

Mutual Fund Equities 6.30.2021

# Rydex Equity Leverage and Inverse Funds Focus

Leveraged and inverse investment products provide the opportunity for magnified exposure to a desired index. Benchmarked daily to published indices, leveraged and inverse funds offer leveraged long or short exposure to the daily return of various indices or benchmarks. Due to their complex nature and inherent risks, these products should only be used by sophisticated investors with a solid understanding of the risks and the ongoing ability to closely monitor these investments. The funds' use of derivatives, such as futures, options, and swap agreements, may expose the funds' shareholders to additional risks that they would not be subject to if they invested directly in the securities underlying those derivatives. The risks associated with the funds' use of futures and options contracts include that there may be an imperfect correlation between the changes in the market value of the derivatives and the underlying securities. The funds could experience greater losses or smaller gains than if the funds directly invested in the underlying securities.

### **Leveraged Funds**

Leveraged funds allow you to magnify your exposure to a desired index. They seek to deliver multiples on a daily basis, such as 1.5 times or two times the performance of the index or benchmark they track. If you have a strong belief that the market is headed upward, you may want to invest in a leveraged investment.

Leverage causes the value of a fund's shares to be more volatile than if the fund did not use leverage. The increased exposure to an index is achieved through the use of instruments such as derivatives (*e.g.*, futures, swaps, and options), as well as through the underlying securities that enable the leveraged investment to pursue its objective. It's important to note that the use of borrowing (or other forms of leverage) provides the potential for greater gains and losses than those inherent in the underlying index.

#### Leveraged funds:

- Employ a strategy that seeks to magnify the index's exposure by a specific percentage on a daily basis.
- Provide enhanced exposure to an underlying benchmark per dollar invested
- Are intended for investors who expect a specific index to go up and want accelerated investment gains when it does so—however, there is an increased risk of accelerated losses if the market declines.

#### **Inverse Funds**

Inverse funds, sometimes referred to as "short" funds, move in the opposite direction of the market, meaning they attempt to deliver the opposite of the performance of the index they track on a daily basis. These funds are designed to increase in value when the market declines and decrease in value when the market rises. Their structure gives investors the ability to hedge a portfolio or potentially profit in a down market.

#### Inverse funds:

- Employ a strategy that seeks to inversely correspond to a specific percentage of the daily performance of a stated index.
- Provide an alternative to shorting individual stocks, bonds, and currencies.
- Offer a potential portfolio hedge against market declines due to their daily inverse correlation to the underlying benchmark.
- The funds are also subject to short sales risk. Short sales are transactions in which funds sell a security they do not own, borrowing the security to make delivery to the buyer. They are obligated to replace the security borrowed by purchasing the security at the market price at the time of replacement. The price at such time may be higher or lower than the price at which the security was sold, resulting in a gain or a loss on the transaction.

Leveraged and inverse funds provide leveraged long or short exposure to the daily return of various indices or benchmarks.

# A Lesson on Compounding

At first glance, some investors might make the assumption that a leveraged or inverse fund will produce a simple multiple of an index's performance. For example, if the S&P  $500^\circ$  was up 5% in a single month, an uninformed investor might assume that a fund leveraged two times to the S&P  $500^\circ$  would deliver a 10% return during that same period. However, that simple assumption is incorrect. Compounding plays a major role in the ending performance of most funds, but especially leveraged or inverse funds.

# Leverage Magnifies Compounding

As leveraged investments magnify the impact of market movements, the results of compounding are also magnified. In an upward- or downward-trending market, a leveraged investment that is on the correct side of the trend will see magnified end results, while one on the wrong side of the trend will see magnified losses. When the underlying index is volatile, the leveraged fund will amplify this volatility.

# An Example of Leveraged and Inverse Leveraged Compounding

The following graphs further illustrate the impact of leverage and inverse leverage on fund performance in comparison to the performance of the fund's underlying index in three different markets—upward, flat and, downward. Each of the three graphs shows a simulated hypothetical of the one-year performance of an index (1x index) compared with the performance of a fund that perfectly achieves its investment objective of exactly twice (200%) the daily index returns (2x index) and the inverse of exactly twice the daily index returns (inverse 2x index).

In order to isolate the impact of leverage, these hypothetical examples assume (i) no tracking error; (ii) no dividends paid by the companies included in the underlying index; (iii) no expenses; and (iv) borrowing and/or lending rates (required to obtain leverage) of 0%. If tracking error, fund expenses, and borrowing and lending rates of greater than 0% were included in the graphs, the fund's performance (1x index) would be lower than that shown.

Each of the graphs assumes an index volatility of 20%. An index's volatility is a statistical measure of the magnitude of the fluctuations in the returns of an index. For example, the average of the most recent three-year historical volatility of the S&P 500° Index is 11.93% for the period ended 6.30.2021′. The S&P 500° Index's volatility may be more or less significant at any given time. The indices underlying Rydex funds' benchmarks have different historical volatilities, which may be more or less significant than the index volatilities assumed in the graphs shown. The hypothetical graphs are meant to demonstrate the effects of leverage and inverse leverage and are in no way indicative of the actual performance of any Rydex funds.

