







COMPANIES CRIB SHEET

Which is the best investment?









INTRODUCTION



Investing is all about weighing up the pros and cons of an investment and, in the case of shares in a company, trying to work out how successful that business will be in the future.

Our team of Investment Management professionals has chosen 14 companies that they think might be good long-term investments. But which one do YOU think has the best product, service, and most potential for growth – and WHY?

Your team needs to pick one of these companies, research, analyse, and discuss it and then present your argument on why we should invest in a written Research Report and a three-minute Elevator Pitch video. (The Research Report questions and template are on our website.)

You will have heard of some of these companies, but others will be totally new to you. Don't let that put you off!

We think there are some interesting possibilities here: health, animals, environment, buildings, food, chocolate and established brands that still need to innovate to stay relevant. Which of these do you think is the best investment and can you convince our professionals with your argument?

For each of the 14 companies we've given you some basic information to help you choose:

- A short company description
- Stock Exchange they are listed on (where their shares are sold): London Stock Exchange (LSE), New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), NASDAQ and EURONEXT
- Stock Symbol, or Ticker Symbol, a series of letters or numbers used as shorthand to represent the company on the exchange
- Link to their Investor Relations website
 - All publicly listed companies have Investor Relations (IR) departments whose job it is to provide investors with an accurate account of company affairs, helping them to make informed decisions. Their web pages should include annual reports, quarterly results, financial statements, presentations, press releases and news, and company FAQs. You can look at the main company websites too to get an understanding of what the company does and how it makes money.
- Link to sustainability or ESG report
 - This is about the environmental and social policies the company follows and what it is doing to reduce its impact on the environment or treat its workers and customers better
- Link to interviews with the CEO (Chief Executive Officer) or business case studies
 The management and governance of a company is very important don't forget to
 check out their CEO and their Board of Directors and make sure the company is well
 led.
- Some pros and cons to investing in this company.

This is just a start! Look through them all, check out their websites, discuss with your team, your Competition Coach and your teacher, and make your choice.

GOOD LUCK!

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Hologic is a women's health medical technology company operating across medical diagnostics, imaging systems and surgical devices. The company operates in three segments: Diagnostics (62% of 2022 revenues), Breast & skeletal health (27%), GYN Surgical (11%) and is US focused (71% of 2022 revenues).

NASDAQ: HOLX Hologic, Inc. - Investor Relations Sustainability Report Hologic CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Reputable company with innovative technology that helps in early detection of diseases and improved patient outcomes.
- + Dominant market share in the US and opportunities to expand into new markets, diversifying revenue stream.
- End market growth: women's health is underserved and there is increased demand. Hologic well placed to offer products and services including mammography, breast biopsy and cervical cancer screening.

- Hologic generates significant portion of revenue from a few key products such as the 3D mammography system.
- Several competitors in healthcare industry offer similar products and services. This could lead to price wars and decreased market share.
- As a healthcare company, Hologic is susceptible to lawsuits related to product liability and intellectual property.

HALEON PLC

Health





Company Information

British multinational consumer healthcare company. It is the largest consumer healthcare business in the world with brands including Sensodyne toothpaste, Panadol and Advil painkillers and Centrum vitamins. The company is a global leader in over-the-counter medicines with a 7.3 percent market share.

London Stock Exchange: HLN & NYSE: HLN Haleon - Investor Relations ESG Reporting Haleon CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Largest consumer healthcare business in the world with over 7% share of the global over-the-counter medicine market.
- + Owns well-known brands including Sensodyne toothpaste, Panadol and Advil painkillers and Centrum vitamins which provide a strong competitive advantage.
- + Demand for products fairly resilient as they are not expensive and meet basic consumer needs.

- Short track record as an independent company and management team since separation from GSK.
- Reasonably high debt and the "floating" portion gets more expensive as interest rates rise.
- Stiff competition from retailers' own brands.



tapestry

Company Information

Tapestry, Inc. is an American multinational luxury fashion holding company. Based in New York, it is the parent company of three major brands: Coach New York, Kate Spade New York and Stuart Weitzman. Originally named Coach, Inc., the business changed its name to Tapestry in 2017.

