

# Principles of Personal Investing



#### Aspects of Financial Health

- Budgeting
- Saving
- Charitable Contributions
- Banking
- Insurance
- Debt Management
- Retirement Planning
- Investing



#### Typical Question

I have some extra money to invest.

Where should I invest it and when?



#### What is Investing?

Investing is the act of allocating funds to an asset or committing capital to an endeavor (a business, project, real estate, etc.), with the expectation of generating an income or profit.



Money Market Accounts Savings Accounts Certificates of Deposit Slow Growth Stocks Real Estate Bonds Increased Risk

Day trading Currencies Very High Risk



#### Investment vs Speculation

"An investment operation is one which, upon thorough analysis, promises safety of principal and a satisfactory return. Operations not meeting these requirements are speculative."

Benjamin Graham, Security Analysis (1934)

"Speculation may be defined as the purchase or sale of securities or commodities in expectation of profiting by fluctuations in their prices."

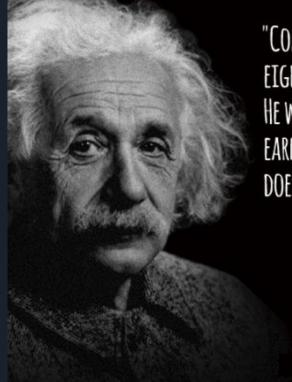
Philip Carret, The Art of Speculation (1930)



#### Why invest?

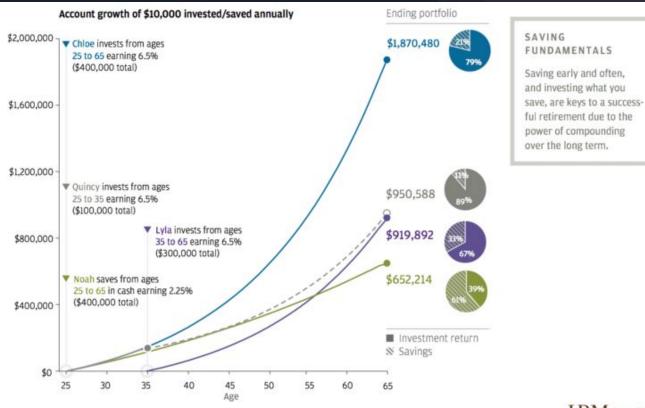
## You want to invest in order to create wealth





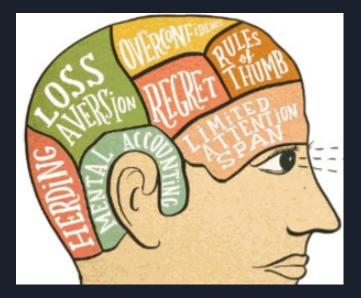
"COMPOUND INTEREST IS THE EIGHTH WONDER OF THE WORLD. HE WHO UNDERSTANDS IT, EARNS IT ... HE WHO DOESN'T... PAYS IT."

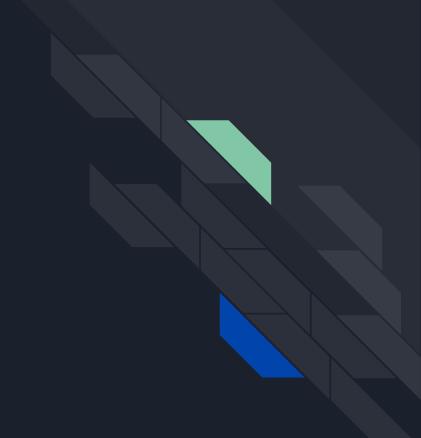
Albert Einstein



The above example is for illustrative purposes only and not indicative of any investment. Account value in this example assumes a 6.5% annual return and cash assumes a 2.25% annual return. Source: J.P. Morgan Asset Management, Long-Term Capital Market Assumptions. Compounding refers to the process of earning return on principal plus the return that was earned earlier. J.P.Morgan Asset Management

## Behavioral Biases and Investing







#### What is a Behavioral Bias

- Behavioral biases are irrational beliefs or behaviors that can unconsciously influence our decision-making process.
- They are generally considered to be split into two subtypes emotional biases and cognitive biases.
- Emotional biases involve taking action based on our feelings rather than concrete facts, or letting our emotions affect our judgment.
- Cognitive biases are errors in our thinking that arise while processing or interpreting the information that is available to us.



#### Anchoring

We rely too much on the first piece of information we came across when making a decision.





#### Availability Heuristic

- A mental shortcut by which one overestimates the importance or likelihood of something based on how easily an example or instance comes to mind.
- This bias is important because of its impact on how well we perceive risk. Of course, what we remember or how easily something comes to mind will be influenced by many things but media coverage is usually a big factor.



#### Confirmation Bias (Cognitive)

- Also called confirmatory bias or myside bias, this is the tendency to search for, interpret, and remember information in a way that confirms our existing preconceptions.
- This unconscious bias makes it possible to miss findings or ignore evidence that could otherwise change our view.





#### Loss Aversion (Emotional)

- Loss aversion is an emotional bias that involves taking action (or failing to take action) to avoid a loss. It is rooted in the fact that humans tend to feel the pain of a loss twice as intensely as the joy of an equivalent gain.
- It leads to a tendency to lock in losses after a sharp fall in the market to prevent any further losses.
- It also causes an unwillingness to accept a loss on an investment
   or in other words, not knowing when to cut your losses



#### Mental Accounting Bias

Also known as the "two-pocket theory", this is when we divide our money into separate categories according to subjective criteria, such as where the money came from, or what we intend to use it for.





