



# Ready to Invest *Checklist*

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Your 8-step roadmap to achieving  
financial freedom

[wolfcollectivewealth.com](https://wolfcollectivewealth.com)

*Nice to meet you!*



Hi! I'm Stephanie, a financial counselor and money expert. Congratulations on downloading The Ready to Invest Check List!

This means that you're ready to turn your financial goals into reality, and I'm here to help you get there.

# *Let's get started*

## **Are you ready to set yourself up for a secure financial future?**

Investing is one of the best ways to grow your wealth, yet it's often something that many hold back from doing, for so many reasons. I often hear things like:

*"I don't understand how it works"*

*"It's just like gambling and I'm not into losing all my money"*

*"Only rich people can afford to invest"*

*"I don't have the time to commit to investing"*

False or misinformed belief statements hold many back from taking the next step and learning how investing can benefit them.

When you become intentional with your money and allow for space to learn, you open your opportunities to increase your wealth exponentially.

**"Investing in yourself is the best investment you will ever make. It will not only improve your life, it will improve the lives of all those around you."**

*—Robin Sharma*

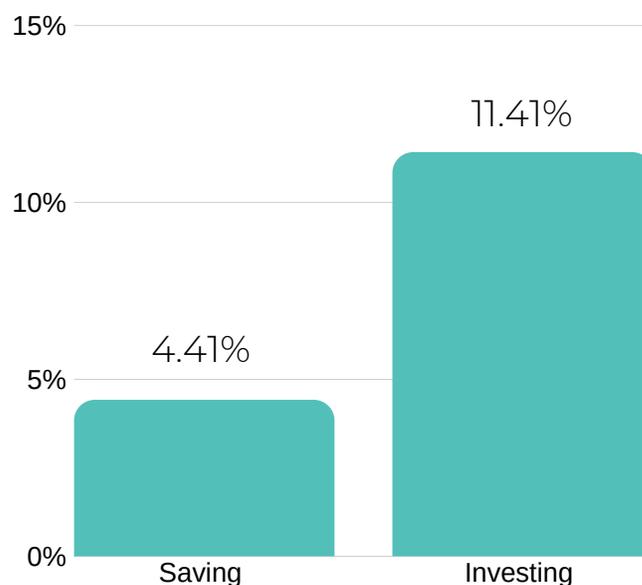
# *Why is investing important?*

Women live longer and on average earn less than men. They also tend to spend more time away from work caring for others, which over time can have a significant difference on their income earning ability.

When it comes to investing to meet your goals, women typically have less to invest than men. Although saving is a default because it feels safe, there is a big difference between what you can achieve from investing versus saving.

## What this looks like:

Average Annual Returns, 1979-2019



Source: Historical returns of 1-month T-Bills (Savings) vs Total US Stock Market (Investing) using [www.portfoliovisualizer.com/](http://www.portfoliovisualizer.com/)

# *Why is investing important?*

## The power of compound interest

One of the most amazing ways your money will grow when invested is through compound interest. Your money will earn interest, and you will quickly start to make money on the interest itself. Over time, it grows faster as your pile of cash grows.

Einstein called it the 8th wonder of the universe because of the exponential effect it can have on your money over time.

The sooner you invest, the better the impact. Here's an example:



"Julia"

Between ages 25-35 she  
invested \$5000 a year  
Total invested: \$55,000  
Age 60: \$615,580



"Clara"

Between ages 35-60 she  
invested \$5000 a year  
Total invested: \$130,000  
Age 60: \$431,754

Compound interest is a key ingredient to the power of investing that will help you growth your wealth over time.

***Imagine where you'll be in 10 years if you start investing today.***

Thinking about retirement is often one of the last things we want to tackle on our never-ending to do list, but I'm here to tell you that the secret to success is just getting started. It doesn't take a lot to start making your money work for you.

Data from Darwinsfinance.com



# *Getting Started: The Ready to Invest Checklist*

Here's 8 questions to answer before you start to invest:

1

## **Do you have any outstanding debt?**

If so, it's best to have it paid off first before you start to set money aside for investing. The interest you'll pay on the money you owe will far outstrip any potential return, and only hold you back in the long run. Need help? Check out the [Money Library](#) for tools and calculators, or call me for a [free discovery call](#).

2

## **Do you have 3-6 months of cash available?**

This is not the same as being able to sell your car and have money in the bank if you need it. I'm talking about cold, hard cash that you can access in minutes from a bank account. It's important to be sure you have savings to fall back on in case anything were to happen so you don't need to use credit (and go back to paying it off with interest).



## *The Ready to Invest Checklist*

3

### **Do you know how much you need to retire?**

The most common question I am asked is “how much should I invest”? The answer is different for everyone because it depends on your age, income, property you own, etc. The rule of thumb? You should invest 10% of your net income, 20% if possible. Want to geek out and get an accurate retirement amount? Calculate it using the retirement calculator in the [Money Library](#).

4

### **Have you checked with your employer to see if you have an employee investment program?**

This is an automatic investing solution and the easiest way to get started. Your income will be deducted prior to being taxed, making it a useful tax deferred strategy.

5

### **Have you evaluated your real estate position?**

Buying property is an investment. Take the time to assess your current situation and run the numbers on renting vs buying.



# *The Ready to Invest Checklist*

**6 Do you know how much you can invest per month?**  
Perhaps you have inherited a windfall and want to invest the entire amount, but for the most part, many of us will be investing our earned income. If you aren't sure how much you can (or should) be investing, download my [7 Minute Money Hack](#). It will help you bucket your expenses into 3 categories so you can see where and how your cash flow is being directed each month, and give you a good idea of how much to invest.

**7 Are you clear about what you're investing for?**  
Many women have competing priorities when they start their investing journey. Perhaps you're investing for your retirement, or your child's education, or maybe a once in a lifetime travel fund. Having your short, mid, and long-term goals in mind will help you to prioritize your investment choices.

**8 Do you know your risk level?**  
With every risk you take, there's a reward. Knowing your comfort zone will help you make investment choices that match your goals and tolerance level. There is emotional and behavioural aspects to investing and the more clear you are why you're investing, for what purpose, and how the investment return will be generated, will put you ahead of the game.

# *Check it off:*

- All consumer debt paid off
- 3-6 months of liquid assets (cash is king) tucked into a high interest, no-fee bank account
- Calculated how much you need to retire (check out the retirement calculator in the Money Library)
- Participate in your employee workplace program (if applicable)
- Know the amount you plan to invest either as a lump sum or regular contributions, based on your cash flow
- Evaluated buying property vs renting
- Set your short, mid, and long-term financial goals
- Are aware of your tolerance for risk

# *Ready to live the boss life?*

You got this. It's time to get yourself in the right position to start investing, today.

Investing is not something to be feared. It's simply a tool to help you accelerate and increase the potential for asset growth.

If you're ready to dive in, sign up for my free webinar to transform your financial future.

## *Own your financial power*

*You work hard for your money, right? It's time to build the wealth you deserve and get that money working for you. My free webinar outlines exactly what you need to know to start investing today. It's never been easier.*

[\*Click here to register now and secure your seat!\*](#)



Stephanie Wolfe, AFCC is an accredited financial counselor and passionate advocate for empowering women to achieve financial independence.

Her 1:1 coaching and online courses are informative, fun, and designed especially for women. Follow her real life on Instagram @wolfecollectivewealth.