NYSE: TPR Tapestry Investor Relations Responsibility Tapestry CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Global company which operates in 70+ countries selling three successful and iconic consumer brands Coach, Kate Spade and Stuart Weitzman.
- Products are positioned to capture the accessible luxury end of the shoe and handbag categories which should provide sustainable and strong growth opportunities.
- + Focus on direct-to-consumer business supported by best-in-class digital capabilities and directly operated stores. This allows Tapestry to maintain good level of profitability.

- Tapestry has a large presence in China and this market has been a challenge because of China's "Zero COVID" policy that has led to a series of lockdowns.
- Very competitive consumer categories with strong competition from companies with larger brands and larger marketing budgets.
- Fashion risk if designers fail to anticipate consumer preferences.





Puma SE designs, manufactures, and sells sporting goods and apparel. The company produces running, tennis, training, and basketball shoes, as well as t-shirts and accessories. Puma serves customers worldwide.

Frankfurt Stock Exchange: PUM Puma Investor Relations Puma Sustainability Puma story

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

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Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Variety of distribution channels including companyowned stores, e-commerce platforms, and thirdparty retailers.
- Strong brand. Puma has successful partnerships with top athletes, sports teams, celebrities, and designers including Usain Bolt, Sir Lewis Hamilton, Maradona, Linford Christie and Serena Williams.
- + Strong global recognition for sustainability of products evidenced by external awards. Company initiatives include using sustainable materials, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and responsible sourcing practices.

- Very competitive consumer categories with strong competition from companies with larger brands and larger marketing budgets.
- Hard to achieve success in leisure and women's categories when the brand is so strongly associated with high performance sports.
- Complex distribution and sales network makes it hard for management to track stock and optimise selling prices.

Animals





Company Information

Zoetis Inc. discovers, develops, manufactures, and commercialises animal health medicines and vaccines, with a focus on both livestock and companion animals. The company markets its products in North America, Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and Latin America.

NYSE: ZTS Zoetis Investor Relations Sustainability Zoetis CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

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Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

World leading animal health company which develops medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, and technologies to care for companion and livestock animals.

- Drives growth by investing heavily in innovation with over 1400 staff working in Research & Development and more than 2,000 new products developed in past 10 years.
- + Protects quality of products by manufacturing in company-owned facilities in 29 locations worldwide.

- Lots of competitors including standalone animal health businesses and the animal health arms of large pharmaceutical companies.
- Faces competition from cheaper, generic alternatives. Depends on patents and regulatory data exclusivity periods to protect profits.
- Pressure on sales because customers have less money to spend on Zoetis products after they have paid increased costs of feed or transportation of livestock.

PETS AT HOME

Animals





Company Information

British pet supplies retailer selling pet products including food, toys, bedding, medication, accessories and pets. The company operates 453 stores across the UK, as well as an online store. Pets at Home also provides a range of services such as grooming, veterinary care and dog training.

London Stock Exchange: PETS
Pets at home investor relations
Responsibility
Ex CEO talking about Pets at Home

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + UK based pet care business with 24% market share supported by network of stores which aims to make pet ownership affordable, convenient and rewarding.
- Largest branded veterinary business in the UK with significant opportunity for growth as network matures.
- + Good customer engagement and revenue growth opportunities through the VIP club and subscriptions.

- Competes with a wide variety of retailers, including other pet specialists, pure play online competitors, direct to customer businesses, supermarkets, discounters, online pet healthcare platforms, veterinary groups, and independent practices.
- Sources products and raw materials globally and is at risk if there is a supplier failure or disruption, or inflationary pressures push up costs.
- Pet welfare is a big concern. Management has processes in place to ensure welfare standards across stores, in-store adoption centres, grooming salons, and breeders. A welfare scandal would seriously damage the brand.





Vestas Wind Systems A/S develops, manufactures, and markets wind turbines that generate electricity. The company installs and maintenance turbines. Vestas Wind Systems serves customers worldwide.

