

Central Garden & PET Co. (CENT)

Nasdaq; shops; SIC 5190, Wholesale-Miscellaneous Nondurable Goods; CIK 0000887733

Central Garden & PET Co.	
CENT; shops	
Grade	B/C A B C D E on the B/C boundary of 258 graded peers percentile 42.6; sampling error 2.9 points; lower is stronger
Rank	110 of 258
Profitability	C percentile 56.7
Solvency	B percentile 29.7
Growth and financing	C percentile 53.9
Reliability	0.94 AUC filers with over \$2.67B assets; 95% interval 0.88 to 0.97; 61 events, 2020 to 2025
Peer failure rate	0.52% a year Item 1.03 bankruptcies, same asset band, 2012 to 2025
Size band	over \$2.67B assets total assets \$3.6B
Standard universe	inside revenue above \$1M and assets above \$10M
Warnings	none active not computable: dilution, distress
Inputs computable	10 of 14
Graded from	filings received through Nov 26, 2025 317 days before the rescans; latest periodic filing 10-Q received Aug 6, 2026
Last close	\$40.53 2026-10-08; market equity \$0
Price used in grade	None



B/C, the elk

on the B/C boundary of its sector; letters are fifths of the 258 graded peers

Share price, twelve months to the rescans

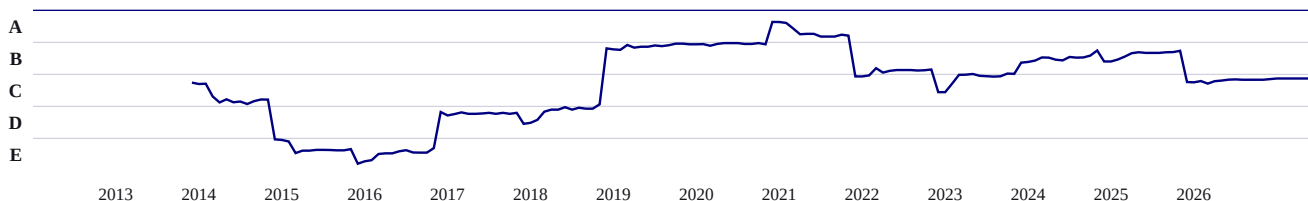
split-adjusted close; the letter is fixed at the rescans that set it



Rescans on file: C from Dec 21, 2025, B/C from Aug 21, 2026, C from Sep 26, 2026, B/C from Oct 9, 2026

Letter at every rescans

Jan 21, 2012 to Oct 9, 2026; sector percentile, stronger toward the top; facts filed by each date only



Business, in the company's words

opening of Item 1 of the 10-K received Nov 26, 2025

Central Garden & Pet Company ("Central") is a market leader in the U.S. pet and garden industries. For more than 40 years, we have delivered innovative, trusted solutions that help lawns grow greener, gardens bloom bigger, pets live healthier, and communities grow stronger. We operate through two reportable segments: Pet and Garden. Our Pet segment offers a broad range of products for dog and cat supplies, including treats and chews, toys, beds and containment, grooming items, waste management and training pads.

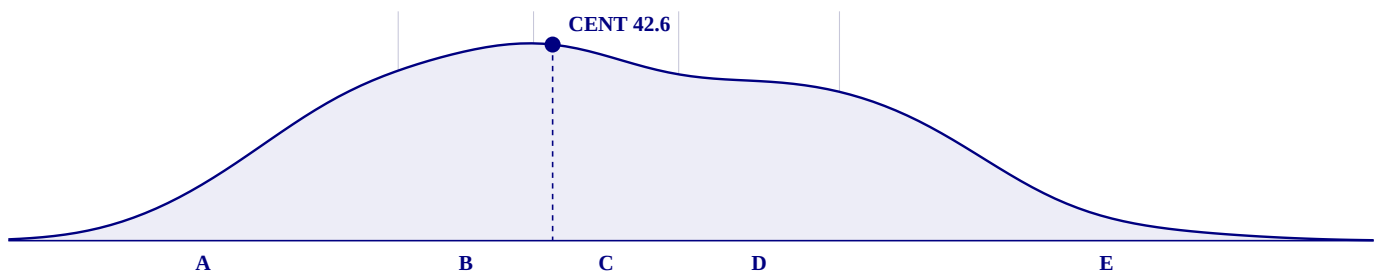
The fourteen inputs

lower percentile is stronger; equal-weighted sleeves

Input	Percentile, 0 to 100	Value	Peer median	Percentile	Peers	Period end
Profitability, sleeve percentile 56.7						
Gross profitability		27.5%	42.6%	71.2	242	2025-09-27
Return on invested capital		9.7%	10.9%	56.0	84	2025-09-27
Accruals ratio		(4.7%)	(4.9%)	56.1	287	2025-09-27
Gross margin stability, five years		1.1 pts	1.2 pts	43.3	219	2025-09-27
Solvency, sleeve percentile 29.7						
Twelve-month failure probability		not computable	0.04%			firm-wide XBRL shares cannot be assigned to one ticker class
Altman Z double-prime		not computable	1.92			one or more required annual facts are missing
Net debt to EBITDA		0.92x	1.84x	38.9	100	2025-09-27
Interest coverage		4.33x	2.26x	40.5	64	2025-09-27
Current ratio		3.67x	1.37x	9.7	295	2025-09-27
Growth and financing, sleeve percentile 53.9						
Revenue growth, three-year compound		(2.1%)	1.5%	67.0	269	2025-09-27
Free cash flow growth, three-year compound		not computable	5.6%			current FCF must be positive and base FCF must exceed \$100,000
Reinvestment rate		11.9%	7.3%	47.4	152	2025-09-27
Asset growth, three years		3.4%	3.4%	47.4	272	2025-09-27
Net share issuance, one year		not computable	(0.6%)			firm-wide XBRL shares cannot be assigned to one ticker class

