

## ***Strategies to safely accumulate wealth***

For most of the 90's, it wasn't too difficult to invest safely and accumulate wealth. With one of the biggest bull markets of all time and the ease of online trading, just about everyone got into the market. And just about everyone made money.

Some mutual funds and stocks were skyrocketing by 30%, 40%, 50% a year and more. Fixed income investments were providing excellent returns. All you had to do was jump aboard and enjoy the ride.

Most experts agree those days are over and that it may be some time before we see markets like those again. Many experts also believe that today's volatile markets may be with us for some time to come.

Does that mean you should stay out of the stock market and stick to the safety of bonds and GICs? Should you give up on equities and be satisfied to know that you're preserving your wealth? Should you just be happy that you're not going to lose money?

Absolutely not. First of all, as you'll learn in this section, even if you stay out of the stock market, you face another kind of risk. Plus there are plenty of investment portfolios earning solid returns, some even double digits. It's just not as easy as it was in the high-flying 90s. Now it takes planning and time and effort to be a successful investor.

*Successful investing also takes discipline, knowledge and experience*

You need discipline to create a long-term investment plan and stick with it – to not panic or sell when you see your investments going down.

You need knowledge because there's just so much information you have to keep up with. There are so many variables that can affect your investments, and they're changing all the time.

And you need experience because there's nothing that can take the place of hard-won experience, especially in the world of money and investing.

Plus as stated above, to be a successful investor today you have to go back to the tried and proven principles of successful investing – diversification and personally tailored asset allocation based on your risk tolerance.

If you've reached a stage in your life where you'd rather have someone else look after all this for you, or even if you'd like to just talk to an expert before you begin your own investment planning, click [here](#) to find the CPA financial planning professional closest to you.