Nasdaq Copenhagen: VWS Vestas Investor Relations Sustainability Vestas CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Global leader in sustainable energy solutions with more than 40 years' experience designing, manufacturing, installing, developing, and servicing wind energy and hybrid projects.
- Maintains relationship with customers through the life cycle of the product using smart data to lower their cost of energy, increase annual energy production and improve their business case certainty.
- Huge market opportunity: current wind generation of 0.7TW (terawatt) will have to increase tenfold for countries to achieve net zero by 2050.

- Wind turbines face significant regulatory and planning obstacles as well as public opposition very evident against onshore turbines.
- Short term profitability under pressure because it has been difficult to pass on the rising costs of steel, freight and power to customers.
- Worries that management has underestimated the long-term cost of warranties linked to repairs and upgrades.

Environment





Company Information

Present on five continents with more than 178,000 employees, Veolia is a French company which designs and deploys water, waste and energy management solutions which contribute to the sustainable development of cities and industries. These three complementary activities allow Veolia to help develop access to resources as well as preserving and renewing available resources.

Euronext Paris: VIE Veolia Investor Relations Corporate Social Responsibility Veolia CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Veolia aims to be a worldwide champion tackling environmental challenges by providing solutions to manage and control the use of key resources through water, waste and energy management.
- Veolia has top 3 positions worldwide in all its divisions following the merger with Suez in 2022 which provides complementary geographies, technologies and innovations.
- + Veolia plans to scale up innovation to continue driving growth. The company has a global network of 7 innovation hubs, 14 research centres and 600 research staff. Their new patents doubled in 2022 to 4,800+.

- The Group faces many legal risks particularly if there are changes to regulations, or political opposition e.g. local authorities may not like public employees being made redundant by contracts awarded to Veolia.
- Merger with SUEZ could be difficult and distracting for management and limits the company's financial flexibility to do more acquisitions in short term.
- Preventing corruption and other unethical business practices is a major issue for the Group, but any environmental accident or health and safety incident would also damage its reputation and license to operate.

TAYLOR WIMPEY

Buildings





Company Information

Taylor Wimpey plc are one of the UK's largest residential developers building a wide range of homes, completing 14,087 in 2021. The company operates at a local level from 23 regional businesses across the UK, and also has operations in Spain. They also build affordable housing in the UK making up 18% of total completions in 2021.

London Stock Exchange: TW Taylor Wimpey Investor Relations Sustainability Taylor Wimpey CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Strong brand and 100+ year heritage, significant market need to develop new homes in the UK.
- + Increasing focus on building sustainable and energy efficient homes.
- + In 2022 the company recorded pre tax profit of £828m, up from £680m in 2021.

- Market demand risks due to rises in interest rates and the cost of living.
- Increased cost of building homes due to supply chain issues and inflation.
- Downturn in housing market means house prices not currently increasing.





Assura plc is a listed real estate investment trust focused on the design, build and management of GP surgeries, and primary care and community healthcare buildings in order to increase the capacity needed by the NHS.

London Stock Exchange: AGR Assura Investor Relations Making a difference Assura tour

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Increasing demand due to falling number of NHS beds and increasing waiting lists.
- + Modern facilities design and build catering for future healthcare needs and operating practices.
- + The main tenant is the NHS but the company thinks they can expand into UK private health care and Ireland.

- Financials dependent on property and rental market which is outside the control of the business.
- As Assura's main tenant is the NHS, expansion could be limited depending on funding being available from the UK government for GP surgeries and NHS facilities.
- To build more facilities the company may have to take on debt and currently high interest rates.

MCDONALD'S

Food





McDonald's Corporation franchises and operates fastfood restaurants in the global restaurant industry. The company's restaurants serve a variety of value-priced menu products in countries around the world.

NYSE: MCD McDonalds Investor Relations Purpose and Impact CEO interview

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Brand value immense, extremely recognisable, attractive to children.
- + Ability to refresh menus and use of limited edition specials helps growth -regionally tailored menus.
- + Development of McPlant menu with Beyond Meat.
- + Digital investment.

