%	2.3%
SCG 39	8/7/23		13.4%	18.1%	-4.8%
SCG 40	11/3/23		26.8%	30.9%	-4.2%
SCG 41	2/1/24		13.1%	16.5%	-3.3%
SCG 42	5/1/24		7.7%	15.7%	-8.0%
SCG 43	7/29/24		-1.5%	2.1%	-3.6%

All portfolios launched since December 2019 were created with our **enhanced GARP selection process**, which provides a balance between secular and cyclical growth and across market caps while striving for consistent "all-weather" performance ... and still maintaining the <u>potential</u> for significant outperformance.

The **table** shows <u>gross</u> total returns (without transactional sales charge, as displayed on the <u>ftportfolios.com</u> website) versus a relevant benchmark for all the **live portfolios** plus those that recently terminated (in 2023-2024). [Note: We show First Trust Dow Jones Global Select Dividend Index Fund (FGD) as the Dividend benchmark here.]

Keep in mind, narrow market leadership has made SPY hard to beat! For example, Forward Looking Value 11 was outperforming SPY through Q1 2024 until the extreme Growth/Value performance divergence during Q2 hit hard this value-oriented portfolio.

Still, the majority (66%) of portfolios created since enhancements were implemented in Dec 2019 have either outperformed or stayed close to their benchmarks.

Worst performers were the Q4 2022 and Q1 2023 Baker's Dozens, which greatly underperformed the S&P 500 mainly due to extreme sector "tilts" away from the benchmark allocations that didn't pan out (*overweight* in Energy and *underweight* in Technology). Since then, we have avoided such sector bets.

Notably, the **Dividend portfolio** is <u>not</u> purely yield-focused. Instead, it is a <u>GARP+Income</u> strategy that seeks *quality* stocks and a solid yield in the 4% range. (Dividend 49 has a current yield of *4.1%.*) As such, Dividend portfolios have been largely *uncorrelated* with either high-dividend FGD or growth-oriented SPY— sometimes outperforming or underperforming one or both benchmarks. However, because Tech firms tend to pay little or no dividends, this portfolio is generally underweight Tech and thus it has not benefited from the Tech-led broad market rally.



Q2 2023 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio – terminated 7/22/24

Launch date (4/20/23) through termination (7/22/24)

Q2 2023 Bak	er's Dozen Portfolio						
						Est. NTM	
						EPS	
				Fwd P/E	Current	Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return	at Launch	Fwd P/E	Launch	Growth
CRWD	CrowdStrike Holdings, Inc.	Information Technology	103.2%	57.9	63.1	49.1%	91.1%
СООР	Mr. Cooper Group Inc.	Financials	97.6%	8.8	8.7	113.3%	231.2%
URI	United Rentals, Inc.	Industrials	96.6%	9.1	16.6	28.0%	20.7%
ZS	Zscaler, Inc.	Information Technology	87.5%	58.5	61.4	62.9%	112.2%
PGR	The Progressive Corporation	Financials	56.3%	20.5	17.9	93.3%	268.2%
BKNG	Booking Holdings Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	46.9%	20.4	22.0	30.0%	49.7%
DAL	Delta Air Lines, Inc.	Industrials	26.5%	5.9	7.1	31.1%	3.4%
EVBG	Everbridge, Inc.	Information Technology	15.2%				
EG	Everest Group, Ltd.	Financials	3.5%	8.0	6.2	72.5%	152.8%
HAL	Halliburton Company	Energy	-1.4%	10.8	10.3	25.4%	14.2%
NEX/PTEN	NexTier Oilfield / Patterson Energy	Energy	-3.0%				
EXTR	Extreme Networks, Inc.	Information Technology	-13.3%	13.0	22.1	48.9%	-19.8%
ALB	Albemarle Corporation	Materials	-51.5%	7.5	34.9	23.0%	-59.3%
		Average =	35.2%	20.0	24.6	52.5%	78.6%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		37.1%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		19.6%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		24.1%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		26.3%				

This portfolio is enjoying several big winners, which easily offset a few losers. Top performers are two stocks from cybersecurity and one each from mortgage servicing, construction equipment rentals, insurance, and tourism. Two firms were acquired.

Laggards included a specialty chemicals (lithium) firm, a networking communications firm, an insurance company, and 2 oil & gas services firms.

Overall, the portfolio either came close or outperformed all relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks including both capweight and equal-weight (gross total return).

