

What Does Intrinsic Valuation tell us about Fair Value?



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- ❖ The concept of “Fair Value” is highly subjective, but it's an important question in valuation

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- ❖ In essence, when making an investment, an investor wants to know whether he is paying too much for the investment?
- ❖ Will he make a satisfactory return?
- ❖ This is more likely if the price is undervaluing the asset or if it is at “Fair Value” as opposed to overvaluing it

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- ❖ A Fairly Valued asset is one where its true value is equal to its market value
- ❖ The “true” value is seldom known but investors use valuation methods to attempt to calculate it

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- ❖ This means that using Intrinsic or Absolute methods such as DCF or DDM enable investors to calculate a value - based on their assumptions - which they can compare to the market value

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- ❖ This consequently enables them to form a view as to whether the asset is fairly valued or not
- ❖ As we have seen that viewpoint is highly subjective and dependent on the assumptions in the calculation

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- ❖ In the event that there is a significant difference between intrinsic value and market value, there is an opportunity for arbitrage
- ❖ If the stock is over valued, it can be sold short
- ❖ If it is undervalued, it can be bought in the market in expectation of a positive investment return in the future.

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