#### Present Bias (Cognitive)

- The present bias refers to the tendency of people to give stronger weight to payoffs that are closer to the present time when considering trade-offs between two future moments.
- For example, a present-biased person might prefer to receive ten dollars today over receiving fifteen dollars in a week, but wouldn't mind waiting an extra week if the choice were for the same amounts one year from today versus one year and one week from today.
- The concept of present bias is often used more generally to describe impatience or immediate gratification in decision-making.

#### Status Quo Bias (Emotional)

- Status Quo bias is an emotional preference for the current situation.
- The current baseline (or status quo) is taken as a reference point, and any change from that baseline is perceived as a loss.
- In economics, status quo bias can cause individuals to make seemingly non-rational decisions to stay with a sub-optimal situation.
- Examples:
  - Choosing the default option
  - Preference for old plans
  - Brand allegiance



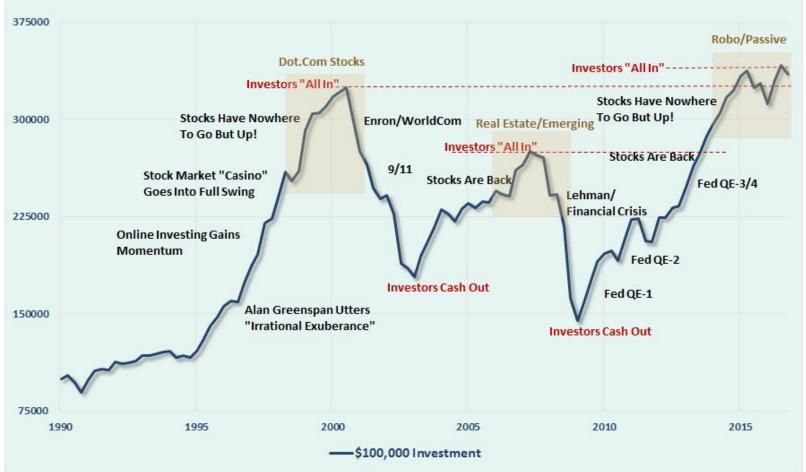


#### Sunk Cost Fallacy (Emotional)

- Individuals commit the sunk cost fallacy when they continue a behavior or endeavor as a result of previously invested resources (time, money or effort).
- This fallacy, which is related to loss aversion and status quo bias, can also be viewed as bias resulting from an ongoing commitment.
- If the costs outweigh the benefits, the extra costs incurred (inconvenience, time or even money) are held in a different mental account than the one associated with the original transaction.

#### **Investors Versus Markets**

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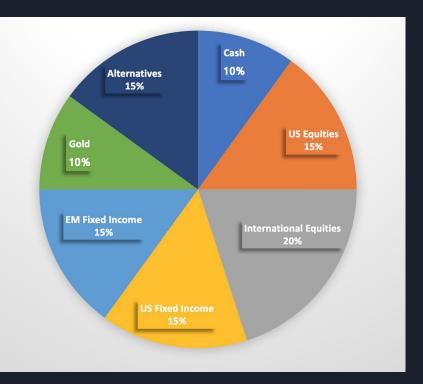
#### **Books on Behavioral Economics**

- Thinking, Fast and Slow Daniel Kahneman
- Predictably Irrational Dan Ariely
- Misbehaving: The Making of Behavioral Economics -Richard Thaler
- The Undoing Project: A Friendship That Changed Our Minds - Michael Lewis





