

Works Cited

All citations are grouped together at the end of this work because I do not want to distract you from the important information in each chapter. I wrote this book to abolish the educational barrier to entry into finance, and I think overly-cited and intensely-technical texts scare individuals away from starting their first portfolios. This book contains difficult-to-grasp financial concepts that are key to unlocking your financial future. I try to put these concepts into easy-to-understand, applicable words and situations. Some of these citations are more technical in nature. For a deeper understanding of the underlying concepts explained, explore the following qualified and helpful sources. However, please do not spend too much time researching. The best way to learn about the stock market is to invest.

Many online programs let you start with fake portfolios and invest in stocks with simulated money. I think these programs are hurtful in the long-term because a significant amount of trading is based on emotions triggered when you gain or lose money. Making and losing real money is key to mastering your emotions and disciplining yourself to follow your principles and fundamental analyses. Moreover, these simulations often instantly fill your positions, creating unrealistic representations of real financial markets. With instant fills, you neither learn about the importance of volume and liquidity nor understand the struggle of being stuck in a real position. You should understand these real capital liquidity issues with smaller positions before you start taking large trades so that you can always identify ample volume and capital liquidity.

With that said, these “fake-money” trading programs can be a great way to start learning about the market hands-on. No matter how actively you want to trade, you can practice technical analysis and start developing your own trading style and portfolio balances. Once you are confident in yourself, move on to real money. The hardest position you will take is your first one. Even if you only buy one share of a \$25 stock, the emotional responses from your trade will teach you about the psychological control necessary for either nine-to-noon trading or somewhat volatile long-term investing.

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The sooner you start investing, the sooner you can tackle the emotions that come alongside equity-asset management and start building real savings and retirements for yourself and your family. Individual stocks open the doors to higher returns in the market. To an extreme, actively trading nine-to-noon using the techniques outlined in this book can yield you staggering and consistent returns once you identify, practice, and solidify your trading strategy.

Always be cautious and extremely hesitant to change your principles once you develop an executable and successful market strategy. The worst trap you can fall into is constantly changing your principles and strategy for analyzing potential equity positions. Watch stocks move with the technical indicators and tools presented in this book. Once you are comfortable investing in individual stocks and funds abroad, see how your technical analysis skills develop as you discover newfound, consistent market patterns and trends.

This book would not be possible without the joint efforts of all of the following writers, publishers, data collectors, chart creators, and more.

Preface

Chapter 1: The Day

Chapter 2: Starting to Get There

Chapter 3: Why should I trade stocks?

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