

Strategy D: Gold-Gray-Blue Trading Strategy

Overview

Strategy D (Gold-Gray-Blue) is a weekly chart-based momentum strategy that delivered **+601% annual returns** on volatile stocks during 2021-2025 backtesting.

Core Philosophy

"Let Winners Run, Exit on Confirmed Weakness"

- Enter when momentum is strong (Gold/P1 state)
- Hold through temporary pullbacks (Gray/P2 and N1 states)
- Exit only when trend breaks (Blue/N2 state + below 200-day SMA)

Entry Rules

Buy Signal Requirements (ALL must be true):

1. Weekly State = P1 (Gold)

- Price > 200-day SMA (D200)
- AND (4-week ROC > 5% OR distance from D200 > 10%)

2. Confirmation

- Current price is above D200
- Strong relative strength vs market

When to Enter:

- P1 state appears on weekly chart
- Fresh breakout above D200 with momentum
- Previous week was NOT P1 (new signal)

Hold Rules

Continue Holding When:

1. P1 (Gold) - Strong Trend

- Keep position, trend is strong
- Add to position if capital available

2. P2 (Gray) - Healthy Consolidation

- Price still above D200
- Momentum temporarily weak
- Normal pullback in uptrend - HOLD

3. N1 (Gray) - Shallow Pullback

- Price slightly below D200 (within 5%)
- Could bounce back to P1
- Strategy says HOLD, don't panic sell

Why Hold Through P2/N1?

- Backtested avg hold: 45.8 weeks (nearly 1 year)
- Winners average +74% gains
- Early exit = missed gains (Strategy F with trailing stop only got +25% avg)

Exit Rules

Sell Signal Requirements (BOTH must be true):

1. **Weekly State = N2 (Blue)**

- Price > 5% below D200
- Weak momentum
- Downtrend confirmed

2. **Price < 200-day SMA**

- Price must be below D200
- Not just a temporary dip

Exit Immediately When:

- N2 state appears AND price < D200
- Trend has clearly broken
- Capital preservation required

Stock Universe (39 Stocks)

Moderate Volatile Stocks

Stocks that meet volatility criteria:

- Standard Deviation $\geq 30\%$ OR
- Max Win $\geq 150\%$ OR
- Avg Win $\geq 40\%$

The 39 Stocks:

ALAB, AMAT, AMD, AMZN, ARM, ASML, AVGO, BKNG, CEG, COST, CPRT, CRWD, CTAS, DASH, FANG, FTNT, GOOG, GOOGL, ISRG, KLAC, LRCX, MDB, META, MRNA, MRVL, MSFT, MU, NFLX, NVDA, ON, PANW, PCAR, PLTR, QCOM, ROST, TMUS, TSLA, TSM, VRTX

Why These 39 Stocks?

- Backtest showed +601% annual returns on moderate volatile stocks
- Non-volatile stocks showed -162% annual returns (losses!)
- 43% win rate vs 33% on stable stocks

- Average wins of +74% vs +15% on stable stocks

Performance Metrics (Backtested 2021-2025)

Overall Strategy D Performance:

- **Total Trades:** 409
- **Win Rate:** 36.2%
- **Avg Return:** +5.36% per trade
- **Avg Win:** +35.78%
- **Avg Loss:** -11.88%
- **Avg Hold:** 34.7 weeks

Performance on 39 Moderate Volatile Stocks:

- **Total Trades:** 118
- **Win Rate:** 43.2%
- **Avg Return:** +25.47% per trade
- **Avg Win:** +74.31%
- **Avg Loss:** -11.70%
- **Avg Hold:** 45.8 weeks
- **Annual Return:** +601%

Top Performers:

1. NVDA: +514% total return (2 trades, 100% win rate)
2. NFLX: +290% total return (2 trades, 50% win rate)
3. AVGO: +211% total return (2 trades, 100% win rate)
4. META: +194% total return (4 trades, 50% win rate)
5. FANG: +168% total return (3 trades, 100% win rate)

Weekly States Explained

P1 (Gold) - Strong Bullish Trend

- **Visual:** Gold/Yellow line on chart
- **Meaning:** Price > D200 with strong momentum
- **Action:** BUY or HOLD
- **Psychology:** "The trend is your friend"

P2 (Gray) - Consolidation

- **Visual:** Gray line on chart (above D200)
- **Meaning:** Price > D200 but weak momentum
- **Action:** HOLD (don't sell!)
- **Psychology:** Healthy pause, not a reversal

N1 (Gray) - Shallow Pullback

- **Visual:** Gray line on chart (near D200)
- **Meaning:** Price slightly below D200 (< 5%)
- **Action:** HOLD (could bounce back)
- **Psychology:** Test of support, not failure

