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100

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100 Best Time-Tested Funds

To find our top picks, we combed through data for more 5,000 mutual funds, searching for the highest total returns since the stock market bottomed after the 1987 crash. We looked for funds that survived the ups and downs, excluding niche funds, index funds and those with high expenses.

RANK	FUND NAME	INVESTING STYLE	21-YR. CUMULATIVE RETURN (%)	10-YR. AVG. ANNUAL RETURN (%)	EXPENSE RATIO (%)
1	Fidelity Contrafund (FCNTX)	Large-cap growth	1,338.5	3.9	0.89
2	FPA Capital (FPPTX)	Midcap value	1,323.0	6.4	0.87
3	Mairs & Power Growth (MPGFX)	Multicap core	1,199.9	6.0	0.68
4	Principal West Coast Equity (CMNWX)	Multicap core	1,097.6	6.9	0.83
5	Columbia Acorn (ACRNX)	Midcap growth	1,095.8	7.8	0.74
6	Meridian Growth (MERDX)	Midcap core	1,028.0	7.3	0.84
7	Vanguard Primecap (VPMCX)	Multicap core	1,025.7	4.3	0.43
8	AIM Mid Cap Core Equity (GTAGX)	Midcap core	979.3	7.7	1.20
9	Mutual Qualified (MQIFX)	Multicap value	940.7	7.3	0.79
10	First Eagle Fund of America (FEAFX)	Midcap core	927.2	4.6	1.40
11	Fidelity Growth Co. (FDGRX)	Multicap growth	893.9	2.0	0.92
12	Sequoia (SEQUX)	Large-cap core	893.5	2.3	1.00
13	First Eagle Global (SGENX)	Global flexible portfolio	863.8	11.7	1.12
14	Amer. Funds Growth Fund of America (AGTHX)	Multicap growth	825.5	3.9	0.62
15	Delaware Small Cap Value (DEVLX)	Small-cap value	804.3	4.8	1.37
16	Columbia Mid Cap Growth (CLSPX)	Midcap growth	773.3	2.3	0.93
17	FAM Value (FAMVX)	Midcap value	766.8	4.0	1.19
18	Amer. Century Tgt. Maturities: 2015 (BTFTX)	General bond	763.7	6.6	0.57
19	FMI Common Stock (FMIMX)	Small-cap value	754.5	7.1	1.22
20	JPMorgan Capital Growth (VCAGX)	Midcap growth	729.9	1.7	1.13
21	Van Kampen Exchange (ACEHX)	Large-cap core	705.5	1.3	0.46
22	T. Rowe Price Capital Appreciation (PRWCX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	705.2	6.5	0.70
23	FPA Perennial (FPPFX)	Midcap core	670.4	7.1	0.95
24	T. Rowe Price New Horizon (PRNHX)	Small-cap growth	668.0	2.9	0.80
25	Mutual Shares (MUTHX)	Multicap value	662.8	4.0	0.74
26	Baron Asset (BARAX)	Midcap growth	652.5	1.9	1.32
27	Sound Shore (SSHFX)	Multicap value	647.1	2.2	0.92
28	Fidelity Congress Street (CNGRX)	Large-cap core	644.8	1.4	0.50
29	Royce Pennsylvania Mutual (PENNX)	Small-cap core	644.4	6.9	0.88
30	Stratton Multi Cap (STRGX)	Multicap core	643.7	3.6	1.05
31	Van Kampen Comstock (ACSTX)	Large-cap value	640.3	2.1	0.78
32	Oppenheimer Global (OPPAX)	Global large-cap growth	633.3	4.7	1.09
33	Van Kampen Growth & Income (ACGIX)	Large-cap value	631.4	3.4	0.77
34	Amer. Century Tgt. Maturities: 2010 (BTTNX)	General bond	630.9	5.6	0.57
35	Amer. Funds New Perspective (ANWPX)	Global large-cap core	626.3	4.2	0.70
36	Van Kampen Equity & Income (ACEIX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	621.9	4.3	0.76
37	Fidelity Exchange (FDLEX)	Large-cap core	619.4	1.4	0.50
38	Eaton Vance Large-Cap Value (EHSTX)	Large-cap value	616.6	3.9	0.98
39	Amer. Funds Washington Mutual (AWSHX)	Large-cap value	609.1	1.3	0.57
40	Federated Capital Appreciation (FEDEX)	Large-cap core	603.1	3.5	1.22
41	Vanguard Wellington (VWELX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	594.9	4.1	0.27
42	State Farm Growth (STFGX)	Large-cap core	594.1	1.7	0.12
43	Amer. Funds EuroPacific Growth (AEPGX)	International multicap growth	591.5	4.5	0.74
44	Columbia Small Cap Value (CSMIX)	Small-cap value	589.9	6.0	1.26
45	T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Stock (OTCFX)	Small-cap core	585.1	4.5	0.89

