

## Twelve of the worst financial mistakes you can make!

**12. Unsuitable investments** - An investment made at age 25 (the younger you are, the longer you have to “grow” your money), will not be the same for someone 40 and above.

Too often, people fail to consider timing when it comes to investing. Knowing what’s right for you and your budget can often work together.

**11. Not considering the risk factor** - Do you understand your attitude toward risk? If you are cautious and do not wish to be exposed to a small risk; would it be fair to say that you are conservative? However, if you are adventurous and understand it is a process of riding the market’s ups and downs to get to your final destination, then you might be more aggressive and your investments should reflect that as well.

**Postponing a decision does not eliminate your responsibility for action.**

**10. Doing nothing** - When you are unsure of what to do... Do you find yourself putting off your decision? Hope is good in religion. But hope is not a solution in dealing with your financial future.

You cannot ignore a problem and expect it to go away. If you are depending upon Social Security to see you through retirement, look at those who are dependent upon Social Security now. Is this where you want to end

up, struggling from month to month? Change your plan now.

**Any choice you make will certainly determine your success at retirement!**

**9. Failing to plan** - *We don’t plan to fail---but we fail to plan!* Do you have a comfortable lifestyle now? Would you like to continue the same lifestyle in your retirement years? It’s never too early to start planning for your retirement years.

**8. Procrastination** - Have you ever known anyone that didn’t have life insurance when their loved one passed away? Life Insurance is for peace of mind, not leaving behind bills and debts for your loved ones to be responsible. Putting off today, may be one day too late. Make a decision to do something today!

**7. Having too much debt** - If you can’t pay your credit cards off at the end of each month, you may be spending too much. Are you guilty of living for today, and not planning for tomorrow? If you only make the minimum monthly payment to your credit cards, do you know how long it will take you to pay them off?

**6. Not teaching your children about finances** - Teaching our children to have a savings account, and to spend within their budget, may be one of the best “life” lessons we can teach them. If you can help your children plan for their future with good financial management you will save them years of grief.

## The top 5 financial disasters are:

**5. Not knowing about your benefits** - If someone could sit down with you, and show you based on your present retirement account what you can expect at retirement wouldn’t this be beneficial to you now? You could change things NOW, before you get there and realize, “I should have done things differently, *if* I had only known.”

**Some choices will not be easy.**

**4. Not having life insurance** - Have you ever been to a funeral, and the family passes the hat? To help pay for the funeral expenses of Aunt Betty? What would happen to your family right now, today, if something happened to one of your loved ones? Be prepared! Protect your loved-ones with adequate life insurance.

**3. Taking advice from family and friends** - Are your friends financially secure? Is your family doing well, or do they wish they had done more? Would you go to your friend to set a broken bone for you? Then, why should you expect a friend (who is broke) to know about your financial future? Go to an expert who knows about investing.



**2. Not having money in a savings account** - If you don't have an emergency fund, then start one today! What would happen if your hot-water tank blew up? Would you have the cash to have it replaced today? Having an account to take care of short time emergencies is most important.

The number one financial mistake anyone can make is:

**Not setting goals** - This may seem like a simple thing. But, if you don't know where you are going, how will you know when you get there? Your money, your finances and your future will not take care of themselves. If you put off today planning for tomorrow, chances are tomorrow will be too late.



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**The Worst Financial  
Mistakes You Could Make!**



Even if the directions are clear,  
you still need a road.

John Sanders, 2005