

Before You Invest Checklist

A Practical Guide to Smarter Financial Decisions

Most investment mistakes do not come from a lack of intelligence. They come from emotional decisions, social pressure, poor preparation and unrealistic expectations. This guide is designed to help you slow down, think clearly and evaluate opportunities with more discipline before risking your money.

1. Understand What You're Investing In

- Do I clearly understand how this investment creates value?
- Am I investing based on knowledge or hype?
- Would I still invest if nobody online was talking about it?
- What are the real risks involved?

2. Risk Awareness

- How much money can I realistically afford to lose?
- Would this investment damage my financial stability if it failed?
- Am I diversified enough?
- Am I emotionally prepared for volatility and uncertainty?

3. Emotional Traps

- Am I investing because of fear of missing out?
- Am I trying to impress others?
- Am I reacting emotionally to social media success stories?
- Am I rushing because everyone else seems to be investing?

4. Financial Stability First

- Do I already have an emergency fund?
- Am I carrying high-interest debt?
- Is my monthly cash flow stable?
- Am I investing money that I may urgently need later?

5. Long-Term Thinking

- What is my real investment objective?
- What is my time horizon?
- Am I thinking long term or looking for quick profits?
- Does this investment align with my future goals?

Investment Readiness Score

| Question | Yes | No |
|----------------------------------|-----|----|
| I understand the investment | ■ | ■ |
| I can afford the risk | ■ | ■ |
| I am not investing emotionally | ■ | ■ |
| My financial situation is stable | ■ | ■ |
| I am thinking long term | ■ | ■ |

0–2 Yes: High Risk of Emotional Decision-Making

3–4 Yes: Moderate Preparation — More Clarity Needed

5 Yes: Strong Investment Discipline & Long-Term Thinking

True investing is not about chasing excitement. It is about building stability, discipline and long-term value. The best investors are not always the fastest. They are often the most patient, rational and prepared.