- Increasing concerns about environmental impact of meat eating and packaging.
- Challenges from food delivery services and casual dining chains.
- Cost of living impacting on consumer discretionary spend.

Food





Greggs plc is the largest bakery chain in the United Kingdom. It owns and operates a supply chain, from production through to distribution to point of sale. It specialises in savoury products such as bakes, sausage rolls and sandwiches and sweet items including doughnuts and vanilla slices. It is headquartered in Newcastle upon Tyne.

London Stock Exchange: GRG Greggs Investor Relations Doing good CFO Interview

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Greggs has a national presence across the UK helping the brand to scale their business, reduce costs and sell more products.
- + Potential for new locations e.g.: airport openings, and extended opening hours to compete with chains like McDonalds.
- + Strong menu development, with hot food and healthier options.

- Despite the successful launch of the vegan sausage roll the food is not that healthy.
- Because sales prices are low they are sensitive to food price increases and staff costs.
- Limited food varieties, not giving as many choices to customers as other eateries.

HERSHEY'S

Chocolate





The Hershey Company manufactures chocolate and sugar confectionery products. The Company's principal products includes chocolate and sugar confectionery products, gum and mint refreshment products, and pantry items, such as baking ingredients, toppings, and beverages.

NYSE: HSY Hershey Investor Relations Hershey ESG Hershey CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + Largest producer of chocolate in the US with strong brand awareness. Products respond well to marketing.
- Successful acquisitions to expand product offering, particularly in healthier ranges.
- + Ability to raise prices annually and a strong balance sheet.

- Small presence outside the US.
- Operates in congested markets.
- Cost of living reducing spending power.

HOTEL CHOCOLAT

Chocolate





Hotel Chocolat Group plc is a British chocolatier and cocoa grower founded in 1993. It manufactures and retails a range of chocolates as well as related drinks and beauty products in the UK, Europe, and internationally. Products are sold through a network of 127 stores in the UK and Ireland and 4 in the United States, as well as through online subscription. The company operates restaurants and hotels and is the only company in the UK to grow cocoa on its own plantation.

London Stock Exchange: HOTC Hotel Chocolat Investor Relations Corporate Responsibility Hotel Chocolat CEO

Have you checked?

Company website

Annual Report

Sustainability Report

Google / news sites

Stock market listing

Market competitors

Possible future opportunities

Possible future problems

Board composition & management

Investment pros & cons

Positives

- + On a path to be a global direct-to-consumer premium chocolate brand.
- + Successful switch to digital offering.
- + Successful seasonal ranges drive growth.

- Competition from new and existing luxury gift companies.
- Rising inflation impacting all business costs.
- Consumers downgrading gifts due to pressure on household budgets.

ALMAYS REVEAL YOUR SOURCES

There are lots of sources of company information. Make sure that you use reputable sources and compare information from different places.

Corporate websites in particular the Investor Relations pages. Corporate websites can contain a wealth of information about a company including:

- Financial Statements a summary of a company's assets, liabilities, and equity, called a balance sheet. The income statement summarises revenues and expenses, and a statement of cash flows tells you how well a company is using its cash to pay for operations, debts, and investments.
- Company Presentations can provide a great overview of past performance, as well as projections for the coming quarters or year.
- News/Press Releases can contain information about day-to-day operations, new products and financial performance.
- **Contact Information** contacting Investor Relations staff can be a great way to find resources you cannot find elsewhere.

Useful websites

BBC www.bbc.co.uk/news/business/companies **Bloomberg** www.bloomberg.com/europe City A.M. www.cityam.com Citywire citywire.co.uk/funds-insider CNBC.com www.cnbc.com/world The Economist www.economist.com The Financial Times www.ft.com Investopedia.com www.investopedia.com Market24hclock market24hclock.com MoneyWeek moneyweek.com Morningstar www.morningstar.co.uk/uk Reuters - Business www.reuters.com/business

Reuters - Markets www.reuters.com/markets

Statista www.statista.com This is Money www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/index.html **UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association** uksif.org **UN Principles for Responsible Investment** www.unpri.org Yahoo Finance uk.finance.yahoo.com/