

2025 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN REVIEWING MY INVESTMENTS?

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES	YES	NO
<p>Do the goals, time horizon, and objectives of your investment portfolio need to be reviewed, updated, or documented? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ If you are funding a planned major purchase or expenditure, review your timeframe and liquidity needs. ■ If you intend to transfer an account to future generations, ensure that it is managed and titled properly, and addressed in your estate plan. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to assess or review your risk tolerance? If so, consider your resources, earning capacity, philosophy, phase of life, and personal financial goals. Also weigh your capacity and need for risk.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to determine if you are on track to meet your goal(s)? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure that your expected returns (growth and income) are reasonable. ■ Apply appropriate tax and inflation adjustments. ■ Review your retirement and life expectancy projections. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If you are taking distributions, have the spending and distribution rates been reviewed?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to review performance measurement methods?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have assets outside of your portfolio and/or future sources of income (e.g., pension, Social Security, annuity)? If so, consider how these resources affect your risk tolerance. A reliable lifetime income stream, from outside of your portfolio, could offset portfolio risk.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INVESTMENT ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Does your aggregate asset allocation need to be reviewed? If so, consider reviewing your portfolio as a whole to help identify/avoid concentrations, wash sales, etc. (continue on next column)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INVESTMENT ISSUES (CONTINUED)	YES	NO
<p>Do the investment selection criteria need to be reviewed and updated? If so, consider the investment philosophy and expense ratios for each investment, and the trading activity within each account.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do the investment monitoring criteria need to be reviewed and updated? If so, consider the performance relative to peers and any changes to the investment manager team.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>If you rebalance your portfolio, does the rebalance plan need to be reviewed? If so, consider whether this should be done periodically, or when allocations drift from their targets by a predetermined amount.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have tax-exempt, tax-deferred, and taxable investment accounts? If so, consider choosing asset location to maximize returns (e.g., hold tax-efficient assets in taxable accounts, hold income-producing assets or assets distributing large capital gains in tax-efficient accounts).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are you taking or planning to take distributions from the account(s)? If so, consider your allocation to cash, and strategies to raise cash.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have any significant positions that represent a large portion of your portfolio (such as company stock)? If so, you may be subject to concentration risk.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have any investments you want to own or exclude from your portfolio? If so, note your instructions and rationale (e.g., legacy, professional, tax considerations). If you would like to align your investing with ethical considerations, explore socially responsible investing (SRI), environmental, social, and governance (ESG), and impact investing strategies.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to open a new account specifically tied to an investment objective, or consolidate existing accounts? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Take advantage of any tax-preferred accounts that align with your goals (e.g., 529s for education funding, HSAs for healthcare funding, 401(k)s, IRAs, etc. for retirement funding). ■ When rolling over retirement accounts, be mindful of the impact and applicable rules. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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TAX ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Do you have a taxable account and are you funding your current cash flow needs? If so, consider tax-efficient income generation and distribution strategies.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have a taxable account consisting of long-term positions with low cost basis? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ If your taxable income is below \$48,351 (\$96,701 if MFJ), your long-term capital gain rate is 0%. ■ If your taxable income is between \$48,351 and \$533,400 (\$96,701 and \$600,050 if MFJ), your long-term capital gain rate is 15%. ■ If your taxable income is above \$533,400 (\$600,050 if MFJ), your long-term capital gain rate is 20%. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have a taxable account and is your MAGI in excess of \$200,000 (\$250,000 if MFJ)? If so, consider strategies to manage your net investment income (minimizing the 3.8% NIIT), including investing in municipal bonds, which are not subject to federal taxation (and in some cases state taxes).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you hold assets with a tax loss? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ You can harvest losses to offset gains and up to \$3,000 of ordinary income. ■ If you have multiple lots, the actual-cost method of tracking basis lets you choose which lots to sell, allowing the selection of high basis shares to increase the amount of your realized loss. ■ Be aware of the wash sale rules. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are you trying to minimize your tax liability? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ You may wish to limit trading within your taxable accounts, to control gain realization (to the extent possible). Long-term gains are preferable to short-term gains (taxed as ordinary income), but still increase your total income, can trigger AMT, and can affect your eligibility for miscellaneous exemptions, deductions, and credits, and other income-related preferences and adjustments. ■ If you own mutual funds or interests in REITs or MLPs, be prepared for unique tax consequences (e.g., gain distributions, depreciation recapture, etc.). 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

OTHER ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Is there a plan in place during periods of market decline?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need help understanding investment fees and charges (including management, transactional, wrap, 12b-1, sales loads, commissions, etc.)?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to assess how future contributions will be handled?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do/did you participate in any employer stock plans? If so, monitor your rights to shares, their tax treatment, and the percentage of your overall portfolio that consists of employer stock, mitigating any concentration.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Does the frequency of any account reviews and monitoring need to be updated?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do the roles and responsibilities of interested parties, professionals, fiduciaries, or others involved need to be reviewed?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Imagine the Possibilities



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Barry Waxler, Financial Advisor and Author of Stop Bleeding Cash

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