



What's a Simple Way to Get a Smart Portfolio? 3 Steps to Setting Up Your Investment Accounts

The "core-satellite" approach starts with selecting an asset allocation and investment style that you want to have for the long term, one that you will not touch on a regular basis. Some people might choose a few Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), others might like mutual funds, and some might want to have a money management company handle the core. For the satellite portion of the portfolio, an investor may select some more aggressive positions, perhaps ones that have a low correlation to the core.

1. Choose the type of core you want to have. How aggressive should you be? Do you want to handle the asset allocation design, and maintain it, or have someone else do it? What is the time-frame for your portfolio?
2. Select satellite investments based on research. Will you look for "value" stocks or "growth" stocks? Do you intend to follow the investments regularly? You can always fold your satellite positions into your core portfolio if you lose interest in maintaining them.
3. Start with stock screening tools like Yahoo's "Equity screener" here: <https://finance.yahoo.com/screener/new>. Examine ETF.com's screener here: <http://www.etf.com/etfanalytics/etf-finder>. Remember, just because you find something using an online tool, that does not mean it's a good investment. You could lose money. Speak to a licensed financial advisor before making any investments.

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