

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)

\$47.52 (As of 04/06/20)

Price Target (6-12 Months): **\$53.00**

Long Term: 6-12 Months

Zacks Recommendation:

Neutral

(Since: 05/07/19)

Prior Recommendation: Underperform

Short Term: 1-3 Months

Zacks Rank: (1-5)

3-Hold

Zacks Style Scores:

VGM:B

Value: F

Growth: A

Momentum: C

Summary

AMD is benefiting from robust adoption of Ryzen, Radeon and latest second-gen EPYC processors. Further, accelerated adoption of AMD's products in the PC, gaming and data center industries remains a key catalyst. Strength in GPU ASPs primarily driven by higher datacenter GPU sales bodes well. Moreover, the growing clout of GPUs on account of increasing adoption of AI techniques and ML tools in industries like gaming, automotive and blockchain holds promise. Notably, shares of the company have outperformed the industry in the past year. However, the company provided cautious revenue guidance for the first quarter, which is a concern. Further, increasing expenses on product development amid stiff competition from NVIDIA and Intel are likely to weigh on profitability.

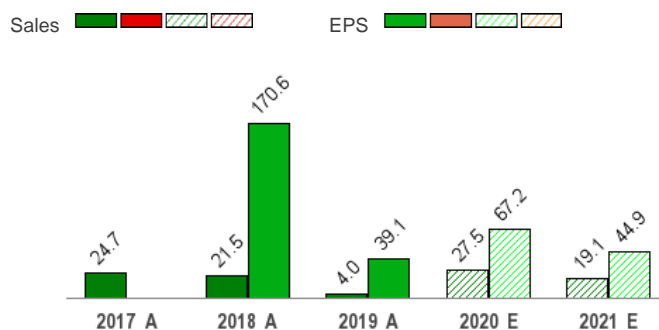
Price, Consensus & Surprise



Data Overview

52 Week High-Low	\$59.27 - \$26.03
20 Day Average Volume (sh)	89,406,992
Market Cap	\$55.6 B
YTD Price Change	3.6%
Beta	2.40
Dividend / Div Yld	\$0.00 / 0.0%
Industry	Electronics - Semiconductors
Zacks Industry Rank	Top 20% (50 out of 253)

Sales and EPS Growth Rates (Y/Y %)



Last EPS Surprise	6.7%
Last Sales Surprise	1.2%
EPS F1 Est- 4 week change	-3.9%
Expected Report Date	05/05/2020
Earnings ESP	0.0%
P/E TTM	74.3
P/E F1	44.4
PEG F1	1.5
P/S TTM	8.3

Sales Estimates (millions of \$)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	2,232 E	2,373 E	2,706 E	2,806 E	10,227 E
2020	1,779 E	1,916 E	2,352 E	2,510 E	8,584 E
2019	1,272 A	1,531 A	1,801 A	2,127 A	6,731 A

EPS Estimates

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual*
2021	\$0.30 E	\$0.34 E	\$0.43 E	\$0.46 E	\$1.55 E
2020	\$0.18 E	\$0.21 E	\$0.33 E	\$0.38 E	\$1.07 E
2019	\$0.06 A	\$0.08 A	\$0.18 A	\$0.32 A	\$0.64 A

*Quarterly figures may not add up to annual.

The data in the charts and tables, including the Zacks Consensus EPS and Sales estimates, is as of 04/06/2020. The reports text is as of 04/07/2020.

Overview

Advanced Micro Devices has strengthened its position in the semiconductor market on the back of its evolution as an enterprise-focus company from a pure-bred consumer-PC chip provider.

AMD has emerged as a strong challenger to NVIDIA's dominance in the graphic processing unit or GPU market based on its Radeon technology.

Launch of 7 nanometer (nm)-based AMD Radeon RX 5700-series gaming graphics card family featuring RDNA architecture, high-speed GDDR6 (Graphics Double Data Rate type 6) memory and support for the PCIe 4.0 interface, has helped the company increase presence among gamers.

Moreover, AMD's Radeon Pro graphics cards and Radeon VR Creator cards support game developers, and virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies, respectively.

Further, AMD Radeon Instinct family of GPU products are gaining traction in data center applications, including deep learning training and traditional high performance computing (HPC) workloads.