#### 1. Asset Allocation





#### 2. Investment Cost





#### 3. Investment Performance



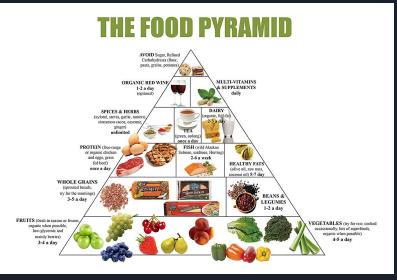


#### Investment Principles Applied to Your Diet

#### **Asset Allocation**

## is similar to

#### **Food Variety**





#### Investment Principles Applied to Your Diet

#### Investment Cost

is similar to

**Cost of Food** 





#### Investment Principles Applied to Your Diet

#### **Investment Performance**

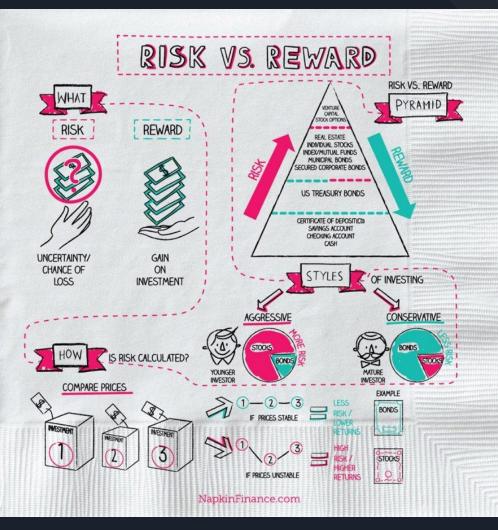
## is similar to

**Quality of Food** 



#### Asset Allocation

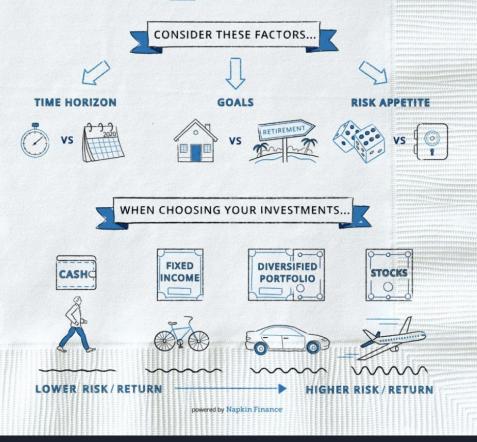






#### **RISK TOLERANCE**

#### WHAT KIND OF RIDE DO YOU WANT FROM INVESTING?







#### What is Asset Allocation?

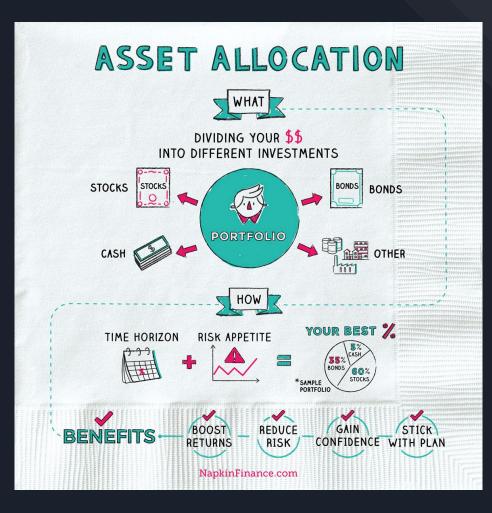
- Asset allocation is an investment portfolio technique that aims to balance risk by dividing assets among major asset classes such as cash, bonds, stocks, real estate, etc.
- Each asset class has different levels of return and risk, so each will behave differently over time.
- The goal of asset allocation is to maximize returns in your investment portfolio for the given level of risk.
- Asset allocation is one of the most important decisions that investors make.



#### Why Asset Allocation

Proper asset allocation

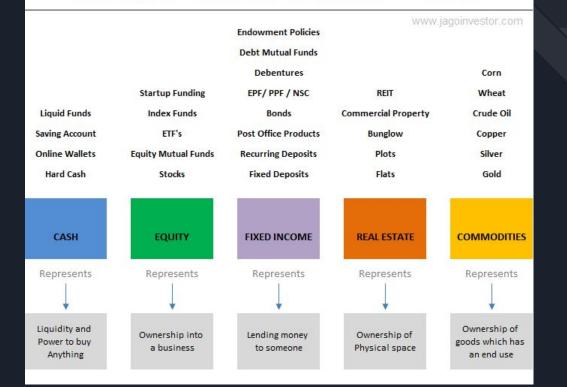
- one of the major determinant of your investment performance;
- will make you sleep better at night and make it less likely to have a knee-jerk reaction to market declines;
- makes it unnecessary to time the market;
- reduces the risk of your portfolio without sacrificing returns;
- allows to adjust portfolio risk over time.



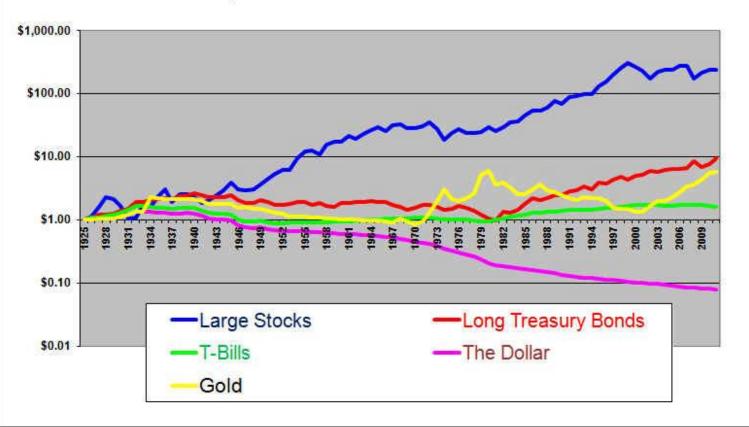


# TYPES OF ASSET CLASSES

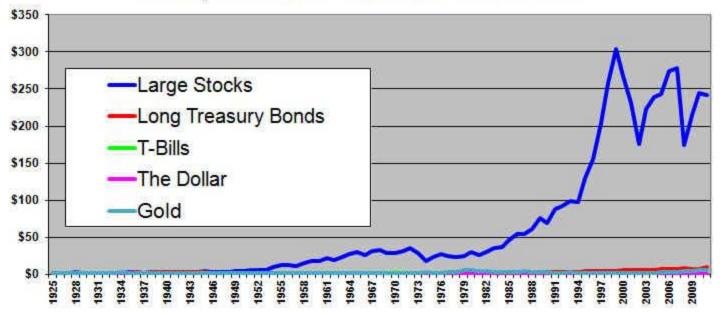
Below are various financial products which show similar characterisitcs and behaviour



