

## For Beginners in Financial Literacy

Starting your financial journey can seem overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. We've compiled a list of books on various financial topics to get you started. *Book summaries may have been edited for length.*

### **The One-Page Financial Plan by Carl Richards** *3.8 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: Whenever I tell people about my job as a financial advisor, the conversation inevitably turns to how hopeless they feel when it comes to dealing with money...What I tell them is that we need to scrap striving for perfection and instead commit to a process of guessing and making adjustments when things go off track... The fact is, in a single page you can prioritize what you really want in life and figure out how to get there.

By now you may be wondering, "What about the details? How much do I need to invest each year, and how do I allocate it? How much life insurance do I need?" Don't. I'll cover those topics and many more, sharing strategies that will take the complexity out of them. The most important thing is getting clarity about the big picture so you can cope with the unexpected... no matter what happens, this book will help you bridge the gap between where you are now and where you want to go.

### **Finance for the People by Paco de Leon** *4.16 out of 5 on Goodreads*

Book summary: Unlike most personal finance books that focus on skills and behaviors, FINANCE FOR THE PEOPLE asks you to examine your beliefs and experiences around money—blending extremely practical exercises with mindfulness and including more than 50 illustrations and diagrams to make the concepts accessible (and even fun). With deep insider expertise from years spent in many different corners of the financial industry, Paco de Leon is a friendly, approachable, and wise guide who invites readers to change their relationship with money. With her holistic approach, you'll learn how to:

- Root out your unconscious beliefs about money.
- Untangle the mental and emotional burden of student loans to pay them off.
- Use a gratitude practice to help you think differently about spending.
- Break out of the debt cycle.
- Begin building wealth.

### **The Dumb Things Smart People Do With Their Money by Jill Schlesinger** *3.79 out of 5 on Goodreads*

Book summary: After decades of working as a Wall Street trader, investment adviser, and money expert for CBS News, Jill Schlesinger reveals thirteen costly mistakes you may be making right now with your money..

So if you've saved for college for your kids before saving for retirement, or you've avoided drafting a will, this is the book for you. By following Schlesinger's rules about retirement, college financing, insurance, real estate, and more, you can save money and avoid countless sleepless nights. It could be the smartest investment you make all year.

### **Pirates of Financial Freedom by Joey Fehrman** *4.44 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: With his back against the wall, Captain Dailey is forced to make a deal that's against every pirate bone in his body. In return, his son must save the crew from their financial problems before it is too late... they must master life-changing personal finance skills, including how to:

- Pay down debt quickly
- Effortlessly save for retirement
- Secure a higher credit score
- Invest in the stock market
- Achieve powerful money mindsets
- And much more

Cedar Point Federal Credit Union®  
22745 Maple Road, Lexington Park, MD 20653  
(301) 863-7071 | [cpfcu@cpfcu.com](mailto:cpfcu@cpfcu.com)

The pirate characters each have their own financial dreams and problems...Through the financial advice they receive and the other characters they meet along the way, you will learn how to take control of your destiny and start achieving the thriving life of financial success you deserve!

## For Those Focused on Saving, Reducing Debt, or Managing Money

### **Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey 4.2 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: By now, you've heard all the nutty get-rich-quick schemes, the fiscal diet fads that leave you with a lot of kooky ideas but not a penny in your pocket. Hey, if you're tired of the lies and sick of the false promises, take a look at this--it's the simplest, most straightforward game plan for completely making over your money habits. With "The Total Money Makeover: Classic Edition," you'll be able to:

- Design a sure-fire plan for paying off all debt--meaning cars, houses, everything
- Recognize the ten most dangerous money myths
- Secure a big, fat nest egg for emergencies and retirement!

### **The Richest Man in Babylon by George S. Clason 4.2 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: Beloved by millions, this timeless classic holds the key to all you desire and everything you wish to accomplish...Countless readers have been helped by the famous "Babylonian parables," hailed as the greatest of all inspirational works on the subject of thrift, financial planning, and personal wealth... Acclaimed as a modern-day classic, this celebrated bestseller offers an understanding of—and a solution to—your personal financial problems that will guide you through a lifetime.

### **The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko 4.06 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: The bestselling The Millionaire Next Door identifies seven common traits that show up again and again among those who have accumulated wealth. Most of the truly wealthy in this country don't live in Beverly Hills or on Park Avenue—they live next door. This new edition, the first since 1998, includes a new foreword for the twenty-first century by Dr. Thomas J. Stanley.

### **The Barefoot Investor by Scott Pape 4 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: The Barefoot Investor is about creating the financial freedom to live your dreams, whatever your age. It shows how getting your financial act together can be downright sexy, allowing you to achieve the things that mean the most to you - regardless of your income. ... It[the book] is packed full of simple tips, tricks, checklists and quizzes that will help you to transform your personal wealth with minimum effort. By following the Barefoot plan you can make your money work for you.

### **Kakeibo: The Japanese Art of Saving by Fumiko Chiba 3.64 stars on Goodreads**

Summary: People in Japan are masters of minimal living, able to make do with less in all aspects of life, whether it's de-cluttering personal belongings or savvy seasonal cooking. At the heart of all this is the kakeibo: the budgeting journal used to set savings goals and track spending. The premise is simple: at the beginning of each month, the prompts in this book help you to plan how much you would like to save and what you need to do in order to reach your goal. The kakeibo then gives you space to jot down your weekly spending and reflect on the month just gone. The act of completing your journal ensures that saving is a part of your everyday life, while also giving you the opportunity to reflect and improve every month.

