simple investing

QUESTIONS WORTH INVESTING IN

Knowing your investing style is the key to choosing the right investments – and successfully reaching your financial goals. To direct your thinking, here are some questions worth asking yourself. Of course, for best results in the future, it pays to answer as thoughtfully and honestly as you can right now. Ready?

What are your investing goals?

What are your reasons for investing: A big purchase? Education for you, your kids or your grandchildren? A down payment for a house? Retirement? Other?

What is your priority: Protecting your money? Growing it? A bit of both?

When do you hope to reach your goal (i.e., when will you need the invested money)? Fewer than 3 years? Between 3 and 10 years? More than 10 years?

What is your investing knowledge?

What experience do you have with investing?

What types of investments do you currently have? What types of investments have you held in the past?

Do you know the main differences between RRSPs and TFSAs, and the advantages of each account type?

Are you familiar with different types of investments, such as mutual funds and segregated funds? Do you know the differences between them? Do you know what these funds are made up of?

What is your level of understanding around investment risk and potential returns: A basic knowledge? An above-average grasp? You can interpret what's happening in the financial markets?

What is your current financial situation and attitude?

What is your annual income?

Are your current income sources stable?

How much income can you afford to save towards your goals?

What are your current assets? What are your current debts? What is your total net worth?

How much fluctuation in the value of your investments are you willing to take on?

Are you comfortable with market highs and lows, or are you looking for a slow and steady incline?

What should you do next?

Once you've taken the time to assess the above questions, be prepared to discuss your answers – and more – with a Co-operators financial representative*. This will be a great starting point in determining the right types of accounts and investments for you, and how you can successfully achieve financial success. However you define it!

To book your appointment with a Co-operators financial representative, visit cooperators.ca.

