All About Asset Allocation

Everything You Need to Know About Asset Allocation, Including:

• Quick lessons on how to implement an asset allocation strategy
• Learn why asset allocation is the most important investment decision you’ll make
• How to allocate among stocks, bonds, real estate, and other asset classes

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Foreword by William Bernstein, Author, The Intelligent Asset Allocator

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Synopsis

All About Asset Allocation goes beyond sound-bite financial columns and TV programs to explain asset allocation in terms that anyone can understand. Using a concise style, it features straightforward explanations of asset allocation, a review of the asset allocation process, and guidelines for implementing strategies and programs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was pretty impressed with this book. I give it an A+. I have been a student of investing and financial planning since 1979. In 1978, when Venita VanCaspel’s book The New Money Dynamics was published, the term "asset allocation" was not even listed in the index of financial terms. She doesn’t really mention asset allocation between asset classes and any benefits of asset allocation. Gary Brinson’s 1986 famous study can be defined as the birth of asset allocation. He found that over 90% of a portfolio’s return can be determined by the asset classes used, not what the individual investments were. Brinson’s findings have been relatively slow to flow through the investment community and to individual investors. Dial the time clock ahead from 1986 to 2006, and one of Business Week’s cover stories seeks to explain why the S&P 500’s profits have increased dramatically over the last 5 years, yet the S&P 500 companies have had very little stock price appreciation. One explanation offered is that more and more investors practice asset allocation and choose other investments besides the S&P 500 for their portfolios. The increased demand for other asset classes like foreign stocks, commodities, and gold has subsequently less to a decrease in demand for large cap stocks in the S&P 500. Ferri’s book does an excellent job of explaining the
concept of asset allocation and he uses real life portfolios to illustrate the advantages of asset allocation. Ferri points out the ideal investments to add to one's portfolio would be negatively correlated to the investments in the existing portfolio. He also points out that the correlations between asset classes changes over time.

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