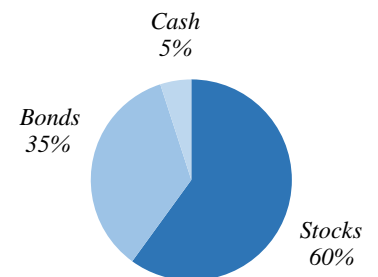


Choosing the Right Diversified Investment Mix

"Don't put all your eggs in one basket". When applied to investing, it's a strategy known as **diversification**, which simply means to divide up your assets into different investment types (such as stocks, bonds and cash). By spreading your risk, your overall strategy in your portfolio aims to avoid reaching the lowest lows or the highest highs of any single investment you own.

| Asset | Cash | Bonds | Stocks |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------|-----------|
| Objective | Stability | Income | Growth |
| Time Horizon | Short Term | Medium | Long Term |
| Volatility/Growth Potential | Low | Medium | High |

Sample "Balanced" Mix



The key for diversification to work is to own investments that usually run on different cycles. While some investments may be down, others may be up or not down as much.

Key Factors to Consider:

- ✓ **Factor 1: Time Horizon.** Your investment mix should be determined primarily by your time horizon, which takes into account:
 - When you will start to make withdrawals and
 - How long you will need your money to last

The more time, the more growth-oriented investments, such as stocks, you can afford to own. The shorter your time horizon, the more you should invest in cash and bonds.

- ✓ **Factor 2: Risk Tolerance Level.** Every investment holds some level of risk. What's important is that you find the right balance of risk and reward. Your Risk Tolerance Level (Low, Moderate or High) should be used to fine-tune your investment mix.
- ✓ **Factor 3: Financial Circumstances.** Other factors can also influence your mix, such as:
 - How much money you have already saved
 - How much you can afford to invest

The more money you need for your goal, the more growth-oriented investments you should own.

One Size Does Not Fit All. It's important to remember that there is no standard solution. Maintaining an appropriate diversified investment mix is a lifelong series of shifting goals, life changes and fine tuning.

There is no guarantee that a diversified portfolio will enhance your overall returns or outperform a non-diversified portfolio. Diversification or asset allocation does not protect against market risk. Achievement of the stated investment objective is a long-term goal. There's no guarantee that the investment objective will be achieved.