During this timeframe, you can see the massive outperformance of SPY vs. equal-weight RSP and the smallmid indexes, which makes it very tough to beat.



Q3 2023 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio – terminates 10/21/24

Launch date (7/20/23) through current (10/18/24)

Q3 2023 Ba	aker's Dozen Portfolio						
						Est. NTM	
						EPS	
				Fwd P/E	Current	Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return	at Launch	Fwd P/E	Launch	Growth
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology	203.2%	51.1	41.5	201.2%	321.0%
СООР	Mr. Cooper Group Inc.	Financials	74.8%	9.1	8.1	133.5%	130.5%
PSTG	Pure Storage, Inc.	Information Technology	51.6%	25.2	35.0	23.6%	39.7%
BKNG	Booking Holdings Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	49.1%	20.9	23.4	28.9%	31.2%
MET	MetLife, Inc.	Financials	40.0%	7.3	9.2	31.5%	27.2%
WFRD	Weatherford International plc	Energy	15.2%	16.2	11.3	261.3%	171.9%
DAL	Delta Air Lines, Inc.	Industrials	14.6%	6.6	7.7	23.5%	-13.2%
EVBG	Everbridge, Inc.	Information Technology	13.9%				
EG	Everest Group, Ltd.	Financials	5.3%	7.5	6.0	70.7%	116.7%
СНХ	ChampionX Corporation	Energy	-13.2%	17.0	14.3	44.0%	6.8%
CSTM	Constellium SE	Materials	-15.1%	10.1	8.9	53.2%	-31.5%
EXTR	Extreme Networks, Inc.	Information Technology	-45.2%	19.9	20.6	53.0%	-70.6%
PCRX	Pacira BioSciences, Inc.	Health Care	-53.8%	10.0	6.0	48.9%	13.5%
		Average =	24.0%	16.7	16.0	81.1%	61.9%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		31.5%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		20.6%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		19.8%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		17.7%				

This portfolio has benefited from MAG-7 AI-darling NVDA plus a few other big winners from data storage, travel, insurance, and mortgage servicing. Biggest laggards are a networking communications firm and a biotech.

You can see the substantial outperformance of cap-weight SPY vs. equal-weight RSP and the smallmid indexes over this timeframe, which makes it very tough to beat.

Nevertheless, although the portfolio has underperformed the SPY, it has outperformed other relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks (gross total return).



Q4 2023 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio

Launch date (10/20/23) through current (10/18/24)

	aker's Dozen Portfolio					Est. NTM	
						EPS	
				Fwd P/E	Current	Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return	at Launch	Fwd P/E	Launch	Growth
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology	233.4%	28.1	41.5	185.6%	321.0%
NFLX	Netflix, Inc.	Communication Services	90.5%	26.7	33.3	50.3%	76.3%
META	Meta Platforms, Inc.	Communication Services	86.8%	19.5	25.3	86.7%	128.3%
COOP	Mr. Cooper Group Inc.	Financials	78.6%	7.1	8.1	86.1%	130.5%
TRV	The Travelers Companies, Inc.	Financials	64.3%	9.9	13.0	74.2%	104.3%
EXEL	Exelixis, Inc.	Health Care	36.9%	18.5	17.8	50.3%	92.0%
DTE	DTE Energy Company	Utilities	33.4%	14.1	18.1	31.6%	24.5%
ALKS	Alkermes plc	Health Care	4.6%	15.0	10.1	148.4%	176.4%
WFRD	Weatherford International plc	Energy	-8.3%	18.6	11.3	101.1%	171.9%
СНХ	ChampionX Corporation	Energy	-11.5%	16.5	14.3	28.7%	6.8%
RPD	Rapid7, Inc.	Information Technology	-20.0%	29.8	18.3	106.8%	183.1%
VC	Visteon Corporation	Consumer Discretionary	-27.8%	15.0	11.1	58.3%	268.1%
EXTR	Extreme Networks, Inc.	Information Technology	-27.9%	13.7	20.6	42.0%	-70.6%
		Average =	<mark>39.9</mark> %	17.9	18.7	80.8%	124.1%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		40.7%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		34.9%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		35.2%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		37.3%				

This portfolio is enjoying several big winners, led by 3 of the mega-cap market darlings (NVDA, META, NFLX), easily offsetting some losers. Other top performers include a mortgage servicer and an insurer.

