

Chart of the Day

Here's the level I'm watching on Morgan Stanley \$MS

April 23, 2026

Scott McGregor analyzed **Morgan Stanley (\$MS)** as a rare pocket of strength within a struggling financial sector. While the broader Financial Select Sector ETF (**XLF**) has been languishing below its 200-day moving average, Morgan Stanley has exhibited significant **relative strength**, trading above all major key moving averages (8-day, 21-day, 50-day, and 200-day). Following a strong post-earnings gap-up, the stock has successfully held its gains and found consistent support at the 8-day exponential moving average. Scott identified a tactical entry point based on a downward-sloping trend line, looking for the stock to clear its current consolidation range and signal the next leg higher.

Next Steps:

1. Monitor the Pivot Level: Set a price alert for \$193.20. Scott identifies this as the critical level \$MS needs to clear and close above to confirm a breakout from its recent range.
2. Define Risk Parameters: Use the 8-day exponential moving average (EMA) as your primary guide for risk. A trade is most attractive when entries are made close to this support level, allowing for a tighter stop-loss.
3. Confirm Sector Health: Keep an eye on the XLF ETF. While \$MS is currently outperforming, a broader recovery in the financial sector above its 200-day moving average would provide an additional tailwind for this trade.
4. Watch Volume on Breakout: Look for the move above \$193.20 to be accompanied by higher-than-average volume. This confirms institutional participation and reduces the risk of a "fake-out."

Transcript:

[0:00] Hey everyone, good evening. It's Scott
[0:02] at scottcottrades on x with
[0:04] stockmarketmentor.com
[0:06] and your chart of the day. Want to take
[0:08] a look at Morgan Stanley. This is ticker
[0:11] MS. Now MS obviously in the banking
[0:14] sector and XLF has been just under the
[0:18] 200 day moving average here and so we
[0:20] haven't had a ton of positive
[0:23] performance from the financial sector
[0:25] lately. But I like the fact that Morgan
[0:28] Stanley is above that 200 day moving
[0:30] average, but also the 50-day, 21-day,
[0:33] and 8day exponential. It gapped up here

[0:36] on earnings. It's been relatively
[0:39] holding the gap, finding support today
[0:41] at that 8-day exponential. And I see a
[0:44] bit of a downer sloping trend line from
[0:45] that earnings gap high. And so what I
[0:48] would look for for a trade here on
[0:50] Morgan Stanley is a move through and a
[0:54] close above 19320.
[0:56] Now that is a bit high from where the
[0:59] stock is now, close to the 8day, but I
[1:02] think that that's a pretty clear pivot
[1:04] on this stock where it's at least
[1:06] showing you it's attempting to break its
[1:10] current range by getting above and
[1:13] closing above 19320. And so that's the
[1:16] important level that I see right now on
[1:18] Morgan Stanley. Certainly adding my
[1:21] alert here on my chart and I think it
[1:24] warrants watching for you as well. So
[1:26] that's just one of many things we're
[1:28] looking at tonight over at
[1:29] stockmarketmentor.com.
[1:31] I hope that was helpful. I'll see you
[1:32] next time.