#### Total <u>Real</u> Returns, Large Stocks, Long Treasuries, T-Bills, The Dollar and Gold 1926 - 2011



#### Total <u>Real</u> Returns, Large Stocks, Long Treasuries, T-Bills, The Dollar and Gold 1926 - 2011





Asset Correlation Matrix

#### **Asset Class Returns**

2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
REIT	EM	REIT	EM	HG Bnd	EM	REIT	REIT	REIT	Sm Cap	REIT	REIT	Sm Cap	EM	Cash
31.6%	34.5%	35.1%	39.8%	5.2%	79.0%	28.0%	8.3%	19.7%	38.8%	28.0%	2.8%	21.3%	37.8%	2.0%
EM	Int'l Stk	EM	Int'l Stk		HY Bnd	Sm Cap	HG Bnd	EM	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	HY Bnd	Int'l	HG Bnd
26.0%	14.0%	32.6%	11.6%		57.5%	26.9%	7.8%	18.6%	32.4%	13.7%	1.4%	17.5%	25.6%	0.0%
Int'l Stk	REIT	Int'l Stk	AA	AA	Int'l Stk	EM	HY Bnd	int'i Stk	Int'i Stk	AA	HG Bnd	Lg Cap	Lg Cap	HY Bnd
20.7%	12.2%	26.9%	7.6%	-22.4%	32.5%	19.2%	4.4%	17.9%	23.3%	6.9%	0.6%	12.0%	21.8%	-2.3%
Sm Cap	AA	Sm Cap	HG Bnd	HY Bnd	REIT	HY Bnd	Lg Cap	Sm Cap	AA	HG Bnd		EM	Sm Cap	REIT
18.3%	8.9%	18.4%	7.0%	-26.4%	28.0%	15.2%	2.1%	16.4%	11.5%	6.0%		11.6%	14.7%	-4.0%
AA	Lg Cap	AA	Lg Cap	Sm Cap	Sm Cap	Lg Cap	AA	Lg Cap	HY Bnd	Sm Cap	Int'l Stk	REIT	AA	Lg Cap
14.1%	4.9%	16.7%	5.5%	-33.8%	27.2%	15.1%	0.3%	16.0%	7.4%	4.9%	-0.4%	8.6%	14.6%	-4.4%
Lg Cap 10.9%	Sm Cap 4.6%	Lg Cap 15.8%		Lg Cap -37.0%	Lg Cap 26.5%	AA 13.5%		HY Bnd 15.6%	REIT 2.9%	HY Bnd 2.5%	AA -1.3%	AA 7.2%	REIT 8.7%	AA -5.6%
HY Bnd 10.9%	Cash 3.2%	HY Bnd 11.8%	HY Bnd 2.2%	REIT -37.7%	AA 24.6%	Int'l Stk 8.2%	Sm Cap -4.2%	AA 12.2%			Sm Cap -4.4%	HG Bnd 2.7%	HY Bnd 7.5%	Sm Cap -11.0%
HG Bnd	HY Bnd	Cash	Sm Cap	Int'i Stk	HG Bnd	HG Bnd	Int'l Stk	HG Bnd	HG Bnd	EM	HY Bnd	Int'i Stk	HG Bnd	Int'l Stk
4.3%	2.7%	4.7%	-1.6%	-43.1%	5.9%	6.5%	-11.7%	4.2%	-2.0%	-1.8%	-4.6%	1.5%	3.5%	-13.4%
	HG Bnd 2.4%	HG Bnd 4.3%	REIT -15.7%	EM -53.2%	Cash 0.2%		EM -18.2%	Cash 0.1%	EM -2.3%	Int'i Stk -4.5%	EM -14.6%	Cash 0.3%		EM -14.3%

Abbr.	Asset Class – Index	Annual	Best	Worst
Lg Cap	Large Cap Stocks - S&P 500 Index	7.77%	32.4%	-37.0%
Sm Cap	Small Cap Stocks – Russell 2000 Index	7.49%	38.8%	-33.8%
int'i Stk	International Developed Stocks - MSCI EAFE Index	5.22%	32.5%	-43.1%
EM	Emerging Market Stocks – MSCI Emerging Markets Index	8.26%	79.0%	-53.2%
REIT	REITs – FTSE NAREIT All Equity Index	8.52%	35.1%	-37.7%
HG Bnd	High Grade Bonds - Barclay's U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	3.87%	7.8 <mark>4</mark> %	-2.0%
HY Bnd	High Yield Bonds – BofAML US High Yield Master II Index	7.13%	57.5%	-26.4%
	Cash – 3 Month Treasury Bill Rate	1.25%	4.7%	0.0%
AA	Asset Allocation Portfolio*	6.67%	24.6%	-22.4%

Past performance does not guarantee future returns. The historical performance shows changes in market trends across several asset classes over the past fifteen years. Returns represent total annual returns (reinvestment of all distributions) and does not include fees and expenses. The investments you choose should reflect your financial goals and risk tolerance. For assistance, talk to a financial professional. All data are as of 12/31/18.

\*Asset Allocation Portfolio is made up of 15% large cap stocks, 15% international stocks, 10% small cap stocks, 10% emerging market stocks, 10% REITs, 40% high-grade bonds, and annual rebalancing.



### Allocating Assets to Equities

- Large vs. medium vs. small companies
- Growth vs. value companies
- U.S. vs. international stocks
- Developed markets vs. emerging markets
- By sector (technology, health care, telecommunications, financial)

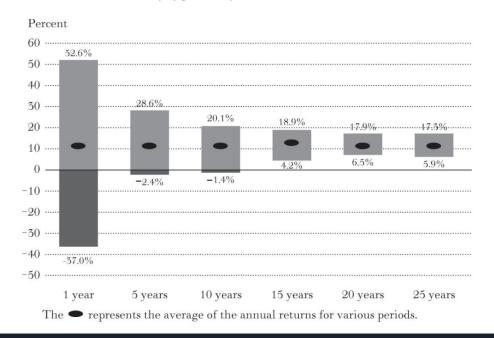


## Allocating Assets to Fixed Income

- U.S Government vs. U.S Corporate bonds
- Long vs. medium vs. short term bonds
- Domestic vs. International bonds
- Taxable vs. tax-free bonds

