PORTFOLIO VALUE	PORTFOLIO RETURN	CASH BALANCE	BUYING POWER	TRADES MADE
$10,128,725.10	1.29%	$6,694,512.30	$16,814,619.90	30 / 200

ETF Portfolio Project

"Girls Who Trade"

By Ainsley Disney & Lucy Tilden

Portfolio Summary: Portfolio focused on balancing real estate, tech, crypto, and small-cap ETFs. After early losses, we switched into stronger momentum trades and closed with a +1.29% return.

Girls Who Trade was allocated $10 million in virtual funds to manage through active ETF trades. Of this amount, we injected approximately $3.43 million into positions, while holding the remainder in cash to preserve flexibility and manage risk during the short trading window. Over the two-week trading period (9/8/25 – 9/26/25), our invested capital generated a 1.29% gain, increasing our overall portfolio value to $10,128,725.10. While the percentage may seem small, in the context of just two weeks and extreme volatility, this performance is significant. It reflects our ability to recover from early losses, adapt our positions, and reallocate based on evolving market conditions.

We began with a diversified allocation across real estate ETFs (SCHH, XLRE, VNQ), broad market exposure (SPY), and alternative assets (IBIT for Bitcoin exposure, SLV/GLD for precious metals). The intent was to balance sectors of personal interest, such as real estate and technology, with defensive hedges in commodities.

We also experimented with a short position (CWVX) and leveraged ETFs (TQQQ, TNA) to capture short-term swings and express both bullish and bearish views, though maintaining a strong bullish position throughout the two weeks. Our initial idea was that high volatility would provide high returns and good trading opportunities, particularly in 3x leveraged, small-cap, and real estate funds.

Early on, we faced a back-and-forth of small returns and losses. The most notable loss was a short position in CWVX, which quickly moved against us. We eventually exited this trade to limit further downside. Real estate ETFs like VNQ lagged expectations, while IBIT showed strong but volatile returns, surging early before plummeting at the end of the period.

To rebound, we shifted toward stronger momentum plays. Positions in DUOL and TNA generated meaningful short-term gains, while additions like QCOM, NFLX, and TVTX broadened our sector exposure. Exiting weaker positions in BIZD, LAC, and BBU helped us avoid compounding losses. This active reallocation allowed us to move from an early deficit to a net positive return.

By the end of trading, the portfolio held a balanced mix of real estate ETFs (SCHH, XLRE, VNQ), broad market exposure (SPY), technology (QCOM, NFLX), crypto (IBIT), healthcare (TVTX), and a tactical small-cap position (TNA). While several core holdings in real estate and crypto ended slightly negative, they were offset by strong gains in DUOL, TNA, and SPY.

This project highlighted the importance of risk management, as seen in our urgent exit from the failed CWVX short. We also learned the value of diversification through balancing real estate, tech, crypto, and healthcare, which reduced volatility while preserving returns. Adaptability helped pivot from underperforming trades to momentum-driven opportunities, which allowed us to recover quickly. Finally, we saw how consistent monitoring and balanced adjustments are key to successful portfolio management.