RANK	FUND NAME	INVESTING STYLE	21-YR. CUMULATIVE RETURN (%)	10-YR. AVG. ANNUAL RETURN (%)	EXPENSE RATIO (%)
46	Natixis CGM Advisor Targeted Eq. (NEFGX)	Large-cap growth	582.6	1.6	1.17
47	Evergreen Omega (EKOAX)	Multicap growth	578.8	0.3	1.40
48	Amer. Funds Investment Co. of America (AIVSX)	Large-cap value	578.3	1.8	0.54
49	Value Line Premier Growth (VALSX)	Midcap growth	571.7	4.5	1.11
50	Victory Established Value (GETGX)	Midcap value	569.6	4.9	1.27
51	Mairs & Power Balanced (MAPOX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	568.7	4.1	0.77
52	State Farm Balanced (STFBX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. moderate	557.9	2.9	0.13
53	Value Line Income & Growth (VALIX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. moderate	557.7	5.0	1.04
54	Amer. Funds AMCAP (AMCPX)	Multicap core	555.7	1.8	0.65
55	Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Growth 1.0 (CAPEX)	Large-cap core	555.4	0.6	0.45
56	Waddell & Reed Advisors Core Invest. (UNCMX)	Large-cap core	551.9	0.7	1.07
57	FMI Provident Trust Strategy (FMIRX)	Flexible portfolio	546.2	2.0	1.00
58	Victory Small Co. Opportunity (GOGFX)	Small-cap value	541.2	4.2	1.45
59	Federated Mid Cap Growth Strategies (FGSAX)	Multicap growth	537.7	1.6	0.98
60	Oppenheimer Rising Dividends (OARDX)	Large-cap core	535.4	1.3	1.13
61	Dreyfus Appreciation (DGAGX)	Large-cap core	527.9	-0.5	0.95
62	RS Large Cap Alpha (GPAFX)	Large-cap core	524.7	-1.3	0.93
63	Vanguard Wellesley Income (VWINX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. conserv.	519.6	4.6	0.25
64	Calamos Convertible (CCVIX)	Convertible securities	518.0	4.8	1.13
65	Legg Mason Partners Appreciation (SHAPX)	Large-cap core	516.0	1.8	0.95
66	Vanguard Long-Term U.S. Treasury (VUSTX)	General U.S. Treasury	511.6	6.9	0.26
67	Franklin Rising Dividends (FRDPX)	Multicap value	510.7	3.3	1.00
68	Berwyn (BERWX)	Small-cap value	508.8	5.8	1.27
69	Vanguard Explorer (VEXPX)	Small-cap growth	508.7	3.9	0.41
70	Delaware Growth Opportunities (DFCIX)	Midcap growth	506.6	1.9	1.43
71	Amer. Funds Amer. Balanced (ABALX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	506.5	4.0	0.58
72	Putnam Equity Income (PEYAX)	Equity income	505.9	2.1	0.97
73	Vanguard STAR (VGSTX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	491.8	3.4	0.32
74	AIM Charter (CHTRX)	Large-cap core	489.3	0.2	1.15
75	Amer. Funds Amer. Mutual (AMRMX)	Multicap value	488.5	2.2	0.56
76	MFS Mass. Investors Growth Stock (MIGFX)	Large-cap growth	485.8	-2.4	0.90
77	Greenspring (GRSPX)	Flexible portfolio	485.7	6.8	1.03
78	Fidelity Capital Appreciation (FDCAX)	Multicap growth	485.7	1.8	0.82
79	Pioneer (PIODX)	Large-cap core	485.0	0.2	1.08
80	Fidelity Puritan (FPURX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	484.0	2.1	0.60
81	Vanguard Morgan Growth (VMRGX)	Multicap growth	476.7	-0.2	0.36
82	MFS Massachusetts Investors Trust (MITTX)	Large-cap core	474.9	-1.2	0.85
83	Wasatch-Hoisington U.S. Treasury (WHOSX)	General U.S. Treasury	474.5	7.6	0.71
84	John Hancock Large Cap Equity (TAGRX)	Multicap growth	471.8	1.9	1.14
85	MFS Total Return (MSFRX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. moderate	471.4	3.4	0.87
86	Berwyn Income (BERIX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. conserv.	467.8	5.6	0.71
87	Waddell & Reed Advisors Accumulative (UNACX)	Multicap core	462.1	1.4	1.09
88	Sentinel Common Stock (SENCX)	Large-cap core	461.5	0.8	1.10
89	Value Line Larger Companies (VALLX)	Large-cap growth	461.0	-1.0	0.88
90	T. Rowe Price New America Growth (PRWAX)	Multicap growth	457.7	-2.1	0.85
91	Amana Trust Income (AMANX)	Equity income	455.6	4.6	1.31
92	Dreyfus Balanced Opportunity (THPBX)	Mixed-asset tgt. alloc. growth	454.7	2.9	0.86
93	MFS Research (MFRFX)	Large-cap core	453.8	-1.0	0.97
94	Oppenheimer Discovery (OPOCX)	Small-cap growth	451.6	0.9	1.25
95	William Blair Growth (WBG SX)	Multicap growth	447.6	-1.0	1.22
96	Legg Mason Partners Dividend Strategy (CSGWX)	Equity income	446.6	-0.4	0.86
97	Parnassus (PARNX)	Multicap core	443.4	2.2	0.99
98	Tamarack Value (TVASX)	Large-cap value	442.4	0.2	1.03
99	Neuberger Berman Guardian (NGUAX)	Multicap core	442.2	0.3	0.89
100	Federated Equity-Income (LEIFX)	Equity income	438.0	-0.1	1.10

Data through November 2008.

SOURCE: LIPPER

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