Additionally, AMD EPYC 7001 Series of high performance processors is helping AMD gain share in the server market. Further, AMD EPYC Embedded 3000 Series of processors addresses new markets including, networking, storage and edge computing devices.

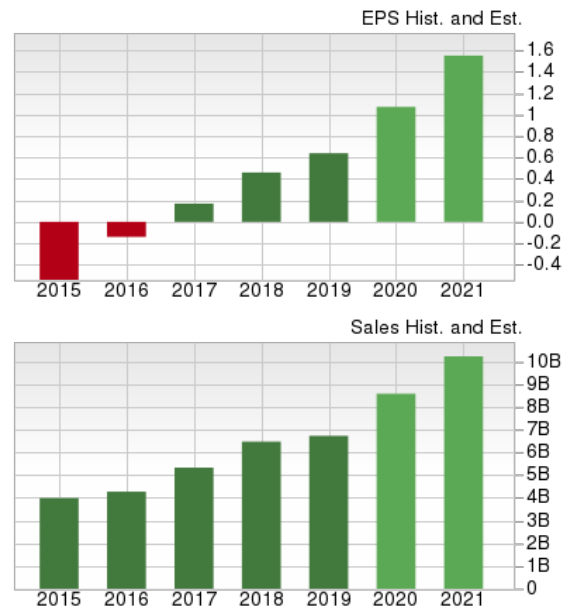
In consumer-PC market, AMD has become a key challenger to Intel courtesy AMD Ryzen desktop processor family. The company's desktop-based processor offerings include Ryzen and high-end Ryzen Threadripper processors, among others. AMD Athlon and AMD PRO series of processors cater to commercial and consumer desktop PC market.

AMD's processors are primarily powered by the company's proprietary "Zen" CPU and "Vega" GPU architectures.

Santa Clara, CA-based, AMD generated revenues of \$6.731 billion in 2019. The company reports operations under two segments — Computing and Graphics, and Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom.

Computing and Graphics segment includes desktop and notebook processors and chipsets, discrete GPUs and professional graphics. This segment generated revenues of \$4.709 billion in 2019.

Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom segment includes server and embedded processors, dense servers, semi-custom SoC products, engineering services and royalties. This segment generated \$2.02 billion in 2019.



Reasons To Buy:

- ▲ In order to diversify its business beyond the slowing, transitioning PC market, AMD started its semi-custom chip business in 2012 and has been performing very well till date. The semi-custom chip business combines both intellectual property (IP) from AMD's engineers as well as IP from customers to help design the chips for their own needs. Both Microsoft and Sony's game consoles use an accelerated processing unit (APU) chip that combines AMD's microprocessor and graphics technologies on the same piece of silicon. AMD plans to expand its semi-custom business into other high-growth markets such as the semi-custom ultra-low power client, embedded, dense server and professional graphics markets, where it can offer differentiated products that use its APU and graphics IP. The company's release of Vega-based GPUs and increasing demand for its Polaris products in both gaming and blockchain industries are key catalysts. AMD recently introduced promising features for gamers in computing, PC gaming and visualization technologies based on its new Radeon RX 5700 graphics card and third generation AMD Ryzen desktop processor. In CES 2020, AMD launched the much-awaited, next-generation, 7-nanometer (nm) Radeon Vega GPU, AMD Radeon VII. The card has been designed to deliver more than 29% of computing performance, offering extreme gaming details with 2X superior brightness and color volume. The number of Ryzen notebook models set to be launched in 2020 is 50% higher than the ones launched in 2019. These systems are mostly from the likes of Acer, Asus, Dell, HP, Lenovo and other OEMs and are expected to be launched in 2020. AMD also expanded Ryzen embedded family of processors by launching the new AMD Ryzen Embedded R1000 SoC.
- ▲ Despite its late entry, AMD has attained the position of a major player in the microprocessor and graphics processing markets. The company started small, targeting the low-end segment and gradually built a position for itself. AMD has had a very rough time because of the strength and market position of its two primary competitors Intel and NVIDIA. While Intel remains supreme in the microprocessor segment and has also notably strengthened its graphics capabilities, NVIDIA remains very strong in the graphics market. AMD combined its own engineering talent with that of ATI to develop capabilities in both these areas. Considering the might of its competitors, AMD has done well to hold its own in the face of significant changes in the markets it serves. Moreover, increasing demand for cryptocurrency mining has been a key catalyst for AMD's GPU sales in recent times.
- ▲ Given the persistent weakness in the core PC business, AMD like Intel, has started investing in its embedded business. Strength in this segment should continue in the future too as the company scores more wins. Given continued product enhancements and design wins at strategic players in key verticals such as digital signage and medical equipment, we expect the momentum to continue through 2020. The company is currently targeting the communications, industrial, and gaming segments of the market and there appear to be suitable design wins to generate substantial revenue growth over the next few years. These new SoCs are expected to deliver a noteworthy performance per watt improvement compared with its previous generation and offer industry-leading graphics capabilities for embedded designs. AMD expects the total addressable market for its high-performance embedded SOC and processors to be \$9 billion and therefore the company is trying to increase its share in this market by delivering competitive products.
- ▲ AMD entered into a definitive agreement to form a joint venture with Tianjin Haiguang Advanced Technology Investment Co., Ltd. (THATIC) in Apr 2016. This agreement is part of the company's efforts to gain share in China, which is the fastest growing regional data center server market. AMD licensed certain of its intellectual property (IP) to the THATIC JV for a total of approximately \$293 million in license fees payable over several years contingent upon achievement of certain milestones. The company also expects to receive a royalty based on the sales of the THATIC JV's products to be developed on the basis of its IPs. In 2016, AMD recognized \$88 million licensing gain associated with the THATIC JV. Recent trade deal with China is expected to benefit AMD in this regard.
- ▲ Per Gartner's preliminary data, PC shipments in fourth-quarter 2019, increased 2.3% year over year to 70.6 million units. Going by the IDC report, shipment rose 4.8% on a year-over-year basis and totaled 71.8 million in the period under review. An improving trend in PC shipments favors business prospects of AMD.

AMD is well-poised to benefit from strong demand for its x86-based microprocessors, semi-custom chips, and embedded processors, and GPUs driven by increasing adoption of AI and ML techniques.

Reasons To Sell:

- ▼ In the traditional computing market, which still generates a chunk of its revenues, AMD is up against Intel's strong market position. With Intel systems so well entrenched, there is an obvious preference for system integrators to choose Intel processors over AMD. So far, Intel processors have also afforded superior functionality, enabling it to exercise pricing power. In the past, AMD was forced to resort to penetration pricing, which severely impacted its profitability. Now that it is getting into the higher-range segment, it is facing very stiff competition from Intel. Moreover, AMD faces significant competition from NVIDIA in GPU market.
- ▼ AMD has had relatively greater success in the mobile segment and its current product lineup indicates that this focus will continue. However, competition in the mobile segment is likely to accelerate, with more ARM-based devices coming on the market. Moreover, Microsoft's surface devices and Google chromebooks tend to cannibalize on notebooks, which primarily run on Intel chips. This adds to the pressure on AMD. While Intel has been relatively less successful in the mobile segment, the company's initiative to build new products, enter into strategic alliances and offer subsidies could in combination drive notable share gains.
- ▼ AMD faces significant customer concentration from Sony and Microsoft. Consequently, loss of any one of these customers is anticipated to massively hurt the top line. Notably, Sony accounted for more than 10% of the company's total revenues in 2019. Also, AMD derives a significant proportion of its revenues from outside the United States (74% in 2019), subjecting the company to exchange rate volatility.
- ▼ The balance sheet remains highly leveraged, despite several deleveraging efforts. Some of these efforts include the extension of maturities, which came at the cost of higher interest rates. Given the fact that cash burn continues and initiatives will take some time to yield results, we think this makes the shares risky. Total debt (including current portion) at the end of the fourth-quarter amounted to \$486 million.
- ▼ Moreover, the company is trading at premium in terms of Price/Book (P/B). AMD currently has a trailing 12-month P/B ratio of 19.68. This level compares unfavorably with what the industry witnessed in the last year. Consequently, the valuation looks slightly stretched from P/B perspective.

Intensifying competition in the traditional PC market and GPU segment, customer concentration and leveraged balance sheet remain headwinds.

Last Earnings Report

AMD Q4 Earnings & Revenues Top Estimates

Advanced Micro Devices reported fourth-quarter 2019 non-GAAP earnings of 32 cents per share, which beat the Zacks Consensus Estimate by 6.7%. Notably, the figure soared 300% year over year and improved 77.8% sequentially.

Revenues of \$2.127 billion surpassed the Zacks Consensus Estimate of \$2.101 billion. Moreover, the top line improved 50% year over year and 18% sequentially.

Seasonal uptick on holiday season, and strength in both Computing and Graphics, and Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom segments drove the year-over-year improvement.

Segmental Details

Computing and Graphics segment (78.1% of total revenues) revenues grew 69% year over year and came in at \$1.662 billion.

In desktop vertical, seasonal uptick in demand for second and third generation Ryzen processors on account of holiday season drove segment results.

During the reported quarter, AMD introduced Ryzen 3950X mainstream desktop processor and latest Ryzen Threadripper processors aimed at high-end desktop market.

Client processor average selling price (ASP) improved year over year and sequentially, on higher Ryzen processor sales.

Revenues from Mobile processors grew double-digit on a year-over-year basis, primarily on account of higher unit shipments during the reported quarter.

Moreover, the company is banking on utilization of new Radeon Pro 5300M and 5500M mobile GPUs in Apple's latest MacBook Pro. The processors are based on 7 nanometer (nm) RDNA architecture to enable advanced graphics performance.

Management also remains optimistic regarding growing clout of Ryzen 4000 mobile processors families across leading OEMs.

In graphics domain, higher sales of Radeon 5000 series GPUs based on RDNA architecture drove year-over-year unit shipments by double-digit percentage growth. GPU ASP increased year over year and sequentially, primarily driven by higher channel GPU sales.

Additionally, AMD rolled out Radeon RX 5500 XT and 5600XT graphics card, powered by the AMD RDNA gaming architecture.

Management noted that Data Center GPU sales improved sequentially. The company inked new deal wins in cloud, game streaming and VDI verticals in the reported quarter.

Notably, the company is investing in software enhancements to aid developers leverage Radeon Instinct accelerators for complex AI and HPC applications.

Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom segment (21.9% of total revenues) revenues of \$465 million were up 7% year over year.

The year-over-year improvement can primarily be attributed to higher EPYC server processor sales, partially mitigated by lower semi-custom product revenues.

In server domain, management noted that improving ASPs and higher unit shipments of latest second-gen EPYC processors drove double-digit growth in revenues.

Strength in AMD's latest EPYC processors are enabling the company garner new deal wins from major enterprise, cloud, and HPC companies.

For instance, Google is leveraging EPYC processors to enhance data center environment and strengthen Google Cloud Platform. Moreover, Amazon, Microsoft, Oracle, Tencent, among others, are utilizing EPYC processors to enhance their respective data center architecture.

Particularly, AMD is optimistic about extended utilization of its 2nd Gen EPYC processors by Amazon Web Services, in Amazon EC2 (or Elastic Compute Cloud) compute-optimized instances, namely C5a and C5ad.

Further, Microsoft Azure HBv2 virtual machines are leveraging AMD's EPYC 7742 processor for HPC applications.

In enterprise domain, Dell has rolled out new platforms based on latest EPYC processors. Considering HPC vertical, San Diego Supercomputer Center intends to utilize Dell EMC PowerEdge servers powered by AMD's second Gen EPYC processors.

Operating Details

Non-GAAP gross margin expanded 400 basis points (bps) on a year-over-year basis to 45%, driven by strong adoption of latest 7 nm based EPYC and Ryzen processors.

Operating expenses on a non-GAAP basis increased almost 15% year over year to \$545 million, due to higher investments in Research & development (R&D) and go-to-market initiatives. R&D expenses rose 6.5% year over year to \$395 million. Marketing, general and administrative expenses surged 49.3% year over year to \$206 million.

Quarter Ending **12/2019**

Report Date	Jan 28, 2020
Sales Surprise	1.22%
EPS Surprise	6.67%
Quarterly EPS	0.32
Annual EPS (TTM)	0.64

Adjusted EBITDA soared 208.6% year over year to \$469 million on earnings growth.

Non-GAAP operating income came in at \$405 million, up 271.6% year over year. The year-over-year improvement was driven by higher revenue base and improvement in gross margin.

Segment wise, Computing and Graphics operating income soared 213% year over year to \$360 million, courtesy of solid improvement in Ryzen processors sales. Enterprise, Embedded and Semi-Custom operating income was \$45 million, against an operating loss of 6 million reported in the year-ago quarter. This can be attributed to strong adoption of EPYC processors.