As illustrated by these simple examples, the effect of leverage can make it difficult to form longer-term expectations or judgments about a leveraged fund's performance given only the returns of the unleveraged index. As a general rule of thumb, more leverage will magnify the compounding effect. In addition, periods of high volatility in an underlying index will also cause the effects of compounding to be more pronounced.

\*Source: Morningstar.





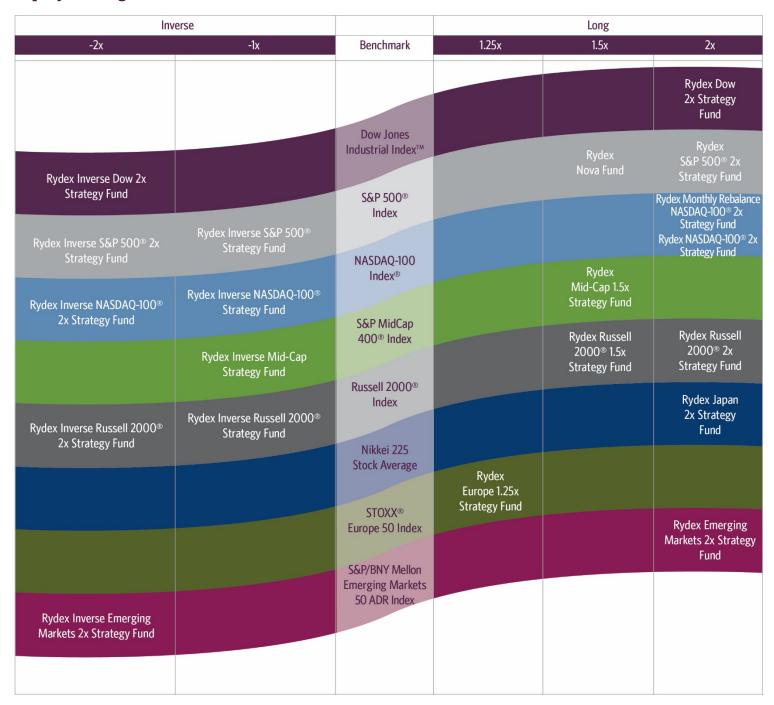


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# The Importance of Monitoring Leveraged and Inverse Investments

The amplified effect of compounding on leveraged and inverse mutual funds underscores the importance of investors having a thorough understanding of these investments before making any investment decisions. Investors should monitor their leveraged and inverse holdings—as frequently as daily—to ensure that the holdings are consistent with their strategies, and consult with their financial advisor before deciding what, if any, course of action to take for their particular situation.

### **Equity Leverage and Inverse Funds**



all investors. • These funds should be utilized only by investors who (a) additional risks that they would not be subject to if they invested directly in the Due to the compounding of daily returns, leveraged and inverse funds' volatility due to the funds' possible use of short sales of securities and funds that use leverage as part of their investment strategy, may prevent a response to that day's losses. derivatives, such as options and futures. • The funds' use of derivatives, such as fund from correlating with the monthly, quarterly, annual, or other period (Risk Considerations Continued On Next Page)

Risk Considerations Inverse and leveraged funds are not suitable for futures, options, and swap agreements, may expose the funds' shareholders to performance of its benchmark.

understand the risks associated with the use of leverage, (b) understand securities underlying those derivatives. • Short-selling involves increased risks returns over periods other than one day will likely differ in amount and the consequences of seeking daily leveraged investment results, (c) and costs. You risk paying more for a security than you received from its sale. possibly direction from the benchmark return for the same period. For understand the risk of shorting, and (d) intend to actively monitor and • Leveraged and inverse funds seek to provide investment results that match those funds that consistently apply leverage, the value of the fund's shares will manage their investments. • The more a fund invests in leveraged the performance of a specific benchmark, before fees and expenses, on a daily tend to increase or decrease more than the value of any increase or decrease in instruments, the more the leverage will magnify any gains or losses on those basis. Because the funds seek to track the performance of their benchmark on its benchmark index. The funds rebalance their portfolios on a daily basis, investments. • Inverse funds involve certain risks, which include increased a daily basis, mathematical compounding, especially with respect to those increasing exposure in response to that day's gains or reducing exposure in

