

When we think of St. Patrick's Day, in addition to the color green, a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow and shamrocks, we often think of good luck. Have you ever asked yourself "How do I become the recipient of this good fortune so I can be happy?" You can believe in something good happening by chance to make you happy or you can be proactive in creating your own happiness. Happiness comes when you solve a problem, lift someone's burden or even overcome a longtime fear. Happiness is knowing you have the skills and ability to face life's changing circumstances. Happiness is acknowledging that while life is not perfect there is a lot to be grateful for. Happiness is being lucky because you still have time to make the most of each moment. In the end, effort, not luck, usually generates the happiness that brings a feeling of inner peace and joy.

## BE A LUCKY PERSON

A **lucky** person knows what they want and they look for opportunities to make it happen.

A **lucky** person gathers information in order to gain education.

A **lucky** person does not give up but keeps trying until they feel success.

A **lucky** person is always improving, learning from mistakes and not settling for a mediocre life.

A **lucky** person believes they will succeed because they are willing to work until they do.

A **lucky** person smiles and engages with other people caring about them and their circumstances.

A **lucky** person expects good fortune which pushes them to find success.



*"I'm a great believer in  
LUCK and I find the  
harder I work, the  
more I have of it."*

Thomas Jefferson

## DIFFERENT TYPES OF INVESTMENTS

INVESTING BASICS

**Growth investments.** These are suitable for long term investors that are willing and able to withstand market ups and downs. Shares are considered a growth investment as they can help grow the value of your original investment over the medium to long term. Shares also known as equities have historically delivered higher returns than other assets but are also considered one of the riskiest types of investments. Property is also a growth investment because the price of houses and properties can increase over a medium to long term period. Property, just like shares, can fall in value and carries the risk of loss. **Defensive investments.** These are more focused on consistently generating income, rather than growth, and are considered lower risk than growth investments. A defensive stock is a stock that provides a constant dividend and stable earnings regardless of the state of the overall stock market. **Cash investments.** These include bank accounts, high interest savings accounts and term deposits. They typically carry the lowest potential returns of all the investment types but play an important role in protecting wealth and reducing risk. **Fixed interest.** Bonds are fixed interest investments. Bonds are when governments or companies borrow money from investors and pay them a rate of interest in return. Bonds are also considered a defensive investment, because they generally offer lower potential returns and lower levels of risk than shares or property. They can be sold relatively quickly, but they do have the risk of capital losses. Becoming familiar with the different types of assets and with the help of your financial advisor, you can put together a mix that fits your circumstances and risk tolerance.

## Reasons to Invest Your Money

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- Save for retirement. Based on your personal tolerance of risk, you may want to consider being riskier at a younger age and becoming more conservative with your investments as you grow older.
- Earn higher returns. The higher the rate of return, the more money you will earn.
- Reach financial goals. The return on your investments can be used toward major financial goals, such as buying a home, buying a car, starting a business, or putting your children through college.
- Build on pre-tax dollars. Some investments like employer-sponsored 401(k)s, allow you to invest your pre-tax dollars. This option allows you to save more money than investing your post-tax dollars.
- Qualify for employer-matching programs. The only way you can qualify and earn matching funds, if your company offers them, is to be actively investing in your own 401(k) plan.
- Be part of a new venture. New ventures need the backing of money, and they look to investors for that backing.
- Grow your money. Investing money can allow it to grow. Stocks, certificates of deposit, or bonds, offer returns on money that, over the long term, allows money to build creating additional wealth.

Money doesn't solve all problems  
but it could solve my money problem!

## Teach Children About Money

- 1) Inspire Ways to Earn Money.** This could be washing the car, helping in the yard or in the house. Assign a reasonable payment for the task so children learn that money is earned.
- 2) Initiate Goal Setting Skills.** An incentive gives kids a reason to make money, save it, and spend it wisely. Teach them to set goals that are specific, but realistic.
- 3) Teach Them to Spend Smarter.** Inform them about holiday sales, the value in cheaper generic products compared to name-brand products, and using coupon codes.
- 4) Encourage Saving.** Children may want to spend gift money immediately but may be willing to make it last longer if they know the advantages.
- 5) Track Spending.** Apps can help children of all ages gain practical experience on seeing where their money goes.
- 6) Encourage Giving Back.** Let children help decide to which charities to donate and encourage them to donate a small amount with one of your donations.