

Retirement PLANNING 101



Start Saving!

While planning for retirement might sound like an unsurmountable task, it really isn't that hard. The first step is getting started.

Saving, investing, and planning for retirement are some of the most important things that you can do for your financial peace of mind. However, you might have lots of questions about some of the finer points of retirement planning.

The single most important thing you need to do is start saving.

It is never to early or too late to save money. Financial peace of mind begins with a commitment to consistently set aside a portion of your income. It's not complicated, it just takes a little discipline.

So get started today and **commit to saving at least 1% to 10% of your income monthly**. If you can afford to save more, **set aside 15% to 20%**.

The first step is to develop the habit of saving.

Save first. Spend what is left. Most people have it backwards. They spend first and save what is left. Sadly, what is often left is zero and sometimes less than zero.

Develop the habit today. Save now.

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The next step is to decide where to put your retirement savings. Investing is historically the best way to grow your savings over time. It also comes with great tax advantages.

Most people will normally save their retirement money in one or more of the following accounts:

A **401k** is typically offered through your employer. Money is invested before taxes and it is decuted directly from your paycheck.

A **traditional IRA** is similar to a 401k, but it is set up on your own, not through your employer, and also uses before tax dollars.

Then there is a **Roth IRA**; you invest your money using after tax savings.

Taking advantage of these retirement accounts, you can put your savings to work using a mix of investments such as stocks, bonds, annuities, money markets, ETF's and mutual funds.



So which type of retirement account is best for you and where should you invest your money? That's a question with an answer that is as unique as you are.

It depends upon many factors such as:

- 1. How much you are investing
- 2. Your tolerance for risk or market fluctuation
- 3. How long you have until you retire
- 4. If your company offers a 401k

Contact Us!

If you have questions about getting started, talk with your financial advisor or call Cowdell Investments and speak with one of our knowledgeable Certified Financial Planner professionals.

> 1-888-763-3088 or 801-763-1188

or visit us online to learn more at www.RetireRichToday.com



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