## For Those Focused Planning for the Future

### **Quit like a Millionaire: No Gimmicks, Luck, or Trust Fund Required by Kristy Shen and Bryce Leung** *4.2 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: A ... guide to growing your wealth, retiring early, and living life on your own terms... Learn how to cut down on spending without decreasing your quality of life, build a million-dollar portfolio, fortify your investments to survive bear markets and black-swan events, and use the 4 percent rule and the Yield Shield--so you can quit the rat race forever. Not everyone can become an entrepreneur or a real estate baron; the rest of us need Shen's mathematically proven approach to retire decades before sixty-five.

### **A Random Walk Down Wall Street: The Time-Tested Strategy for Successful Investing by Burton G. Malkiel** *4.1 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: Today's stock market is not for the faint of heart. At a time of frightening volatility, what is the average investor to do? The answer: turn to Burton G. Malkiel's advice in his reassuring, authoritative, gimmick-free, and perennially best-selling guide to investing. Long established as the first book to purchase before starting a portfolio or 401(k), A Random Walk Down Wall Street now features new material on "tax-loss harvesting," the crown jewel of tax management; the current bitcoin bubble; and automated investment advisers; as well as a brand-new chapter on factor investing and risk parity. And as always, Malkiel's core insights—on stocks and bonds, as well as real estate investment trusts, home ownership, and tangible assets like gold and collectibles—along with the book's classic life-cycle guide to investing, will help restore confidence and composure to anyone seeking a calm route through today's financial markets.

### **The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need by Andrew Tobias** *3.9 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: For more than twenty-five years, The Only Investment Guide You'll Ever Need has been America's favorite finance guide, winning the allegiance of more than a million readers across the country. Now this indispensable book has been fully revised and updated—covering all the new tax laws—and reorganized with a new user-friendly design. Concise, witty, and truly understandable, Andrew Tobias shows you how to use your money to your best advantage—no matter how much or how little you have.

- How to spend smarter—and save \$1,000 or more
- When to invest in stocks, and how
- The ins and outs of investing on the Internet
- Tax strategies, from tuition to retirement
- Whom—if anyone—you can trust to manage your money

### **The Investment Answer: Learn to Manage Your Money & Protect Your Financial Future by Gordon Murray and Daniel Goldie** *3.73 out of 5 stars on Goodreads*

Book summary: You probably know the important measures of your physical health: your weight, blood pressure, and cholesterol levels. But do you know the important measures about your investment health? Is your advisor being a fiduciary who really works for you or for his firm? What is your percentage mix of stocks, bonds, and cash? How much you are paying in fees and investment-related taxes? Most of us can't answer these important financial questions...but we must. This book will help you become a smarter investor and a better steward of your money.

## For Those Preparing to Teach Financial Literacy to Their Children

### **Raising Financially Fit Kids by Joline Godfrey 3.9 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: In this updated edition of *Raising Financially Fit Kids*, Joline Godfrey shares knowledge gleaned from two decades of preparing children and families for financial independence and stewardship, philanthropic effectiveness, and meaningful economic lives. At the heart of the book are three big ideas:

- Financial education is not just about the money; it's about building great families and raising self-confident kids who have the tools to realize their dreams.
- Financial sustainability means living within one's means and acquiring skills to create and manage human and financial capital.
- Giving wisely is a global citizen's responsibility.

Designed for parents, grandparents, mentors, advisors, and educators, *Raising Financially Fit Kids* uses ten core money skills applied across five developmental life stages: children, tweens, middle schoolers, high schoolers, and twenty-somethings. Each stage includes age-appropriate activities that make financial fitness fun, from mall scavenger hunts to financial film festivals...*Raising Financially Fit Kids* prepares your children for the complexities of living in a global economy and helps your family up your game from good to great.

### **5 Mistakes You Can't Afford to Make in College by Anthony Oneal 4 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: It's a mission to help EVERY high school graduate. Oh, it sounds so simple but every year the cycle of pain repeats itself. This is the ultimate manual to avoid the 5 Mistakes a large majority of college students make. These mistakes may cause you years and years of pain and hardship if you too follow the path of so many others. Don't buy the hype, buy the book! 5 Mistakes is the must have book for every high school senior. The caliber of your future will be determined by the choices you make today.

### **A Teenager's Guide to Investing in the Stock Market by Luke Villermin 4.1 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: Did you know that you can become a millionaire just by investing the money you make from delivering pizzas one night per week?... The average American waits until age thirty-one to begin saving and investing for retirement, and they end up 2.5 million dollars poorer because of it. In *A Teenager's Guide to Investing in the Stock Market*, early-investor Luke Villermin breaks down the Wall Street lingo, levels the playing field, and serves up seven chapters to help young investors obtain:

- Inspiration to start saving and investing for retirement today
- Confidence in how the stock market operates and how to choose investments
- A step-by-step road map to opening an online account, purchasing stock, and putting money to work

Buckle up for the most "adult" thing you have accomplished since you passed your driver's ed test... If you invest hard now, you will truly be able to play hard later.

### **Investing for Teenagers by Alex Higgs 4 out of 5 stars on Goodreads**

Book summary: Investing is thinking about the future, thinking ahead, and making your adult life more comfortable even before it begins. As adulthood draws nearer, the focus often shifts from what's right in front of you to what's farther in the future...The problem is that you aren't necessarily given the tools you may need to answer some bigger-picture questions you have surrounding your finances, like how and where to invest your money...

Here is what this finance and investing guide for teens can offer you:

- Start building a solid foundation for your future with expert financial advice
- Manage your finances like a pro with step-by-step directions on where to make and where to save money
- Make the buckets overflow with exclusive strategies and expert advice
- Bucket your income smartly and bulletproof your future with instructions on how to invest in plans such as 401k and IRA
- And much more finance and investing knowledge!

If you want to secure yourself financially and breeze through adulthood without money worries, all you need to do is follow the step-by-step guides and expert advice found inside.