#### **Average Annual Total Returns**

	Symbol	YTD	1-Year	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year	Since Fund Inception	Gross Expense Ratio	Fund Inception Date
Equity Leveraged Fund Names (H Class)									
Rydex Dow 2x Strategy	RYCVX	26.85%	78.03%	20.05%	26.00%	20.84%	11.54%	1.88%	2.20.2004
Rydex Emerging Markets 2x Strategy	RYWVX	2.65%	102.87%	19.23%	22.26%	0.90%	0.76%	1.87%	10.29.2010
Rydex Europe 1.25x Strategy	RYEUX	13.70%	33.08%	8.97%	9.07%	3.45%	-0.40%	1.86%/1.82%	5.8.2000
Rydex Japan 2x Strategy Fund	RYJHX	-7.22%	52.16%	13.10%	19.28%	12.01%	5.38%	1.72%/1.67%	2.22.2008
Rydex Mid-Cap 1.5x Strategy	RYMDX	25.47%	83.67%	13.52%	16.78%	14.62%	10.23%	1.84%/1.80%	8.16.2001
Rydex Monthly Rebalance NASDAQ-100® 2x Strategy	RMQHX	26.44%	96.79%	52.98%	54.25%	_	40.63%	1.84%/1.36%1	11.28.2014
Rydex NASDAQ-100® 2x Strategy	RYVYX	24.22%	92.96%	48.37%	50.76%	37.57%	4.64%	1.87%	5.24.2000
Rydex Nova	RYNHX	22.19%	63.07%	23.04%	22.40%	_	17.26%	1.64%/1.63%	9.18.2014
Rydex Russell 2000® 1.5x Strategy	RYMKX	25.24%	99.61%	14.48%	20.25%	14.41%	8.48%	1.91%/1.87%	11.1.2000
Rydex Russell 2000® 2x Strategy	RYRSX	32.86%	143.26%	14.04%	23.41%	16.26%	8.53%	1.89%	5.31.2006
Rydex S&P 500® 2x Strategy	RYTNX	30.01%	88.77%	28.40%	28.60%	23.98%	6.21%	1.84%	5.19.2000
Equity Inverse Fund Names (H Class)									
Rydex Inverse Dow 2x Strategy	RYCWX	-25.21%	-50.46%	-35.26%	-33.70%	-29.31%	-23.40%	1.87%	2.20.2004
Rydex Inverse Emerging Markets 2x Strategy	RYWYX	-16.67%	-63.03%	-36.72%	-34.58%	-21.55%	-21.48%	1.87%	10.29.2010
Rydex Inverse Mid-Cap Strategy	RYMHX	-16.97%	-37.54%	-16.73%	-15.85%	-14.75%	-12.82%	1.90%/1.82%	2.20.2004
Rydex Inverse NASDAQ-100® 2x Strategy	RYVNX	-27.67%	-59.53%	-49.80%	-46.48%	-39.71%	-29.80%	1.87%	5.23.2000
Rydex Inverse NASDAQ-100® Strategy	RYALX	-14.11%	-34.97%	-26.55%	-24.89%	_	-20.99%	1.87%/1.84%	9.18.2014
Rydex Inverse Russell 2000® 2x Strategy	RYIRX	-34.21%	-68.33%	-38.97%	-37.42%	-32.63%	-31.33%	1.91%	5.31.2006
Rydex Inverse Russell 2000® Strategy	RYSHX	-17.63%	-42.06%	-18.26%	-18.44%	-15.82%	-13.59%	1.87%/1.84%	2.20.2004
Rydex Inverse S&P 500® 2x Strategy	RYTPX	-27.15%	-53.48%	-38.03%	-33.89%	-30.58%	-20.46%	1.84%	5.19.2000
Rydex Inverse S&P 500® Strategy	RYUHX	-14.42%	-31.19%	-19.05%	-17.11%	_	-14.68%	1.82%/1.80%	9.18.2014

Performance displayed represents past performance, which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that when shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. For up-to-date fund performance, including performance current to the most recent month end, please visit our website at GuggenheimInvestments.com. Unless otherwise noted, data is as of 6.30.2021. Data is subject to change on a daily basis. Partial year returns are cumulative, not annualized. Returns reflect the reinvestment of dividends. Index data source: FundStation.

1 The Advisor has contractually agreed to waive fees and expenses to limit the ordinary operating expenses of the Fund until the agreement is terminated only with the approval of the Fund's Board of Trustees.

(Risk Considerations Continued) Daily rebalancing will impair a fund's of its assets in securities of individual issuers than a diversified fund. Changes not be relied upon for or in connection with the making of investment performance if the benchmark experiences volatility. Investors should in the market value of a single security, therefore, could cause greater decisions, and does not constitute a solicitation of an offer to buy or sell monitor their leveraged and inverse funds' holdings to ensure that they fluctuations in the value of the fund shares than would occur in a more securities. All content has been provided for informational or are consistent with their strategies, as frequently as daily. • Please read diversified fund. the prospectus for more detailed information regarding these and other risks. Read a fund's prospectus and summary prospectus (if construed as legal or tax advice and/or a legal opinion. Always consult a Shares of mutual funds are not deposits of, or guaranteed or endorsed by, any available) carefully before investing. It contains the fund's financial, tax and/or legal professional regarding your specific situation. financial institution; are not insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Federal Reserve Board, or any other agency, and information, which should be considered carefully before Distributors, LLC. Guggenheim Investments represents the investment involve risk, including the possible loss of the principal amount invested. See the prospectus for details on the specific risks of each fund. The funds are offered in multiple share classes. Please read the prospectus for information on fees, expenses, and holding periods that may apply to each class. Each class This material is not intended as a recommendation or as investment invests in the same underlying portfolio. With the exception of the asset advice of any kind, including in connection with rollovers, transfers, and Guggenheim and SI. allocation funds, each fund is non-diversified and can invest a greater portion distributions. Such material is not provided in a fiduciary capacity, may QTR-MFLI-0621 x0921 #48792

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