



# **The Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio: How to Build and Grow a Panic-Proof Investment Portfolio**

*David Gardner, Tom Gardner*

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“Motley Fool makes investing fun again.”

—*BetterInvesting Magazine*

The mission of Motley Fool—the multimedia financial education company cofounded in 1993 by brothers David and Tom Gardner—is to “educate, amuse, and enrich.” Their valuable, innovative, and entertaining investing book, *Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio* provides insight, pointers, and sometimes very unorthodox advice that can help any investor build a seven-figure portfolio by out-thinking and out-maneuvering the professional financial wizards on Wall Street. With a new introduction by the authors, *Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio* offers irreverent investing wisdom ideal for any financial market, even the most bearish.

## **The Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio: How to Build and Grow a Panic-Proof Investment Portfolio Details**

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## **From Reader Review The Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio: How to Build and Grow a Panic-Proof Investment Portfolio for online ebook**

### **Jay says**

Reasonable intro to investing in stocks and mutual funds. Many of these types of books don't actually cover anything but the very basics. This goes a step beyond and describes some specific measures to use, and illustrates with interesting examples of stocks and analysis. I liked that they included the appendix in the audiobook version, since a lot of good information was only in that section. I didn't like the regular commercials for the Motley Fool's services, but then again, I did expect them given the title and the author. Had the right amount of snark for this kind of book.

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### **Fred Tyre says**

I liked a lot of the things mentioned in the book, but didn't like some of the sales pitch chapters. Their services cost a lot of money and maybe that shouldn't surprise me, but how on Earth do I invest \$100 a month while paying \$100 a month to motley? I guess I'm not foolish enough.

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### **Kathy says**

Basic and informative but not boring. A good start for novice investors.

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### **Vignesh Kannan says**

Good introduction book to stock market investing. Gives a clear distinction between Dividend/Value/Growth stocks with compelling data and reasonable insights.

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### **Joe Fields says**

Great book. While I realize the time-sensitivity for something such as stocks, it seems from the multiple Motley Fool sites listed and newsletters to sign-up for that it's more of a baiting system designed to pay for services from the Motley Fool. That the only reason for loss of a star, a 5 otherwise. Very informative and smartly breaks down different segments and strategies.

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### **Matt says**

*"Time is the friend of the wonderful company, and the enemy of the mediocre." - Warren Buffett*

As is common with most people that invest, I wish I'd started about ten years ago. An abundance of time, a long-term mindset, and the magic of compounding are frankly remarkable forces in the world of investing, and the earlier one starts the better. As a 29-year-old newcomer taking my first steps as an investor, I would propose that it's never too late, and *The Million Dollar Portfolio* by David and Tom Gardner serves as an ideal companion for both novice and more seasoned investors. The masterminds behind *The Motley Fool* deliver an accessible, easy to understand and highly informative guide on what can seem a murky and complicated way of building wealth.

Several investing strategies are analysed in detail and supported by a host of practical examples. Although the book was published in 2011, the bulk of knowledge and advice is timeless and will hold true no matter what the economic landscape. Each chapter focuses on a specific philosophy, be that dividend stocks, value investing (in the style of Warren Buffett and his mentor Benjamin Graham), international securities, small-cap gems, or the use of mutual and exchange-traded funds. My own personal investment thesis, albeit rather short-lived at the moment, revolves around acquiring dividend-paying equities with growing income streams, particularly those trading at cheap prices relative to book value. I found a great deal of useful and pertinent information in the middle chapters of the book in this regard. Crucially, some facts and figures helped to reinforce my philosophy and indicate the potential returns I might expect to see in the long run. Asset allocation and diversification (to help mitigate unsystematic risk) are outlined in a significant amount of detail, with some example portfolio weightings based on your age and risk tolerance. A useful appendix discusses the pros and cons of mutual funds and their selection, if you'd prefer a more 'hands-off' approach.