Laggards include a networking communications firm, an auto parts company, a cloud cybersecurity provider, and 2 oil & gas services firms.

Most of the companies have met or exceeded their EPS estimates even laggards VC and RPD, which have sold off due to reduced forward guidance.

So far, the portfolio is roughly even with SPY and ahead of other relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks (gross total return).



Q1 2024 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio

Launch date (1/19/24) through current (10/18/24)

Q1 2024 Ba	aker's Dozen Portfolio						
						Est. NTM	
						EPS	
				Fwd P/E	Current	Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return	at Launch	Fwd P/E	Launch	Growth
APP	AppLovin Corporation	Information Technology	253.0%	10.8	61.6	114.0%	127.7%
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology	132.0%	30.4	41.5	125.0%	193.3%
NFLX	Netflix, Inc.	Communication Services	58.2%	31.9	33.3	51.0%	76.3%
RCL	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	Consumer Discretionary	57.8%	14.3	16.0	105.1%	160.4%
PGR	The Progressive Corporation	Financials	47.8%	20.5	19.4	76.5%	176.0%
TMUS	T-Mobile US, Inc.	Communication Services	36.6%	18.0	22.2	24.2%	19.8%
WRB	W. R. Berkley Corporation	Financials	23.8%	13.4	15.3	20.9%	28.0%
AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	21.7%	46.6	36.3	72.7%	126.8%
ALKS	Alkermes plc	Health Care	1.3%	12.0	10.1	72.9%	55.3%
OTEX	Open Text Corporation	Information Technology	-15.4%	8.6	9.4	35.3%	11.7%
PVH	PVH Corp.	Consumer Discretionary	-16.3%	10.2	8.4	25.9%	25.0%
VC	Visteon Corporation	Consumer Discretionary	-21.4%	13.7	11.1	39.7%	211.6%
NE	Noble Corporation plc	Energy	-23.0%	12.7	9.4	85.3%	29.3%
		Average =	39.2%	18.7	22.6	65.3%	95.5%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		22.3%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		18.1%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		17.7%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		18.3%				

This portfolio has been led by 2 big winners, including marketing software firm AppLovin and megacap market darling NVIDIA. Other solid winners include Netflix, plus a big-brand insurance company and cruise line.

They offset laggards from oil & gas, information management software, biopharma, retail apparel manufacturing, and auto parts.

So far, the portfolio is greatly outperforming all relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks including both cap-weight and equal-weight (gross total return).

This portfolio also illustrates the power of having 1 or 2 big winners within a concentrated portfolio.



Q2 2024 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio

Launch date (4/19/24) through current (10/18/24)

						Est. NTM	
				Fwd P/E	Current	EPS Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return			Launch	Growth
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology	81.1%	34.3	41.5	90.5%	119.0%
NFLX	Netflix, Inc.	Communication Services	37.6%	34.9	33.3	45.5%	64.5%
SQSP	SquareSpace, Inc.	Information Technology	35.0%				
PPC	Pilgrim's Pride Corporation	Consumer Staples	26.9%	11.4	10.4	84.4%	178.8%
USFD	US Foods Holding Corp.	Consumer Staples	24.6%	16.0	18.3	18.5%	16.8%
GM	General Motors Company	Consumer Discretionary	16.7%	4.7	5.0	18.7%	30.6%
WRB	W. R. Berkley Corporation	Financials	13.0%	13.6	15.3	20.8%	21.8%
AMZN	Amazon.com, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	8.2%	43.6	36.3	41.7%	62.6%
HMN	Horace Mann Educators Corporation	Financials	3.7%	11.1	11.4	98.9%	61.5%
RPD	Rapid7, Inc.	Information Technology	-10.2%	20.4	18.3	38.8%	39.5%
CE	Celanese Corporation	Materials	-11.1%	13.6	11.3	27.6%	14.8%
JAMF	Jamf Holding Corp.	Information Technology	-11.1%	33.9	22.9	76.3%	92.8%
NE	Noble Corporation plc	Energy	-27.8%	14.3	9.4	72.8%	60.6%
		Average =	11.1%	21.0	19.5	52.9%	63.6%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		18.8%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		14.7%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		13.4%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		17.6%				

This new portfolio so far has been led by several solid winners, which offset a few losers. Top performers are powerhouse mega-caps NVIDIA and Netflix, plus a software infrastructure firm and two packaged foods firms.

Laggards include companies from oil & gas, specialty chemicals, and cloud cybersecurity infrastructure.

