

Keys to successful long term investing



Band of Brothers
Christian Men's Group

1. **Start early** – Millions can be made over the long term with discipline
2. **Invest 10-15% of your net earnings** and do it automatically (e.g. direct draw from payroll or checking/savings account)
3. **Don't roll the dice** on speculative investments, look for solid investments with 7%-10%+ returns
4. **Stay diversified** in many types of investments in different markets
5. If your company offers a **401k plan**, start there first because of the tax and matching benefits
6. **Don't panic**, keep investing through the peaks and valleys
7. **DO NOT pay credit card interest.** Whatever you charge should fit within a monthly budget.
8. If you have credit card debt, **pay of highest interest cards first**, then cards with lowest balance, or consolidate to 1 low interest card and PAY IT OFF as your top priority
9. **Start saving for your children's education right away**, even if you start small and build. Utilize tax advantaged investments like 529's, Education IRA's, or State Sponsored Programs.
10. **Review life insurance and estate plan** (wills/trusts) to preserve what you have saved
11. **Don't fall for get rich quick schemes.** As you build wealth it will be tempting to go faster.
12. **Give generously** with your time and money. The wealthiest and the most fulfilled people in the world are those that "give first", "save second", and "spend third".
13. If you don't have time or don't enjoy looking into investments, **enlist the help of a financial professional**
14. Finally, every successful long term result is aided by doing a financial plan even at a young age. **"We do not plan to fail ,only fail to plan"**.

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