#### Time and Risk Relationship for Common Stocks

#### RANGE OF ANNUAL RETURN RATES ON COMMON STOCKS FOR VARIOUS TIME PERIODS, 1950–2017





### Time and Risk: Stocks vs Bonds

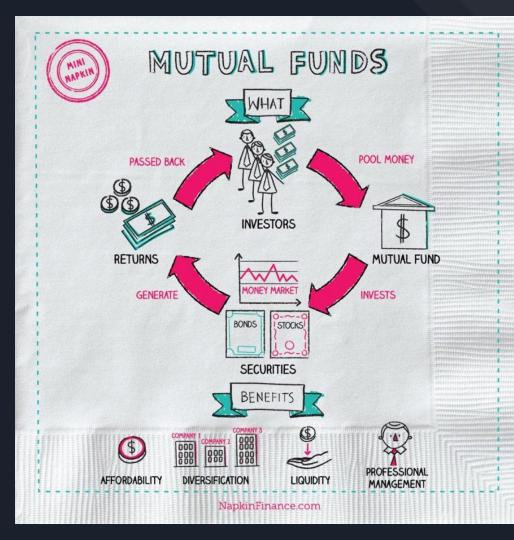
#### PROBABILITY THAT STOCKS OUTPERFORM BONDS (PERCENTAGE OF PERIODS SINCE 1802 WHEN RETURNS OF STOCKS EXCEED THE RETURN FROM BONDS)

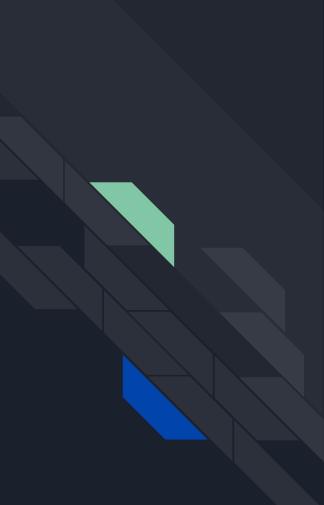
Investment	Percentage of periods when stocks have
Period	outperformed bonds
1 Year	60.2
2 Years	64.7
5 Years	69.5
10 Years	79.7
20 Years	91.3
30 Years	99.4



#### Investment Vehicles

- Individual stocks and bonds
- Mutual funds
- Exchange-traded funds
- Advisor-managed portfolios
- Robo-advisors





# Investment Costs





#### Mutual Fund Expense Ratio

An expense ratio is an annual fee expressed as a percentage of your investment — or, like the term implies, the ratio of your investment that goes toward the fund's expenses.

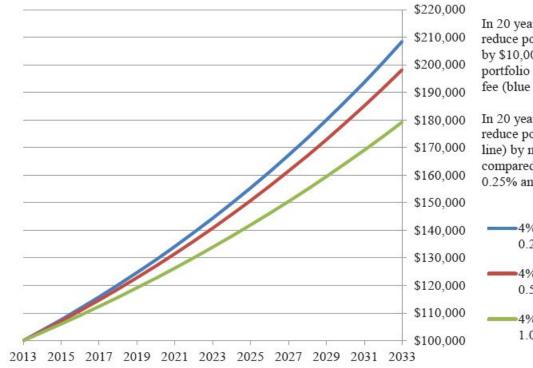


#### Investment Cost Example

A \$10,000 portfolio in a mutual fund that has 1% expense ratio that grows 10% in 1 year:

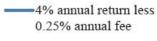
\$10,000 + (10% - 1%) \* \$10,000 = \$10,900

#### Impact of Fees on Performance



In 20 years, 0.50% annual fees reduce portolio value (red line) by \$10,000 compared to a portfolio with a 0.25% annual fee (blue line).

 In 20 years, 1.00% annual fees reduce portfolio value (green line) by nearly \$30,000, compared to a portfolio with a 0.25% annual fee (blue line).

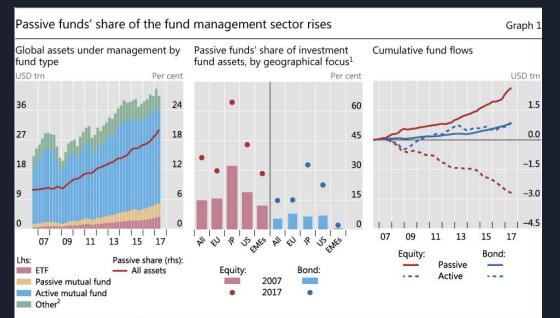


4% annual return less 0.50% annual fee

4% annual return less 1.00% annual fee



#### Passive vs Active Investing



<sup>1</sup> As of end-June for each year. <sup>2</sup> Includes investment fund assets of closed-end funds, hedge funds, insurance funds, investment trusts and pension funds.

Sources: Lipper; authors' calculations.

© Bank for International Settlements

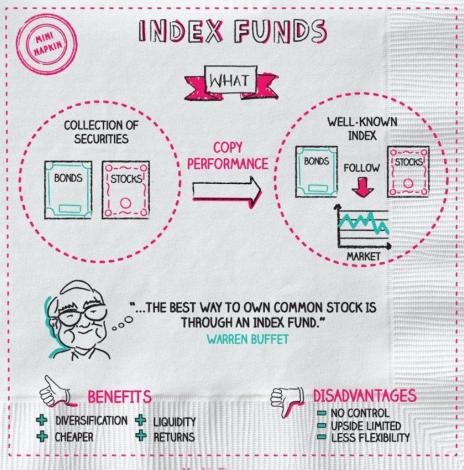


IIO. Flexibility in Investing

Inter sensing

Water and the sense of t

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#### Passive Investing



#### Financial Indexes

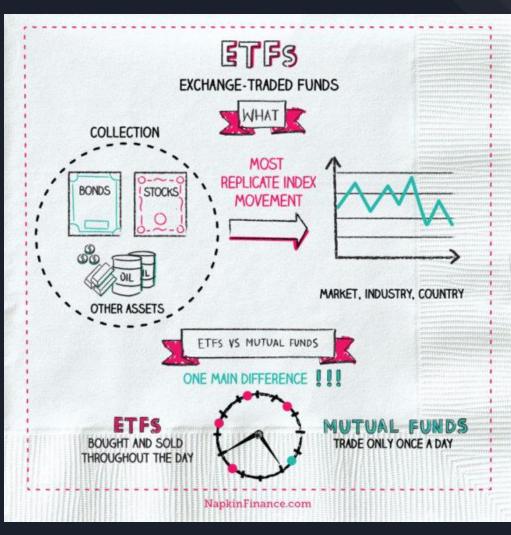
- There are approximately 5,000 U.S. indexes.
- The three most widely followed indexes in the U.S. are the S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average, and Nasdaq Composite.
- The Wilshire 5000 includes all the stocks from the U.S. stock market.



