



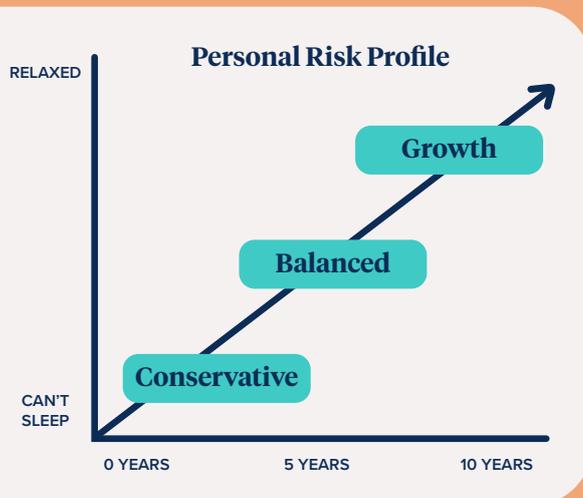
Most of us work hard at our jobs, whether for an organisation or our own business. Taking some of our hard-earned money and investing for our future is a way to make the most of what we earn. There is so much to talk about when it comes to investing so let's start with the basics. Complete the exercises as the video explores 5 key things you need to know to start growing your wealth through investing. Discover the pros and cons of investing in three asset classes; cash, shares, property and do the Verve investor ready checklist.

Exercise 1: Know your investment objectives

List your major goals that will require money to achieve. List the goals based on whether they are Short Term goals, Medium Term goals or Long Term goals. Then complete the column on how much you will need to achieve this goal. If you're not sure, go back to Step Two on Money Management.

1. TIME FRAME	2. LIST GOALS	3. HOW MUCH MONEY I NEED
SHORT TERM (0–3 YEARS)	e.g. safety buffer	e.g. \$10,000 cash in savings account
MEDIUM TERM (4–6 YEARS)		
LONG TERM (7+ YEARS AND RETIREMENT)	e.g. children's education	\$40,000 (\$20k in 2029, \$20k in 2030)

Exercise 2: Explore your personal risk profile



For each of your goals, consider where you'd sit as an investor and what type of investment is best for you and your goals timeframe: Conservative, Balanced or Growth. It may be that you need different buckets of money in investments with different risk profiles based on the number of years you intend to have the investment and when you need to access the money. This is a guide only, it's up to you to decide which type of investment is best for you.

You can read more about goals and risk profiles here:

www.moneysmart.gov.au/investing/invest-smarter/goals-and-risk-tolerance

When you've selected the investment that you think suits your needs best, check out this page to learn more about the type of investment you have selected:

www.moneysmart.gov.au/investing/invest-smarter/choose-your-investments



Exercise 3: Create your own investing code of ethics

For some ideas to start you off, jump on www.vervesuper.com.au/super and check out what Verve Super does and doesn't invest in.

COMPANIES AND INDUSTRIES I **WANT TO** INVEST IN



COMPANIES AND INDUSTRIES I **DON'T** WANT TO INVEST IN



Exercise 4: Cash v Shares v Property

Based on what you have learnt in the video, write down the positives and negatives of investing in three asset classes - cash, property and shares. Think about the pros and cons as they apply to your own goals, investment time frame and risk profile.

CONSERVATIVE Ideal for short terms goals (0–5 years)		GROWTH Ideal for longer terms goals (7+ years)			
CASH: Money invested in short term, interest paying investments e.g. savings in bank, terms deposit, bonds...		PROPERTY: Land and/or buildings e.g. residential, commercial, land...		SHARES: A part ownership of a company e.g. direct holding, or through a diversified managed fund, etc.	
POSITIVES	NEGATIVES	POSITIVES	NEGATIVES	POSITIVES	NEGATIVES

Exercise 5: Am I investor ready?

Before you start investing, take a look at our investor ready checklist and make certain you are ready to go!

CHECKLIST	AM I READY? Y/N		WHAT TO DO IF YOU'RE NOT READY
Are your short term high interest debts paid off (i.e. credit cards, store cards, etc.)?	YES	NO	Check out our Debt Buster video and learn how to get your debt in order first?
Do you already have money put aside for a rainy day, a 'safety buffer'?	YES	NO	Check out Step 2 (Money Management with Verve) and consider saving for a Safety Buffer first.
Do you know what you are investing for? Are you clear on your goals?	YES	NO	Revisit Step 1 (Setting Goals with Verve) to review what you want that money for.
Do you know your investment time-frame? How long you want to invest for?	YES	NO	Review your answers on this worksheet and get clear on when you will need the money for your different goals.
Do you know how much money you are able to invest?	YES	NO	Revisit Step 2 (Money Management with Verve) to review how much money you have to invest.
Do you know the difference between Cash, Conservative, Balanced and Growth investments, and which type of types are best for you?	YES	NO	Revisit Exercise 2 above and check out the great MoneySmart resources to understand which type of investment will suit you best.



If you're read to go, check out the resources below to get you started with further research about the different investment options. If you want to get investing in shares, check out Step 6 on Share Investing with Verve.

My #1 action to grow my investing knowledge is

10 minute challenge

Start a conversation. Think of someone you know who actively invests in shares, property or another type of investment. Strike up a conversation. Ask them how they started, what have they learnt, and what they think some of the character traits of a successful long term investor are.

Supporting resources

LEARNING THE LINGO

Look up any financial lingo you're not familiar with: www.moneysmart.gov.au/glossary

LEARN ABOUT SHARE INVESTING

Share market basics: www.moneysmart.gov.au/investing/shares

ASX videos, podcasts, watch lists, share market game and online courses: www.asx.com.au/education/shares-education.htm

LEARN ABOUT PROPERTY INVESTING

Property basics: www.moneysmart.gov.au/investing/property

Keep an eye on the residential property market: www.realestate.com.au and www.domain.com.au

EXPLORE ETHICAL INVESTING

Industry body, RIAA: responsibleinvestment.org

Responsible Investing 2018 Benchmark Report: responsibleinvestment.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Benchmarking-Impact-2018.pdf

Find responsible or ethical banking, superannuation and investment products: www.responsiblereturns.com.au

Notes and ideas: