

Aptus Growth Stock Sleeve

Strategy Objective

The Aptus Growth Portfolio is a relatively diversified, low-turnover strategy that owns ~ 25 high-quality, growth-tilted stocks across the domestic market. The strategy strives to have S&P 500 growth-like returns, but with lower volatility. The strategy seeks to own companies that exhibit what we believe to be high-quality characteristics that tend to outperform over a full business cycle.

Aptus Capital Growth Stock Sleeve

Sector	Aptus Growth	S&P 500 Growth	Characteristics	Aptus Growth	S&P 500 Growth
Communication Services	16.32%	14.76%	P/E (NTM)	29.30x	29.45x
Consumer Discretionary	11.82%	12.05%	EPS GROWTH (5-Yr)	12.30%	13.43%
Consumer Staples	0.00%	3.47%	YIELD	0.61%	0.62%
Energy	3.91%	0.58%	ROE	53.77%	32.89%
Financials	4.04%	11.79%	ROIC	32.85%	21.43%
Health Care	7.95%	5.35%	DEBT-TO-CAPITAL	33.74%	37.68%
Industrials	12.00%	8.46%	MARKET CAPITALIZATION (\$M)	\$1,702,724	\$1,527,076
Information Technology	39.97%	40.79%			
Materials	4.00%	0.45%			
Real Estate	0.00%	1.13%			
Utilities	0.00%	1.16%			

The composition of the sector weightings and fund holdings are subject to change and are not recommendations to buy or sell any securities.

Source: Bloomberg, Data as of 06/30/2025

Investment Approach

We embrace a “compounder mentality” seeking to invest in businesses that, in our view, compound shareholder capital at above-average rates of return. We have the three following pillars:

Valuation: Price is what you pay, value is what you get. We believe that investors should never overpay for an asset.

Higher Quality: We buy what we believe to be high-quality companies with higher returns on capital, a competitive moat, and strong management teams.

High Growth: We seek favor toward companies that are well-positioned to grow sales, earnings, cash flow, EBITDA, and dividends.

Performance Versus Benchmark(%)

Time Period	Aptus Growth	S&P 500 Growth
Q2 2025	14.02%	18.78%
YTD	7.64%	18.44%
1 Year	10.63%	18.91%
3 Year	22.89%	23.25%
Since Inception	11.99%	14.11%

Since Inception: 03/31/2021, Data as of 06/30/2025, Source: Bloomberg
The performance data represents past performance & does not guarantee future results. Investment return & principal value of an investment will fluctuate, so an investor's shares may be worth more or less than original cost when sold. Current performance may be higher or lower than quoted performance. Returns are expressed in US dollars, & periods >1 year are annualized. Returns are calculated net of all fund fees and expenses. Net returns shown include the deduction of the highest sub-advisory fee charged to our clients in sub-advisory arrangements, 0.15%. This is the maximum subadvisory fee paid during the time periods presented, and individual accounts may pay a lower effective fee. For our fee schedule please refer to Form ADV 2A, which is available upon request. Actual client results may be lower based on imposition of additional advisory fees, platform fees, & custodial fees charged by firms.

Investment Commentary

The Aptus Growth Portfolio Posted a Large, Absolute Return in Q2 2025, but underperformed the benchmark, the S&P 500 Growth Index, as lower-quality was the driving factor during the reversal. The Aptus Growth portfolio tends to own companies that we believe have higher quality characteristics. In one of the fastest recoveries ever, it shouldn't be a surprise to investors that low quality factors like high beta and high short interest drove the market higher. Over longer periods of time, we believe that the market tends to act rationally, rewarding companies that exhibit above average growth, profitability and lower valuations. We remain convicted in the overall portfolio, as we believe it's a perfect blend of growth, quality and valuation. During Q2, Aptus Growth returned 14.02%, underperforming by 4.76%.

Stock Selection Effects Drove Underperformance During the Quarter, which shouldn't come as a surprise, as the factors that we exhibit in our portfolio underperformed not only during Q2, but also for the year. In Q2, stock selection drove 75% of the portfolio's underperformance, while this figure contributed 95% for the year. UnitedHealth Corp. (UNH) was not only the largest detractor during the quarter, but also for the year – returning -41.92% and -39.6%, respectively. Copart Inc (CPRT) and Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM) were the other largest detractors. The former had a poor earnings report, while the latter was affected by oil prices. The more AI-centric area of the portfolio helped insulate these losses, with Quanta Services (PWR), Microsoft Corp. (MSFT) and NVIDIA Corp. (NVDA) each up greater than 30%.

In Q2 '25, We Made Some Tweaks to the Portfolio. Throughout the year, the portfolio management team has recognized that the strategy tends to perform better during bouts of volatility but underperforms when a risk-on rally drives the market. Knowing this, the team tweaked the portfolio to add some firepower to the portfolio, ultimately creating a portfolio that we believe will have a better ying-and-yang throughout the entire business cycle. With this, the strategy sold UnitedHealth Group (UNH) and Pool Corporation (POOL). The proceeds were used to purchase Eli Lilly and Company (LLY) and Netflix, Inc. (NFLX).

Aptus Growth Stock Sleeve

Investment Considerations

Disclosures

This factsheet and commentary offers generalized research, not personalized investment advice. It is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a complete description of our investment services or performance. Nothing in this factsheet and commentary should be interpreted to state or imply that past results are an indication of future investment returns. All investments involve risk and unless otherwise stated, are not guaranteed. Be sure to consult with an investment & tax professional before implementing any investment strategy. Investing involves risk. Principal loss is possible.

The views contained herein should not be taken as financial advice or a recommendation to buy or sell any security. Any forecasts, figures, or opinions or investment techniques and strategies described are intended for informational purposes only. They are based on certain assumptions and current market conditions, and although accurate at the time of writing, are subject to change without prior notice. This material does not constitute a general or personal recommendation or take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations, or needs of individual investors and should not be relied upon to evaluate the merits of investing in any security. Investors should ensure that they obtain all current available information before making any investment. Investors should also make an independent assessment of the relevant legal, regulatory, tax, credit, and accounting considerations and determine, together with their own professional advisers if investing is suitable to their personal financial goals.

This material was created to provide accurate and reliable information on the subjects covered but should not be regarded as a complete analysis of these subjects. It is not intended to provide specific legal, tax or other professional advice. The services of an appropriate professional should be sought regarding your individual situation. This material was created to provide accurate and reliable information on the subjects covered but should not be regarded as a complete analysis of these subjects. It is not intended to provide specific legal, tax or other professional advice. The services of an appropriate professional should be sought regarding your individual situation.

The S&P 500® Index is the Standard & Poor's Composite Index and is widely regarded as a single gauge of large cap U.S. equities. It is market cap weighted and includes 500 leading companies, capturing approximately 80% coverage of available market capitalization.

Advisory services offered through Aptus Capital Advisors, LLC, a Registered Investment Adviser registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Registration does not imply a certain level or skill or training. More information about the advisor, its investment strategies and objectives, is included in the firm's Form ADV Part 2, which can be obtained, at no charge, by calling (251) 517-7198. Aptus Capital Advisors, LLC is headquartered in Fairhope, Alabama. ACA-2507-20.