#### S&P 500 Index

- The S&P 500 is an "index," or collection of 500 widely held stocks on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and NASDAQ.
- Companies based in countries outside the U.S. can be included in the index, but they must be listed on the NYSE or NASDAQ; in practice, though, the vast majority of S&P 500 companies are based in the U.S.
- It does not include private companies, so giants like Saudi Aramco, Ikea, and Cargill could never be there.
- Standard & Poor's created the index to track overall stock market performance across a broad set of industries and companies.
- S&P first created an index to track a smaller number of stocks in 1923, and eventually expanded it to 500 stocks in 1957.





#### **Passive Investing**



### Active vs. Passive Investing

	PASSIVES	ACTIVES
PROS	<ul> <li>Pros of PASSIVE investments</li> <li>Returns are in-line with the index and minimise the risk of underperforming</li> <li>Generally lower fees than active funds</li> <li>Simplicity: investors know what they are getting</li> <li>No reliance on the fund manager's ability and decision making</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Pros of ACTIVE investments</li> <li>Opportunity to outperform index</li> <li>The ability to take defensive measures with the aim to limit downside risk if a market downturn is expected</li> <li>Informed investment decisions based on experience, judgement and analysis of markets</li> <li>Fund manager can be unconstrained, nimble and conviction-led</li> </ul>
CONS	<ul> <li>Cons of PASSIVE Investments</li> <li>Unlikely to outperform index</li> <li>In a downturn, the fund will be exposed to all of the index's downside</li> <li>Buy/sell decisions based on index, not research, so managers cannot move out or avoid stocks that are out of favour</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cons of ACTIVE investments</li> <li>Potential to underperform index if stock selection doesn't work out</li> <li>Generally higher fees than passive funds</li> <li>Investment style may be out of favour and adversely impact performance</li> </ul>



### **Biggest Advantages of Index Investing**

- Super low cost (0.05 % 0.2% compared to 0.5% 1.5% for active funds)
- Predictability (the fund will closely match index performance)



#### Measuring Investment Performance







### Measuring Investment Performance

More information from T. Rowe Price

#### **T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Fund** PRGFX | ★★★★

FF Fund Family Data 📋 Add	l to Portfolio 👋 🚊 Get E-r	nail Alerts 盲 Print This	Page 🌁 PDF Report 🖃 Da
Quote Chart 🗈 Fund A	analysis Performance	Ratings & Risk Man	nagement 🛛 🗈 Stewardship
			Compare
Morningstar Risk &	<b>Rating Statistics</b>	PRGFX	
05/31/2019	3-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Morningstar Return			
PRGFX	Above Average	Above Average	Above Average
Morningstar Risk			
PRGFX	Average	Above Average	Above Average
Morningstar Rating			
PRGFX	****	****	****
# of Funds in Category	1229	1097	811

Rating, risk, and return values are relative to each fund's Morningstar Category. Click here to see our methodology.



#### Recipe for Long-Term Investment Success

Use asset allocation appropriate to the desired level of risk through quality low-cost investments.



#### Implementation Steps

- Determine your level of risk based on the time horizon of your investment and your personal risk tolerance.
- 2. Find investment vehicle which can provide asset allocation based on your risk tolerance at low cost.
- 3. Use it for making regular investments.

# Legendary Investors' Wisdom





## "A Random Walk Down Wall Street"

by Burton Malkiel, a Princeton economist

- If you were to read one book on investing, read this one.
- The history of Market Bubbles starting with the Tulip Craze.
- Fundamental and Analysis Techniques practiced by the Wall Street
- Modern Portfolio Theory
- Behavioral Finance
- Efficient Market Theory
- Solid Advice for Long-Term Investing



"Common Sense on Mutual Funds: New Imperatives for the Intelligent Investor" by John Bogle, founder of Vanguard Group

- Argues for investing in Mutual Funds instead of Individual Stocks
- Talks about importance of investment costs and asset allocation
- Argues for benefits of simplicity in investing
- Presents the case for Index Mutual Funds
- Discusses the notion of "Reversion to the Mean"
- A shorter version of this book is John Bogle's "The Little Book of Common Sense Investing"



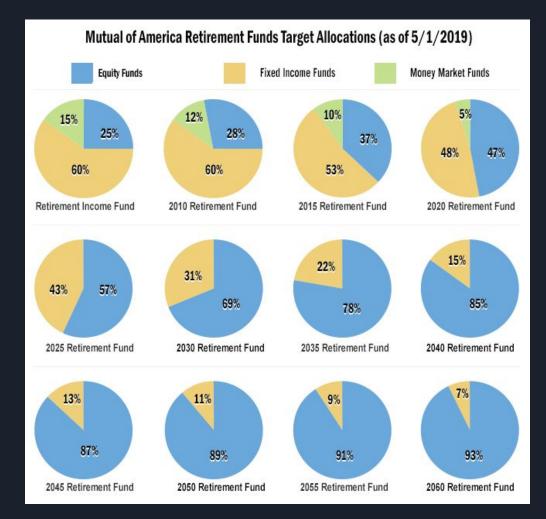
#### Warren Buffett on Investing

- In the 2013 Berkshire Hathaway shareholder letter, he had this to say about where he would suggest the trustee of his estate put his money when he died, "10% of the cash in short-term government bonds and 90% in a very low-cost S&P 500 index fund (I suggest Vanguard's)."
- When asked what advice he would give to investors, Buffett had this to say: "lethargy bordering on sloth remains the best investment style. The correct holding period for the stock market is forever."