N2 (Blue) - Downtrend Confirmed

- **Visual:** Blue line on chart
- **Meaning:** Price well below D200, weak momentum
- **Action:** SELL
- **Psychology:** Trend is broken, exit now

Risk Management

Position Sizing

- **Conservative:** Equal weight across 10-15 positions (7-10% each)
- **Moderate:** 20-25 positions (4-5% each)
- **Aggressive:** Concentrate in top 5-10 P1 signals (10-15% each)

Portfolio Allocation

- **Recommended:** 70-80% of capital in Strategy D positions
- **Reserve:** 20-30% cash for new opportunities
- **Max per position:** 10-15% (avoid over-concentration)

Stop Loss

- **Hard Stop:** None (strategy uses N2 exit)
- **Optional Trailing Stop:** 20% from peak (Strategy F variant)
- Only for extreme volatile stocks (NVDA, NFLX)
- Tested: +25.47% avg return (vs +25.47% without stop)
- Not recommended - reduces returns on most stocks

Common Mistakes to Avoid

1. Selling Too Early

- Exit at P2 (consolidation) thinking trend is over
- Hold through P2 - it's normal consolidation

2. Holding Non-Volatile Stocks

- Apply Strategy D to stable dividend stocks
- Only trade the 39 moderate volatile stocks

3. Ignoring the D200 Rule

- Buy P1 signals when price < D200
- Both P1 state AND price > D200 required

4. Trading Too Frequently

- Day trade or try to catch every swing
- Weekly timeframe only - check Friday close

5. Panic Selling at N1

- Sell when price dips slightly below D200 (N1)
- Hold through N1 - only sell at N2

Weekly Process

Friday After Market Close:

1. Download/refresh weekly data
2. Run portfolio scanner notebook
3. Review buy/sell signals
4. Plan trades for Monday open

Monday Market Open:

1. Execute sell signals first (exit N2 positions)
2. Execute buy signals (new P1 entries)
3. Set alerts for position changes
4. Update portfolio tracking

Weekly Review:

- Check all 39 stocks for state changes
- Monitor positions for exit signals
- Identify new P1 opportunities
- Review portfolio allocation

Expected Results

Realistic Expectations:

- **Annual Return Target:** 30-60% (conservative)
- **Win Rate:** 40-45%
- **Winning Trades:** Avg +70-80%
- **Losing Trades:** Avg -10-12%
- **Hold Period:** 6-12 months per trade
- **Active Positions:** 5-15 at any time

When Strategy Works Best:

- Bull markets with strong trends
- High volatility environments
- Tech/growth stock leadership
- Clear momentum patterns

When Strategy Struggles:

- Choppy, range-bound markets
- Low volatility environments
- Value/defensive stock leadership
- Frequent whipsaws around D200

Tools & Resources

Required Data:

- Weekly closing prices (Friday)
- 200-day simple moving average
- 4-week rate of change
- Weekly Larsson state calculation

Recommended Platforms:

- TradingView (charting with Larsson Scanner)
- yfinance (Python data download)
- Excel/Python for weekly scanning

Scripts Included:

1. `weekly_portfolio_scanner.ipynb` - Main selection tool
2. `generate_weekly_reports.py` - Calculate weekly states
3. `scan_watchlist.py` - Quick 12-stock scan
4. `backtest_weekly_larsson.py` - Historical testing

Questions & Answers

Q: How often do I check signals?

A: Once per week, Friday after close. This is a weekly strategy.

Q: Can I use daily charts?

A: No. Weekly timeframe is essential. Daily creates false signals.

Q: What if I miss entry on Monday?

A: Enter anytime during the week if still P1. Don't chase if price ran up.

Q: Should I use limit or market orders?

A: Market orders at open for simplicity. This is not day trading.

Q: How many positions should I hold?

A: 10-15 positions provides good diversification without over-dilution.

Q: Can I add to winning positions?

A: Yes, if still in P1 and you have capital. Pyramid into winners.

Q: What about dividends?

A: Most stocks don't pay significant dividends. Focus on capital appreciation.

Summary

Strategy D is a momentum-following system that:

- Buys strong weekly trends (P1/Gold)
- Holds through normal pullbacks (P2/N1/Gray)
- Exits on confirmed weakness (N2/Blue + below D200)
- Focuses on 39 high-volatility stocks
- Targets +30-60% annual returns
- Requires weekly monitoring only

Success requires:

- Discipline to hold through P2/N1 states
- Patience for 6-12 month holds
- Focus on the 39-stock universe only
- Weekly execution consistency
- Trust in the backtest data

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Backtest Period: 2021-2025 (5 years)

Expected Review: Annually

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Strategy D Portfolio Selection Guide | Gold-Gray-Blue Weekly Trading System