Suppose you know that a company's stock currently sells for \$61 per share and the required return on the stock is 11 percent. You also know that the total return on the stock is evenly divided between a capital gains yield and a dividend yield. If it's the company's policy to always maintain a constant growth rate in its dividends, what is the current dividend per share? (Do not round intermediate calculations and round your answer to 2 decimal places, e.g., 32.16.)

References

Worksheet Learning Objective: 08-

01 Explain how stock prices depend on future dividends and dividend

arowth.

Difficulty: 1 Basic Section: 8.1 Common

Stock Valuation

Suppose you know that a company's stock currently sells for \$61 per share and the required return on the stock is 11 percent. You also know that the total return on the stock is evenly divided between a capital gains yield and a dividend yield. If it's the company's policy to always maintain a constant growth rate in its dividends, what is the current dividend per share? (Do not round intermediate calculations and round your answer to 2 decimal places, e.g., 32.16.)

Current dividend per share	\$	3.18+/-1%
----------------------------	----	-----------

Explanation:

Note: Intermediate answers are shown below as rounded, but the full answer was used to complete the calculation.

We know the stock has a required return of 11 percent, and the dividend and capital gains yield are equal, so:

Dividend yield = 1/2(.11) = .055 = Capital gains yield

Now we know both the dividend yield and capital gains yield. The dividend is simply the stock price times the dividend yield, so:

$$D_1 = .055(\$61)$$

 $D_1 = \$3.36$

This is the dividend next year. The question asks for the dividend this year. Using the relationship between the dividend this year and the dividend next year:

$$D_1 = D_0(1+g)$$

We can solve for the dividend that was just paid:

$$$3.36 = D_0(1 + .055)$$

 $D_0 = $3.36/1.055$
 $D_0 = 3.18