

# Williams-Sonoma Inc. Fundamental Company Report Including Financial, SWOT, Competitors and Industry Analysis

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## Abstracts

Williams-Sonoma Inc. Fundamental Company Report provides a complete overview of the company's affairs. All available data is presented in a comprehensive and easily accessed format. The report includes financial and SWOT information, industry analysis, opinions, estimates, plus annual and quarterly forecasts made by stock market experts. The report also enables direct comparison to be made between Williams-Sonoma Inc. and its competitors. This provides our Clients with a clear understanding of Williams-Sonoma Inc. position in the [Retail](#) Industry.

The report contains detailed information about Williams-Sonoma Inc. that gives an unrivalled in-depth knowledge about internal business-environment of the company: data about the owners, senior executives, locations, subsidiaries, markets, products, and company history.

Another part of the report is a SWOT-analysis carried out for Williams-Sonoma Inc.. It involves specifying the objective of the company's business and identifies the different factors that are favorable and unfavorable to achieving that objective. SWOT-analysis helps to understand company's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and possible threats against it.

The Williams-Sonoma Inc. financial analysis covers the income statement and ratio trend-charts with balance sheets and cash flows presented on an annual and quarterly basis. The report outlines the main financial ratios pertaining to profitability, margin analysis, asset turnover, credit ratios, and company's long-

term solvency. This sort of company's information will assist and strengthen your company's decision-making processes.

In the part that describes Williams-Sonoma Inc. competitors and the industry in whole, the information about company's financial ratios is compared to those of its competitors and to the industry. The unique analysis of the market and company's competitors along with detailed information about the internal and external factors affecting the relevant industry will help to manage your business environment. Your company's business and sales activities will be boosted by gaining an insight into your competitors' businesses.

Also the report provides relevant news, an analysis of PR-activity, and stock price movements. The latter are correlated with pertinent news and press releases, and annual and quarterly forecasts are given by a variety of experts and market research firms. Such information creates your awareness about principal trends of Williams-Sonoma Inc. business.

### **About Williams-Sonoma Inc.**

Williams-Sonoma, Inc. operates as a specialty retailer of products for the home.

#### Segments

Retail segment sells products through five retail store concepts (Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, West Elm, and Williams-Sonoma Home). As of January 31, 2010, the company operated 610 retail stores, located in 44 states, Washington, D.C., Canada and Puerto Rico. This represents 259 Williams-Sonoma, 199 Pottery Barn, 87 Pottery Barn Kids, 36 West Elm, 11 Williams-Sonoma Home and 18 Outlet stores (which carry merchandise from all merchandising concepts).

Direct-to-Customer segment of the company's business sells similar products through seven direct-mail catalogs (Williams-Sonoma, Pottery Barn, Pottery Barn Kids, Pottery Barn Bed and Bath, PBteen, West Elm and Williams-Sonoma Home) and six e-commerce websites (williams-sonoma.com, potterybarn.com, potterybarnkids.com, pbteen.com, westelm.com and wshome.com). The catalogs reach customers throughout the U.S., while the five retail concepts, as of January 31, 2010, operated 610 stores in 44 states, Washington, D.C., Canada and Puerto Rico.

The main brands in both the retail and direct-to-customer channels are: Pottery Barn, which sells casual home furnishings; Williams-Sonoma, which sells cooking and entertaining essentials; and Pottery Barn Kids, which sells stylish children's furnishings.

## Brands

**Williams-Sonoma:** Williams-Sonoma stores offer a selection of culinary and serving equipment, including cookware, cookbooks, cutlery, informal dinnerware, glassware, table linens, specialty foods, and cooking ingredients.

**Pottery Barn:** Pottery Barn features an assortment of home furnishings and furniture that the company designs internally and sources from worldwide. The company offers Pottery Barn e-commerce Web site, and Pottery Barn Bed and Bath, a catalog to bed and bath products. Additionally, in 2001 the company launched Pottery Barn gift and bridal registry.

**Pottery Barn Kids:** Pottery Barn Kids is retailer offering children's furnishings and accessories.

**West Elm:** West Elm offers a range of home furnishing categories including furniture, textiles, decorative accessories, lighting and tabletop items.

**PBteen:** PBteen offers collections of home furnishings and decorative accessories that are specifically designed to reflect the personalities of the teenage market.

