

The Do's and Don'ts when Adding Low-Correlating Strategies



Investors using alternatives for diversification should consider **low-correlating strategies** that can move independently from stocks and bonds. These strategies have the potential to create a smoother ride and provide a more consistent outcome. Below are some **do's and don'ts to consider** when incorporating low-correlating strategies.



DO:

- **Understand correlations** among your core holdings
- Be clear on **why you own it** and the outcome you're trying to achieve
- **Allocate enough** to make a difference. It's unlikely marginal tweaks would have a meaningful impact
- Allocate to a **sleeve of multiple strategies** to address different market concerns
- Know your **alternatives managers**



DON'T:

- Lose sight of **risk management**
- Try to **time market** cycles
- Sell low-correlating strategies when the stock market is outperforming
- Go exclusively for the **lowest cost provider**
- Invest based solely on a **back-tested hypothetical, track record**

Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market. Correlation measures how much the returns of two investments move together over time. Sharpe Ratio - measures the amount by which a set of values differs from the arithmetical mean, equal to the square root of the mean of the differences' squares. Drawdown refers to how much an investment or trading account is down from the peak before it recovers back to the peak. Drawdowns are typically quoted as a percentage, but dollar terms may also be used if applicable for a specific trader. Drawdowns are a measure of downside volatility.

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