Your retirement checklist.

With retirement on the horizon and your goals in sight, it's never been more important to stay the course. Use this checklist for a smarter way to make sure you're doing everything you can to prepare for retirement.

Save more.

☐ Try to make the maximum contributions allowable to your workplace retirement plan (401(k), 403(b), 457, SEP, or SIMPLE IRA) and/or IRA each year.

  • Contribute at least the minimum matching amount if offered.
  • Make “catch-up” contributions to your workplace plan and/or IRA beginning when you turn 50 years old.
  • Add a portion of any bonus or salary increase to your workplace plan or IRA.

☐ Consider opening an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) if your employer doesn’t offer a plan or if you’ve maxed out contributions to your workplace plan.

  • Learn more about the features and types of IRAs with our complimentary tools and resources.
  • Use our IRA Selection Tool to help you decide which type of IRA could be right for you.

☐ Think about a rollover if you’ve changed jobs.

  • If you have multiple retirement plans from past employers, consider consolidating into one plan.
  • Consult the TD Ameritrade Rollover Guide for the steps to complete a rollover. Or call a New Account Representative at 800-454-9272 with questions about the 401(k) rollover process.*

Invest with confidence.

☐ Begin to think about retirement expenses to determine how much you will need to cover them.

☐ Reassess your future goals to adjust for any lifestyle changes and make sure you’re still on track.

  • Schedule a complimentary goal planning session with a Financial Consultant. Together, you can define your goals for the future and build a plan to help you achieve them.
  • Check that your plan is on track with our Retirement Calculator, and continue to rebalance your investments annually.

☐ Allocate your investment portfolios based on your goals and risk tolerance, and rebalance when necessary.

  • Grow your DIY investing knowledge with our Portfolio Planner tool, helpful videos, educational courses, and third-party research.

☐ If you think your tax rate may be higher in retirement, look into a Roth IRA Conversion.

*Before rolling over a 401(k) to an IRA, be sure to consider your other choices, including keeping it with the former employer’s plan, rolling it into a 401(k) at a new employer, or cashing out the account value, keeping in mind that taking a lump sum distribution can have adverse tax consequences. Whatever you decide to do, be sure to consult with your tax advisor.
Plan for income.

- Develop a monthly budget to get an idea of how much income you will need to cover retirement expenses.
  - What do you want out of retirement? Travel? Education? Part-time work? Distinguish your core, must-have needs from your discretionary, nice-to-have needs.
  - Use our Income Planning worksheet to think through your expenses and income.

- Identify additional sources of income, such as a pension or rental income.

- Build up your emergency fund to avoid depleting your retirement savings for unexpected expenses.

- Estimate your Social Security payout, and learn different filing strategies that could help you maximize it.
  - See if deferring Social Security benefits (up to age 70) could result in a larger periodic payout.

Questions? Speak with your Financial Consultant.

TD Ameritrade does not provide tax advice. We suggest you consult with a tax-planning professional with regard to your personal circumstances.

Information provided is for informational purposes only and is not a recommendation or endorsement of any specific strategy.