Balance Sheet & Cash Flow

AMD ended the fourth quarter with cash and cash equivalents (including marketable securities) of \$1.50 billion compared with \$1.21 billion in the previous quarter.

Total debt (long-term plus short-term) was \$486 million, down from \$872 billion reported at the end of the previous quarter.

Operating cash flow came in at \$442 million, compared with \$234 million in the previous quarter.

Free cash flow was \$400 million compared with \$179 million in the previous quarter.

Recent News

On Apr 1, 2020, AMD announced that its second-generation AMD EPYC processors have been adopted by IBM Cloud to enhance computing performance of its latest bare metal servers.

On Mar 25, 2020, AMD announced that its second generation EPYC processors and Radeon Instinct MI25 GPUs have been selected by Microsoft's Azure division to power its NVv4 virtual machines (VMs).

On Mar 6, 2020, AMD announced that it is maintaining outlook despite lingering coronavirus woes. AMD anticipates the impact of COVID1-19 outbreak to be "modest" in first-quarter 2020, with revenues possibly coming near the lower end of its guidance of \$1.8 billion (+/- \$50 million).

On Feb 18, 2020, AMD declared that its 2nd Gen AMD EPYC processors utilized by Google Cloud have accelerated the beta availability of N2D virtual machines (VMs) on Google Compute Engine.

On Feb 10, 2020, AMD announced the AMD Radeon Pro W5500 workstation graphics card for design and engineering professionals. It also announced the AMD Radeon Pro W5500M GPU to power next-generation, professional mobile workstations.

On Feb 4, 2020, AMD announced a multi-year partnership with Mercedes-AMG Petronas Formula One Team. The team will make use of AMD commercial solutions like AMD EPYC server processors and AMD Ryzen PRO laptop processors to optimize their workstreams.

Moreover, the AMD logo will be displayed on the team's 2020 Formula One car, the driver's race suit and on trackside infrastructure.

On Jan 13, 2020, AMD announced that the company has secured a contract from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF). Per the deal, AMD's EPYC 7742 server processors will be utilized to accelerate ECMWF's meteorological supercomputer, which is powered by Atos's advanced BullSequana XH2000 technology.

Valuation

Advanced Micro Devices shares are up 3.6% in the year-to-date period and 66.6% over the trailing 12-month period. Stocks in the Zacks sub-industry and the Zacks Computer & Technology sector are down 14.2% and 18% in the year-to-date period, respectively. Over the past year, the Zacks sub-industry is up 3%, while the sector is down 9.2%.

The S&P 500 index is down 22.7% in the year-to-date period and 14.1% in the past year.

The stock is currently trading at 6.05X forward 12-month sales, which compares to 5.88X for the Zacks sub-industry, 2.89X for the Zacks sector and 2.72X for the S&P 500 index.

Over the past five years, the stock has traded as high as 8.13X and as low as 0.31X, with a 5-year median of 2.15X. Our Neutral recommendation indicates that the stock will perform in line with the market. Our \$53 price target reflects 6.75X forward 12-month sales.

The table below shows summary valuation data for AMD

Valuation Multiples - AMD					
		Stock	Sub-Industry	Sector	S&P 500
P/S F12M	Current	6.05	5.88	2.89	2.72
	5-Year High	8.13	6.73	3.58	3.44
	5-Year Low	0.31	4.85	2.32	2.54
	5-Year Median	2.15	5.86	3.03	3
EV/Sales TTM	Current	8.12	5.68	3.31	2.47
	5-Year High	9.59	7	4.44	3.46
	5-Year Low	0.53	2.69	2.57	2.16
	5-Year Median	2.49	5.36	3.55	2.83

As of 04/06/2020

Industry Analysis Zacks Industry Rank: Top 20% (50 out of 253)



Top Peers

Intel Corporation (INTC)	Outperform
QUALCOMM Incorporated (QCOM)	Outperform
Applied Materials, Inc. (AMAT)	Neutral
Broadcom Inc. (AVGO)	Neutral
Microchip Technology Incorporated (MCHP)	Neutral
Marvell Technology Group Ltd. (MRVL)	Neutral
Maxim Integrated Products, Inc. (MXIM)	Neutral
NVIDIA Corporation (NVDA)	Neutral

Industry Comparison Industry: Electronics - Semiconductors				Industry Peers		
	AMD Neutral	X Industry	S&P 500	INTC Outperform	MRVL Neutral	NVDA Neutral
VGM Score	B	-	-	A	F	C
Market Cap	55.64 B	570.31 M	18.06 B	250.11 B	15.99 B	164.39 B
# of Analysts	11	3	13	14	12	13
Dividend Yield	0.00%	0.00%	2.34%	2.26%	1.01%	0.24%
Value Score	F	-	-	C	D	F
Cash/Price	0.03	0.27	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.07
EV/EBITDA	72.44	5.60	11.15	7.52	11.41	45.86
PEG Ratio	1.45	1.95	1.87	1.61	1.46	2.58
Price/Book (P/B)	18.72	1.86	2.46	3.23	1.84	13.47
Price/Cash Flow (P/CF)	62.48	10.71	9.59	7.69	20.03	51.09
P/E (F1)	44.41	16.97	15.66	12.08	27.43	37.99
Price/Sales (P/S)	8.27	2.12	1.92	3.48	5.92	15.06
Earnings Yield	2.25%	4.22%	6.30%	8.28%	3.65%	2.63%
Debt/Equity	0.17	0.11	0.70	0.33	0.17	0.21
Cash Flow (\$/share)	0.76	0.65	7.01	7.60	1.19	5.25
Growth Score	A	-	-	B	F	A
Hist. EPS Growth (3-5 yrs)	NA%	4.15%	10.92%	20.24%	8.01%	43.93%
Proj. EPS Growth (F1/F0)	67.47%	14.02%	0.33%	-0.66%	31.69%	22.03%
Curr. Cash Flow Growth	44.79%	-0.66%	5.93%	6.53%	-24.70%	-20.70%
Hist. Cash Flow Growth (3-5 yrs)	27.24%	10.45%	8.55%	9.99%	6.05%	28.68%
Current Ratio	1.95	3.19	1.24	1.40	2.16	7.67
Debt/Capital	14.67%	11.85%	42.36%	24.62%	14.22%	17.30%
Net Margin	5.07%	1.89%	11.64%	29.25%	58.70%	25.60%
Return on Equity	26.22%	4.40%	16.74%	29.01%	2.74%	26.08%
Sales/Assets	1.26	0.68	0.54	0.54	0.26	0.71
Proj. Sales Growth (F1/F0)	27.53%	3.99%	1.00%	0.58%	10.46%	12.94%
Momentum Score	C	-	-	B	F	D
Daily Price Chg	11.57%	7.46%	7.93%	7.94%	6.29%	10.04%
1 Week Price Chg	-8.57%	-1.12%	-4.40%	3.36%	0.36%	-3.49%
4 Week Price Chg	9.82%	-1.36%	-6.89%	14.91%	7.29%	9.35%
12 Week Price Chg	-2.51%	-23.35%	-24.81%	-1.95%	-13.37%	6.52%
52 Week Price Chg	66.56%	-12.69%	-17.63%	4.94%	11.19%	39.94%
20 Day Average Volume	89,406,992	373,919	4,147,873	41,551,736	10,973,346	18,362,964
(F1) EPS Est 1 week change	-1.33%	0.00%	0.00%	-0.15%	0.00%	-13.04%
(F1) EPS Est 4 week change	-3.88%	-4.97%	-4.97%	-2.97%	-9.25%	-14.31%
(F1) EPS Est 12 week change	-2.49%	-5.91%	-6.79%	2.47%	-7.83%	-9.11%
(Q1) EPS Est Mthly Chg	-1.34%	-2.67%	-7.32%	-1.12%	-2.08%	-12.55%

Zacks Style Scores

The Zacks Style Score is as a complementary indicator to the Zacks rating system, giving investors a way to focus on the highest rated stocks that best fit their own stock picking preferences.

Academic research has proven that stocks with the best Value, Growth and Momentum characteristics outperform the market. The Zacks Style Scores rate stocks on each of these individual styles and assigns a rating of A, B, C, D and F. We also produce the VGM Score (V for Value, G for Growth and M for Momentum), which combines the weighted average of the individual Style Scores into one score. This is perfectly suited for those who want their stocks to have the best scores across the board.

Value Score	F
Growth Score	A
Momentum Score	C
VGM Score	B

As an investor, you want to buy stocks with the highest probability of success. That means buying stocks with a Zacks Recommendation of Outperform, which also has a Style Score of an A or a B.

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