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PROJECT: 5 Stocks on Your Birthday

Let’s pretend you have a wealthy grandma who, on your 10th birthday, offered to buy you 100 shares of the stock of your choosing. In this project, you’ll track how you would have done on this investment, depending on which company’s shares you purchased.

**Part I: Pick 5 Companies**

Now, Grandma would only buy you one company’s stock, but go ahead and pick 5 publicly owned companies that you could have chosen at the time. They must have existed on your 10th birthday and should still exist now -- no sense choosing a bankrupt company.

1. My 10th birthday was on this date…
2. Complete the chart below with your 5 possible investments. If you need help finding historical stock prices on your birthday, watch this quick [How To](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ztPDyds_b7g) video.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Company Name** | **Stock Ticker Symbol** | **Adj. Close Price on**  **My 10th Birthday** |
| 1 |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |  |

**Part II: Track the Prices**

Follow these steps to track the prices of the 5 companies’ shares yearly on your birthday.

1. Open this project’s [Stock Tracker](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1El0F12mGwU41_K8SDXL7INbZuow-MubTz2MCDi8NU0o/edit?usp=sharing)[[1]](#footnote-1),[[2]](#footnote-2) spreadsheet.
2. Open [Yahoo! Finance](http://finance.yahoo.com/) in another tab or window.
3. Write your first company’s name in C1, copy/paste a link to its Yahoo! Finance page in C2, and enter it’s Adj. Close Price on your 10th birthday in C3.
4. For your first company, look up the historical **Adj. Close Price** on your 10th birthday, and enter it in column C for the year of your 10th birthday.
   1. **NOTE:** Change the number of shares to 0 for every year before you were 10; you don’t need to look up the prices for those years.
5. For the same first company, look up the historical Adj. Close Price every following year on your birthday and enter each in column C.
   1. **NOTE:** If your birthday was not on a trading day, use the closest preceding day’s Adj. Close Price.
   2. **NOTE:** If your birthday has not yet occurred in the current year, use the most recent Adj Close Price instead.
6. Once you’ve completed company 1, use the tabs at the bottom of the spreadsheet to complete the same for companies 2-5.

**Part III: Compare the Stocks**

Click to the last tab in your spreadsheet, titled “Stock Comparison.” Follow the directions in this [How To](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZ1hnzii8sk) video to learn how to create a single graph with all 5 stocks’ data. You can use the graphs to help you decide which stock choice would be best.

**NOTE:** We’ve edited the Stock Comparison tab of the spreadsheet so that your values from the 1-5 tabs will automatically carry over, so you can skip that step from the video, now.

**Part IV: Write a Stock Report**

Now that you’ve got some great graphs for comparison, use this [Stock Report](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hVM4kjKTxL--I5MYp8JhhybwanA0QVj2riacTYbkfJ0/edit?usp=sharing) to write a brief report outlining the best stock picks in this scenario. **For each heading in the report:**

* Write a few sentences explaining why you chose the stock you did and how it compares to the other choices
* Use copy/paste to include either a chart or a graph from the spreadsheet for each section
* For Part V: Hindsight is 20/20, answer the question provided. You don’t need to include a graph for this section

1. [How To: Entering & Editing Data](https://youtu.be/4jvD2hvihGA) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [How To: Creating a Multi Line Graph](https://youtu.be/eZ1hnzii8sk) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)