Among 258 peers

shops; letters are fifths of this list



Rank	Company	Percentile	Letter	Warnings
105	Floor & Decor Holdings, Inc. (FND)	40.5	B/C	
106	Sysco Corp. (SYY)	40.9	B/C	
107	Henry Schein Inc. (HSIC)	41.2	B/C	

108	Shoe Station Group Inc. (SHOE)	41.6	B/C
109	Wingstop Inc. (WING)	42.0	B/C
110	Central Garden & PET Co. (CENT) <	42.6	B/C
111	Central Garden & PET Co. (CENTA)	42.6	B/C
112	H&R Block Inc. (HRB)	43.2	C
113	TJX Companies Inc. (TJX)	43.6	C
114	US Foods Holding Corp. (USFD)	44.0	C
115	LKQ Corp. (LKQ)	44.4	C

What the price implies

at the 2026-10-08 close; none enters the grade

Measure	Value	Peer median	Percentile
Twelve-month price change, skipping the latest month	31.6%	(0.1%)	79
Distance from 52-week high	(12.9%)	(24.1%)	73
EBIT to enterprise value	not computable	5.3%	
Free cash flow yield	not computable	4.2%	
Book value to price	not computable	0.36	
Sales to price	not computable	1.75	
Composite equity issuance, five years	not computable	(16.7%)	
Relative strength against the sector, log excess return	0.30	0.02	79

Diagnostics

not in the grade

Measure	Value
Piotroski F-score None of 9, period end 2025-09-27	
Return on assets above zero	pass
Operating cash flow above zero	pass
Return on assets improved	pass
Operating cash flow exceeds net income	pass
Long-term leverage fell	pass
Current ratio improved	pass
No new shares issued	fail
Gross margin improved	pass
Asset turnover improved	fail
Cash, filings, liquidity	
Cash and equivalents	\$996.7M
Operating cash flow, four quarters	\$390.3M
Months of runway	not finite
Days since last periodic filing	64 (10-Q received Aug 6, 2026)
Median daily dollar volume, 63 sessions	\$3.5M

Sources

each row links to the filing index on sec.gov

#	Concept	XBRL tag	Value	Period end	Received	Form	Accession
1	gross profit	us-gaap:GrossProfit	\$997.3M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
2	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$3.6B	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
3	operating income	us-gaap:OperatingIncomeLoss	\$250.0M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
4	pretax income	us-gaap:IncomeLossFromContinuingOperationsBeforeIncomeTaxesExtraord	\$216.8M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
5	income tax	us-gaap:IncomeTaxExpenseBenefit	\$52.8M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
6	total debt	us-gaap:LongTermDebt	\$1.2B	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
7	book equity	us-gaap:StockholdersEquity	\$1.6B	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
8	cash	us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue	\$882.5M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
9	total debt	us-gaap:LongTermDebt	\$1.2B	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
10	book equity	us-gaap:StockholdersEquity	\$1.6B	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
11	cash	us-gaap:CashAndCashEquivalentsAtCarryingValue	\$753.5M	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
12	net income	us-gaap:NetIncomeLoss	\$162.8M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
13	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	\$332.5M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041

14	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$3.6B	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
15	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingAssessedTax	\$3.1B	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
16	gross profit	us-gaap:GrossProfit	\$943.7M	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
17	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingAssessedTax	\$3.2B	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
18	gross profit	us-gaap:GrossProfit	\$946.8M	2023-09-30	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
19	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingAssessedTax	\$3.3B	2023-09-30	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
20	gross profit	us-gaap:GrossProfit	\$992.3M	2022-09-24	2024-11-27	10-K	0000887733-24-000029
21	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingAssessedTax	\$3.3B	2022-09-24	2024-11-27	10-K	0000887733-24-000029
22	gross profit	us-gaap:GrossProfit	\$970.9M	2021-09-25	2023-11-28	10-K	0000887733-23-000017
23	revenue	us-gaap:RevenueFromContractWithCustomerExcludingAssessedTax	\$3.3B	2021-09-25	2023-11-28	10-K	0000887733-23-000017
24	depreciation amortization	us-gaap:DepreciationDepletionAndAmortization	\$84.9M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
25	interest expense	us-gaap:InterestExpense	\$57.7M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
26	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	\$2.0B	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
27	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	\$538.8M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
28	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$41.4M	2025-09-27	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
29	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	\$394.9M	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
30	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$43.1M	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
31	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	\$381.6M	2023-09-30	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
32	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$54.0M	2023-09-30	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
33	operating cash flow	us-gaap:NetCashProvidedByUsedInOperatingActivities	-\$34.0M	2022-09-24	2024-11-27	10-K	0000887733-24-000029
34	capital expenditure	us-gaap:PaymentsToAcquirePropertyPlantAndEquipment	\$115.2M	2022-09-24	2024-11-27	10-K	0000887733-24-000029
35	current assets	us-gaap:AssetsCurrent	\$1.9B	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
36	current liabilities	us-gaap:LiabilitiesCurrent	\$515.4M	2024-09-28	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
37	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$3.4B	2023-09-30	2025-11-26	10-K	0000887733-25-000041
38	assets	us-gaap:Assets	\$3.3B	2022-09-24	2024-11-27	10-K	0000887733-24-000029