Given the pitiful interest rates on savings accounts (as of June 2017, you'll be lucky to get more than ~2% AER) I would strongly advise anyone to invest their risk capital in equities and strive towards developing a seven-figure portfolio. With time, the passive income generated may be used to fund your lifestyle, charitable interests, bills, expenses and other commitments. This book is well written and humourous in places, which helps the reader digest the often complex mechanics of the market. My only critique would be the constant referencing towards *The Motley Fool's* products and services. Notwithstanding, the wealth generated in applying the strategies in this book will more than pay for the asking price, and the knowledge within should be seen as an investment in itself.

A fundamental objective in my opinion is to continue to pursue education about investing, and the reading list highlights some influential texts from the greatest financial minds of all time. I intend to work my way through these as I strive to develop my own portfolio and grow it in the coming years. It's a shame that these methods are not taught more widely in schools, to help young people understand the realities of generating wealth and financial responsibility. This book, and several of those it cites, are an essential part of the investing curriculum and I thoroughly recommend it.

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## **Matthew says**

Inspiring but only quasi informative book about beginning in the stock market.

Definitely dedicated to those long term investors with plans of buying Dividend stocks.

Overall worth the read but not something I will be revisiting in the future.

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**John Malley says**

Awesome book to learn about investing!

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**Roy Wang says**

The is an easy-to-read primer on stock investing and portfolio construction best suited for newbies and intermediate-level investors. Overall, the explanation was solid, the writing style held my attention all the way through, and the authors covered all the bases pretty well. Plus, their suggestions are distilled from over 2 decades of (successful and not-so-successful) stock investment experiences, which should help readers avoid the most common and dangerous mistakes. Ironically, to the naive absolute beginners, using the authors' Motley Fool services and newsletters might just result in excessive stock trading and futile obsession over finding the "perfect" stocks. So stick to the book's advice, but think twice before adopting the authors' paid services.

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**Geoff says**

A very good, high level book on the theories on investing in stocks. This is a little dated now, but still has excellent tips and insights.

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**Adi says**

Not a bad investing book for beginners, but doesn't provide enough actionable insight for those of us who are past the basics. Most of what you find in here can be found online and is pretty readily available.

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**Yulia says**

Some good criteria on assets picking.

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**Alex says**

The book provides a lot of the basics of what you need to know to start investing in stocks (and an appendix with the basics of mutual funds). What it lacks is a good description/definition/useful appendix of the jargon that gets casually thrown around once introduced, so it lacks usefulness for a neophyte in that regard. With that said, it's an easy read, even for those bored by stocks. But I found the interminable self-promotion of the Motley Fool website to be a little frustrating.

Part of successfully investing is learning to lessen the impact of fees (the authors state this directly) - subscribing to the services they hawk can be thought of as equivalent to fees, money that could have been better placed in investments. They might argue that the marginal cost of their services will surely benefit savvy investors, but who needs constant updates, when they also advocate that any stock purchase should be for a five year minimum? Further, the advocate employing the vast knowledge at CAPS (the forum/user picks at their website, which I have used for a long time now and enjoy), but they also mention that once everyone knows about a stock (say, for example, Google), it's probably too late to get it because you'll be buying high. They further advice that when everyone is down on a stock is probably when you want to jump on board. But this would be the opposite of following the advice provided by CAPS, and possibly by their newsletters, which are surely widely read by investors.

The best advice given was to start investing in stocks, because in the long run there are no better options (duh), but to also keep in mind that the stock market is irrational, and that it's possible to profit off that irrationality. I've learned how from the book... but I won't be sharing that here. ;)

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### **Elizabeth says**

I pulled The Motley Fool Million Dollar Portfolio: How to Build and Grow a Panic-Proof Investment Portfolio off my brother's bookshelf over the holidays. It was fine, but often read as a commercial for their website. It also didn't convince me to ever try picking individual stocks -- in fact, it reinforced my belief that passive investing is really what works best for me. I'm sure beating the market is very gratifying, but I'd rather spend my free time hiking, reading, and (hopefully, one day) writing again. Still, I'm glad to at least know the basics.

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### **Kathryn says**

This book is pretty involved - I think it tries to appeal to too many audiences, from beginners to advanced investors, and ends up becoming either underwhelming for advanced investors or overwhelming for beginners. This is a good book if you're super hardcore into investing, and can dedicate a lot of time to it. Otherwise, there are definitely better investment books out there.

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