**Williams-Sonoma Home:** The Williams-Sonoma Home brand offers home furnishings and decorative accessories.

## International

As of January 31, 2010, the company operated 17 stores across Canada representing all of its retail brands except Williams-Sonoma Home. In addition, during 2009, the company entered into a multi-year franchise agreement with the M.H. Alshaya Company to launch a portfolio of brands in the Middle East.

## History

Williams-Sonoma, Inc. was founded in 1956.

The above Company Fundamental Report is a half-ready report and contents are subject to change.

It means that we have all necessary data in our database to prepare the report but need **2-3 days** to complete it. During this time we are also updating the report with respect to the current moment. So, you can get all the most recent data available for the same price. Please note that preparation of additional types of analyses requires extra time.

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1 – Data availability depends on company's security policy.

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## ANALYSIS FEATURES

### SWOT Analysis

SWOT, which stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats, is an analytical framework that identifies the internal and external factors that are favorable and unfavorable for a company.

### Enhanced SWOT Analysis

Enhanced SWOT is a 3x3 grid that arranges strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats into one scheme:

How to use the strengths to take advantage of the opportunities?

How to use the strengths to reduce likelihood and impact of the threats?

How to overcome the weaknesses that obstruct taking advantage of the opportunities?

How to overcome the weaknesses that can make the threats a reality?

Upon answering these questions a company can develop a project plan to improve its business performance.

### PESTEL Analysis

PESTEL (also termed as PESTLE) is an ideal tool to strategically analyze what influence different outside factors – political, economic, sociocultural, technological, environmental and legal – exert on a business to later chart its long term targets.

Being part of the external analysis when carrying out a strategic assessment or performing a market study, PESTEL gives an overview of diverse macro-environmental factors that any company should thoughtfully consider. By perceiving these outside environments, businesses can maximally benefit from the opportunities while minimizing the threats to the organization.

## Key Factors Examined by PESTEL Analysis:

**Political** – What opportunities and pressures are brought by political bodies and what is the degree of public regulations' impact on the business?

**Economic** – What economic policies, trends and structures are expected to affect the organization, what is this influence's degree?

**Sociological** – What cultural and societal aspects will work upon the demand for the business's products and operations?

**Technological** – What impact do the technological aspects, innovations, incentives and barriers have on the organization?

**Environmental** – What environmental and ecological facets, both locally and farther afield, are likely to predetermine the business?

**Legal** – What laws and legislation will exert influence on the style the business is carried out?

## **IFE, EFE, IE Matrices**

The Internal Factor Evaluation matrix (IFE matrix) is a strategic management tool helping audit or evaluate major weaknesses and strengths in a business's functional areas. In addition, IFE matrix serves as a basis for identifying and assessing relationships amongst those areas. The IFE matrix is utilised in strategy formulation.

The External Factor Evaluation matrix (EFE matrix) is a tool of strategic management that is typically utilised to assess current market conditions. It is an ideal instrument for visualising and prioritising the threats and opportunities a firm is facing.

The essential difference between the above mentioned matrices lies in the type of factors incorporated in the model; whilst the latter is engaged in internal factors, the former deals exceptionally with external factors – those exposed to social, political, economic, legal, etc. external forces.

Being a continuation of the EFE matrix and IFE matrix models, the Internal External matrix (IE matrix) rests upon an investigation of external and internal business factors

integrated into one suggestive model.

## **Porter Five Forces Analysis**

The Porter's five forces analysis studies the industry of operation and helps the company find new sources of competitive advantage. The analysis surveys an industry through five major questions:

What composes a threat of substitute products and services?

Is there a threat of new competitors entering the market?

What is the intensity of competitive rivalry?

How big is the bargaining power of buyers?

How significant is the bargaining power of suppliers?

## **VRIO Analysis**

VRIO stands for Value, Rarity, Imitability, Organization. This analysis helps to evaluate all company's resources and capabilities and bring them together into one aggregate table that includes:

Tangible resources

Financial

Physical

Technological

Organizational

Intangible resources

Human

Innovation and Creativity

## Reputation

### Organizational capabilities

The result of the analysis gives a clear picture of company's competitive and economic implications, answering the questions if the resources mentioned above are:

Valuable?

Rare?

Costly to imitate?

Organized properly?

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