So far, the portfolio is lagging the SPY and other relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks (gross total return).



Q3 2024 Baker's Dozen Model Portfolio

Launch date (7/19/24) through current (10/18/24)

						Est. NTM	
						EPS	
				Fwd P/E	Current	Growth at	Actual EPS
Ticker	Company Name	Sector	Return	at Launch	Fwd P/E	Launch	Growth
CRS	Carpenter Technology Corporation	Materials	32.8%	21.2	24.3	50.2%	74.8%
NFLX	Netflix, Inc.	Communication Services	20.6%	33.4	33.3	33.8%	42.6%
USFD	US Foods Holding Corp.	Consumer Staples	19.3%	16.2	18.3	22.1%	21.0%
RCL	Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd.	Consumer Discretionary	18.8%	14.2	16.0	33.0%	38.6%
NVDA	NVIDIA Corporation	Information Technology	17.0%	41.4	41.5	62.4%	73.0%
PPC	Pilgrim's Pride Corporation	Consumer Staples	15.3%	10.5	10.4	59.9%	95.5%
ALL	The Allstate Corporation	Financials	12.0%	13.5	12.3	78.6%	95.9%
SQ	Block, Inc.	Financials	9.6%	19.0	18.6	59.8%	67.7%
GM	General Motors Company	Consumer Discretionary	1.8%	5.2	5.0	19.5%	23.5%
HALO	Halozyme Therapeutics, Inc.	Health Care	-2.6%	12.7	11.7	37.5%	36.6%
MU	Micron Technology, Inc.	Information Technology	-2.7%	15.4	12.4	-879.4%	841.8%
LNW	Light & Wonder, Inc.	Consumer Discretionary	-8.1%	23.8	20.0	79.3%	74.2%
FTI	TechnipFMC plc	Energy	-9.1%	21.4	16.3	93.1%	124.0%
		Average =	8.7%	19.1	18.5	-19.2%	123.8%
SPY	SPDR S&P 500 ETF Trust		6.8%				
RSP	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight		8.4%				
MDY	SPDR S&P MidCap 400 ETF Trust		6.4%				
IWM	iShares Russell 2000 ETF		4.4%				

This new portfolio so far has been led by Basic Materials and Consumer Staples companies as the market has displayed a nascent rotation into lagging sector, along with mega-cap market darlings NVIDIA and Netflix.

Laggards include a video gaming company and an oil & gas services firm.

So far, the portfolio is ahead of the SPY and other relevant large cap, mid-cap, and small-cap benchmarks, including both capweight and equal-weight (gross total return).



SectorCast Rankings and Sector Rotation Model

Sabrient SectorCast Sector Rotation Strategy - As of 10/18/2024 Suggested Top 3 Sector ETFs for Bullish, Neutral, or Defensive Outlooks Bullish/Neutral/Defensive bias based on SPY vs. 50/200 day moving averages; 30-90-day forward look									
Sector	ETF	Outlook Score	Bull Score	Bear Score	Net Score: Neutral Bias	Net Score: Bullish Bias	Net Score: Defensive Bias		
TECHNOLOGY	IYW	89	61	44	89	90.0	53.8		
FINANCIALS	IYF	57	55	60	57	64.5	69.6		
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	IYZ	56	54	62	56	61.7	72.8		
INDUSTRIALS	IYJ	49	55	59	49	61.8	64.4		
CONSUMER DISCRETIONARY	IYC	48	57	56	48	66.4	58.5		
CONSUMER STAPLES	IYK	36	42	76	36	25.4	90.0		
HEALTHCARE	IYH	34	47	66	34	37.1	70.9		
UTILITIES	IDU	33	43	73	33	26.9	83.3		
BASIC MATERIALS	IYM	28	53	56	28	49.9	50.2		
ENERGY	IYE	11	43	58	11	19.5	46.8		
Sabrient's <i>Outlook Score</i> employs a forward-looking fundamentals-based scoring algorithm to create a composite profile of the constituent stocks. <i>Bull Score</i> and <i>Bear Score</i> are based on price behavior of the underlying stocks on particularly strong and weak days over the prior 40 market days. High Bull indicates a tendency for relative strength in a strong market, and high Bear indicates a tendency for relative strength in a weak market (i.e., safe havens). High for all scores is 100, and higher is better.									