# Investment Vehicles for Asset Allocation



### Target Date Mutual Funds



## Pros and Cons of Target Date Funds

#### 1. Pros

- a. One-stop shop
- b. Do asset allocation for you
- c. Asset allocation changes as you age
- 2. Cons
  - a. Watch for high annual costs (e.g. T.Rowe Price target date funds charge ~0.7%)
  - b. Watch for transaction fees (fee you pay when buying the fund)
  - c. No tax optimization (like tax loss harvesting)



	LifeStrategy Income Fund	LifeStrategy Conservative Growth Fund	LifeStrategy Moderate Growth Fund	LifeStrategy Growth Fund
For investors who:	Care most about current income. Accept the limited growth potential that comes with limited exposure to stock market risk. Get details on LifeStrategy Income Fund	Care more about current income than long-term growth. Want some growth potential but with less exposure to stock market risk. Get details on LifeStrategy Conservative Growth Fund	Care more about long- term growth than current income. Want more growth potential and accept added exposure to stock market risk. Get details on LifeStrategy Moderate Growth Fund	Care most about long-term growth. Accept significant exposure to stock market risk in exchange for more growth potential. Get details on LifeStrategy Growth Fund
Investment time horizon	3 to 5 years	More than 5 years	More than 5 years	More than 5 years
Risk	1 2 3 4 5 Low to moderate	1 2 3 4 5 Moderate	1 2 3 4 5 Moderate to high	1 2 3 4 5 High
Target allocation	<ul> <li>20% stocks</li> </ul>	40% stocks	60% stocks	<ul> <li>80% stocks</li> </ul>
	80% bonds	60% bonds	40% bonds	20% bonds

#### Which LifeStrategy Fund is best for you?



#### Investing on the Cheap | Four sample portfolios without commissions

The Wall Street Journal asked Rick Ferri, founder of investment adviser Portfolio Solutions LLC and author of "The ETF Book," to create model balanced portfolios using only no-commission ETFs at these four firms. Here's what he came up with.					Ameritrade > 101 no-fee ETFs		Vanguard > 64 no-fee ETFs		Fidelity > 31 no-fee ETFs	
	U.S. Equity 40%	U.S. broad market	Schwab U.S. Broad Mar- ket (SCHB)	25%	Vanguard Total Stock Market (VTI)	25%	Vanguard Total Stock Market (VTI)	25%	iShares Russell 3000 (IWV)	25%
		U.S. small-cap	Schwab U.S. Small-Cap (SCHA)	10%	iShares S&P SmallCap 600 (IJR)	10%	Vanguard S&P Small-Cap 600 (VIOO)	10%	iShares S&P SmallCap 600 (IJR)	10%
Equity	) (	U.S. real estate	Schwab U.S. REIT (SCHH)	5%	Vanguard REIT (VNQ)	5%	Vanguard REIT (VNQ)	5%	iShares Dow Jones U.S. Real Estate (IYR)	5%
60%	International 20%	int'i broad market	Schwab International Equity (SCHF)	10%	Vanguard Total Interna- tional Stock (VXUS)	10%	Vanguard Total Interna- tional Stock (VXUS)	10%	iShares MSCI ACWI ex US (ACWX)	10%
		Int'l small-cap	Schwab International Small-Cap Equity (SCHC)	5%	Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap (VSS)	5%	Vanguard FTSE All-World ex-US Small-Cap (VSS)	5%	iShares MSCI EAFE Small Cap (SCZ)	5%
		Emerging markets	Schwab Emerging Mar- kets Equity (SCHE)	5%	Vanguard MSCI Emerging Markets (VWO)	5%	Vanguard MSCI Emerging Markets (VWO)	5%	iShares MSCI Emerging Markets (EEM)	5%
	(	Investment-grade			Vanguard Total Bond Market ETF (BND)	30%	Vanguard Total Bond Market ETF (BND)	40%	iShares Barclays Aggregate (AGG)	30%
Fixed Income < 40%	3	Inflation- protected	Schwab U.S. TIPS (SCHP)	10%	iShares Barclays TIPS Bond (TIP)	10%			iShares Barclays TIPS Bond (TIP)	10%
40%	l	Treasury bond	Schwab Intermediate- Term U.S. Treasury (SCHR)	30%						
	Portfolio annual expense		Weighted Schwab ETF expense ratio	0.13%	Weighted Ameritrade ETF expense ratio	0.15%	Weighted Vanguard ETF expense ratio	0.13%	Weighted Fidelity ETF expense ratio	0.27%
commission ET			Online only (phone, \$5; broker-assisted, \$25)		Online, phone and broker-assisted		Online, phone and broker-assisted		Online only (phone, \$12.95; broker-assisted, \$32.95)	

## Pros and Cons of DIY Asset Allocation

#### • Pros

- Low cost (if using low-cost ETFs like Vanguard)
- No advisor fees
- Flexibility to build your own portfolio
- Cons
  - $\circ$  Takes time to plan and execute
  - Hard to build an optimal portfolio by hand
  - Have to rebalance to maintain proper allocation over time
  - Have to watch the transaction costs (buying and selling security)

# Robo Advisors





#### Robo-Advisors

- Robo-advisors are digital platforms that provide automated, algorithm-driven financial planning services with little to no human supervision.
- A typical robo-advisor collects information from clients about their financial situation and future goals through an online survey and then uses the data to offer advice and automatically invest client assets.

