

# Stock shares

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A company's [stock](#) share is a piece of the company; more precisely:

*A stock (also known as equity) is a security that represents the ownership of a fraction of a [corporation](#). This entitles the owner of the stock to a proportion of the corporation's [assets](#) and profits equal to how much stock they own. Units of stock are called "shares." [1]*

An investor can buy a stock and sell it later. If the stock price increases, the investor profits, If it decreases, the investor will incur a loss. Determining the stock price is complex; it depends on the number of outstanding shares, the size of the company's future profits, and much more. People trade stocks throughout the day. The **stock ticker** is a report of the price of a certain stock, updated continuously throughout the trading session by the various **stock** market exchanges. In this lab, you will use the y-finance API to obtain the stock ticker and extract information about the stock. You will then be asked questions about your results.