In the wake of the Fed rate cut and dovish pivot, Sabrient's SectorCast rankings reflect a slightly bullish bias, as cyclicals and secular growth sectors predominate the top of the rankings. Technology (dominated by the mega-cap MAG-7) remains far above all other sectors. However, cyclical sectors Materials and Energy remain at the bottom.

After the market pullback somewhat reduced the extreme forward P/Es, valuation multiples have been rising again on bullish sentiment as prices get ahead of earnings growth forecasts but boosted by lower interest rates. Technology still displays the highest forward P/E (29.7x) but remains at the top of the rankings due to solid EPS growth estimates (18.6%), a relatively modest forward P/E ratio of 1.60, the highest return ratios, and positive (although slowing) insider buying.

Our sector rotation model flipped back to a bullish bias on 9/12 (based on the SPY's close firmly above its 50-day moving average—as well as above the 200-day). So, the model suggests holding Technology (IYW), Consumer Discretionary (IYC), and Financials (IYF).

Trends in inflation metrics

The upper chart below compares the latest August YoY metrics for CPI, Core CPI, PPI, Core PCE, and *Harmonized* Index of Consumer Prices (HICP, a European methodology).

HICP historically presages CPI due to its real-time bias, such as actual costs of home acquisition and maintenance expenses rather than the highly-weighted concept of "owner's equivalent rent" (OER) used in CPI, which is highly subjective (based on surveys of homeowners), and the shelter cost metrics in general typically have a long lag time. All trends look promising as they are now **oscillating around the Fed's 2% target**.

Notably, HICP shows **+1.64%**, while the real-time, blockchain-based "**Truflation**," which is updated daily and also historically presages CPI by several months, has risen to **+2.28%** YoY (as of 10/18) and is up significantly from it lows in September.

The lower chart shows annualized 3-month rolling averages to better reflect <u>current</u> inflation trends without the effects of big first-ofyear resets for many services costs. 3-month annualized Core CPI rose in Sept from **+2.06% to +3.08%**, while 3-month headline CPI and PPI are now **+2.11%** and **+1.27%**, respectively, while 3-month HICP is **+2.29%**, which matches Truflation.

All these metrics suggest current inflation might already be at the Fed's 2% target. Moreover, keeping inflation in the 2-3% range might be appropriate to help reduce the massive federal debt—in conjunction with boosting GDP and reducing deficit spending.



1. Latest Baker's Dozen slide deck and holdings report

> Go to: bakersdozen.sabrient.com/bakers-dozen-marketing-materials

2. Sector Detector newsletter/blog post

> Go to sign-up box at: <u>sabrient.com</u> home page => Please email me your comments!

3. Baker's Dozen holdings report – quarterly notification list

- Send email request to: <u>support@Sabrient.com</u>
- 4. David Brown's new book on investing + Scorecards for Stocks and ETFs (screening/ranking/monitoring/idea generation tools)

Go to: <u>DavidBrownInvestingBook.com</u> => We'd love to hear your feedback!



Proposal: QES Quality Index Series (for ETF licensing)

The Quantitative Equity Solutions* (QES) Quality Index Series comprises 5 broad-market and 5 sector-specific, rules-based, quarterly rebalanced, strategic beta and thematic indexes for ETF licensing (the 5 timeliest are **highlighted**):

- 1. Sabrient High-Quality Growth Index (similar to Baker's Dozen quant prescreen)
- 2. Sabrient High-Quality Value Index (50 stocks)
- 3. Sabrient SMID Quality Plus Momentum Index (40 stocks)
- 4. Sabrient Quality Growth Plus Income Index (solid growth with high dividend yield of 4-5%, 25 stocks)
- 5. Sabrient Defensive Equity Portfolio (for tumultuous market conditions, 50 stocks)
- 6. Sabrient Earnings Quality Leaders Index (50 stocks)
- 7. Sabrient High-Quality Technology Index (aka Best of InfoTech, for a broadening market, 50 stocks)
- 8. Sabrient High-Quality Healthcare Index (aka Best of Healthcare, 25 stocks)
- 9. Sabrient High-Quality Energy Index (aka Best of Energy, 25 stocks)
- **10. Sabrient Quality Legacy & Green Energy Index** (25 stocks)

If you are interested in any of these concepts, please tell your favorite ETF wholesaler!

Plus: **Sabrient Space Exploration & Sustainability Portfolio** (leverages Sabrient founder David Brown's NASA Apollo 11 pedigree, 30 stocks)



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