#### WIDE EYED INVESTING wideeyedinvesting.com

## Robo-Advisors Explained



Robo-Advisor will ask you a series of questions about your goals, timehorizon and risk tolerance. Robo-Advisor will invest in ETFs (usually Index ETFs) based on your profile.

2

Robo-Advisor will rebalance your investments to stay in line with your profile.



# Robo Advisor Comparison

#### WHAT CAN A ROBO DO FOR YOU?

Among major robo-advisors, the more you have to invest, the more personalized the service you can get.

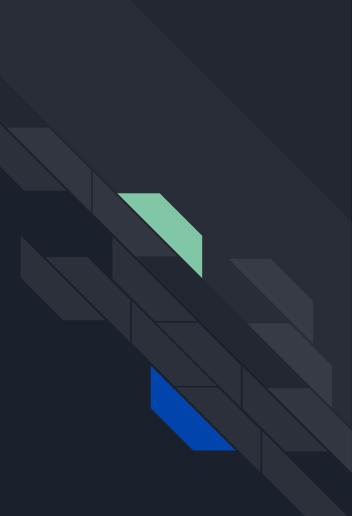
	NAME	MINIMUM INVESTMENT	HUMAN ADVICE AVAILABILITY	SPECIAL FEATURES AND SERVICES	SAMPLE PORTFOLIO (STOCKS/BONDS/CASH & OTHER)	ANNUAL COST
LEAST Amount of Human Contact	Fidelity Go	\$5,000	No investment advice. Account help via phone or online chat	BlackRock iShares ETFs available for taxable accounts	70%/29%/1%	0.35% or 0.38% of assets
	TD Ameritrade Essential Portfolios	\$5,000	No investment advice. Account help via phone, chat, or email	Portfolio funds recom- mended by Morningstar	66/33/1	0.37%
Some Human Contact	E*Trade Adaptive Portfolio	\$5,000 (IRA); \$10,000 (tax- able acct.)	General, via phone, chat, or email	Some actively managed mutual funds	60/39/1	0.50%
	FutureAdvisor	\$10,000	General, via phone, chat, or email		82/18/0	0.65%
	Schwab Intelligent Portfolios	\$5,000	General, via phone, chat, or email	Relatively cash-heavy portfolios	65/21/14	0.17%
	Wealthfront	\$500	General, via phone or email	529 plan management	69/17/14	0.37%
	WiseBanyan	\$1	General, via phone or email	Tax-minimization strat- egy (0.25%/yr. extra)	77/23/0	0.12%
MORE HUMAN CONTACT	Betterment	0	General (< \$100,000); personalized, with single adviser (\$100,000+)	Tax minimization (for people w/both IRAs and taxable accounts)	90/10/0	0.38%
	Personal Capital	\$25.000	Personalized, via video chat (<\$100,000); two dedicated advisers (\$100,000+)	Combination of individual stocks and ETFs used in portfolios	76/13/11	0.94%
MOST Human Contact	Rebalance IRA	\$100,000	Personalized, via an investment adviser and service representative	IRA accounts only	80/20/0	0.70%
	Vanguard Personal Advisor Services	\$50,000	Personalized, with an adviser team (<\$500,000); single adviser (\$500,000+)	Advice, not manage- ment, for 401(k)s and 529 accounts	90/10/0	0.50%



#### Advantages of Robo Advisors

- One-stop shops
- Asset allocation based on risk tolerance
- Use questionnaires to gauge risk tolerance (personalization)
- Use low-cost ETFs to construct portfolios
- Computer models based on Modern Portfolio Theory
- Relatively low cost of services (0.25% at the low end)
- Human advisors are available at extra cost (0.4% 0.9%)
- Tax Loss Harvesting included
- Online account management tools





# **Robo-Advisory Perceptions**



#### What clients <u>actually</u> get....



#### Potential Drawbacks of Robo Advisors

- They are not free (0.25%+ fee on top of investment fees of underlying securities, usually under 0.1%).
- If you get a service with human advisors (Betterment, Vanguard, Personal Capital), the cost is even higher.
- Their computer models are not guaranteed to work.
- Online-only robo advisors (Wealthfront) provide little or no human advice.
- Watch for conflicts of interest.



#### Traditional Advisors

Advantages

- Personalized approach
- Full-service financial planning

#### Drawbacks

- Expensive (1% 1.5% of assets under management)
- Unlikely to outperform Robo Advisors charging 0.25%
- May involve conflicts of interest (selling financial and insurance products you do not need, which make the advisor a lot of money).



#### Recap

#### I have extra money to invest.

#### Where should I invest it and when?



## Define your risk tolerance



- Investment time horizon
  - $\circ~$  the longer, the more risk can be tolerated
- Personal preference
  - how will you take 20% drop in your portfolio over any given year
- Risk level affects how aggressive you portfolio should be
  - determines equity portfolio of your portfolio



#### Find an Investment Vehicle



- Simplicity (one-stop shop)
- Transparency (you understand where your money is invested)
- Low cost (below 0.5% of assets)
- Reputation (of serving the customers rather than swindling them)



#### Investment Vehicle Choices

- Robo Advisors (Betterment, Wealthfront)
- Target date mutual funds (Vanguard, Fidelity)
- DIY ETF Portfolios (bought through a brokerage like Schwab, E\*Trade)
- Use sites like NerdWallet to read reviews of these types of companies



#### **Investor Behavioral Patterns**

- Add to your portfolio on a regular basis
- Do not try to time the market

- If you have a lump sum to invest, use dollar-cost averaging
- Do not let your emotions dictate your investment decisions
- Your emotions will make you buy high and sell low
- Set automatic contributions to avoid emotional decisions
- Buy and hold

"No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time."

Winston Churchill