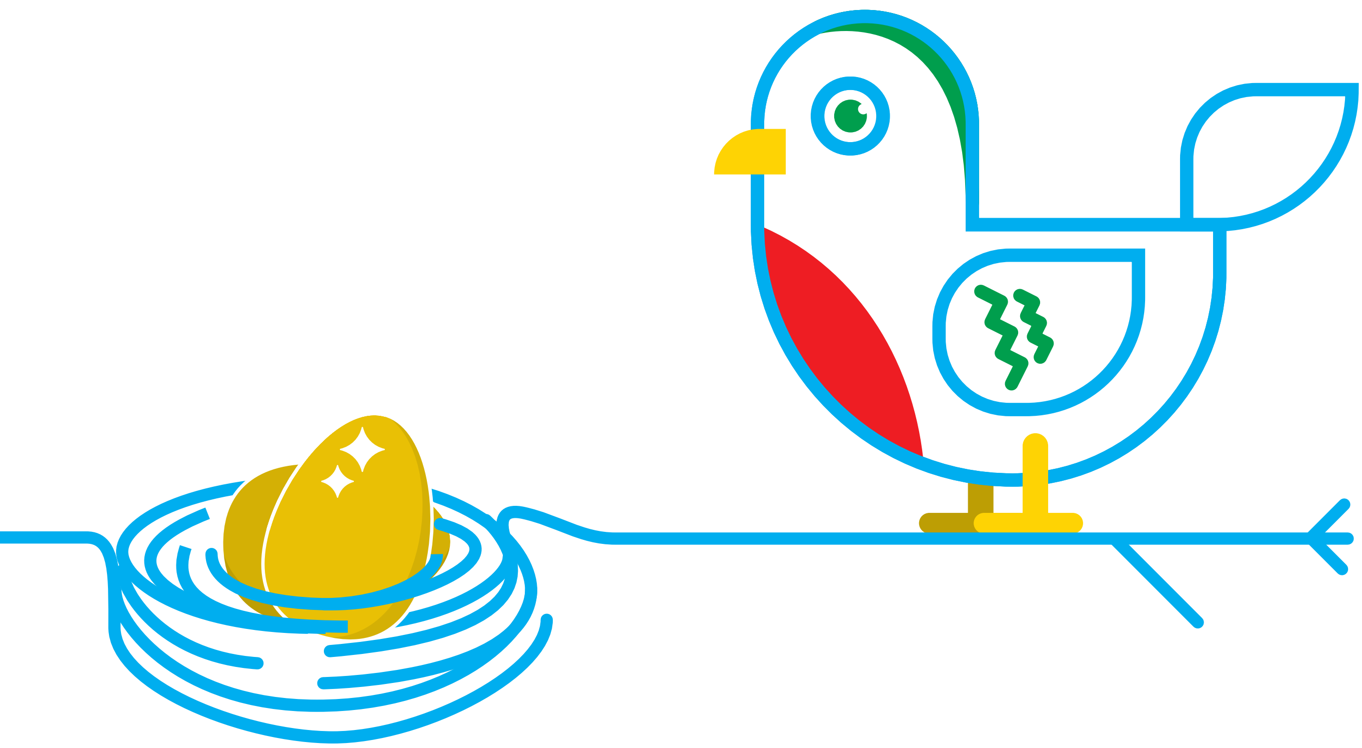
Your guide to investing in stocks and shares ISAs

For many of us, building a nest egg feels like a natural thing to do, whether it means saving towards a comfortable retirement, a deposit on a house, or a youngster's education.

But with interest rates at record lows and the future path of inflation uncertain, savers of all ages are having to search harder than ever to get respectable returns on their money.



Legal & General

Looking beyond savings accounts

Searching far and wide for decent interest rates may seem time-consuming, especially if a hectic job or family life means you're already very busy. However, that doesn't mean you should simply settle for a low-paying deposit account.

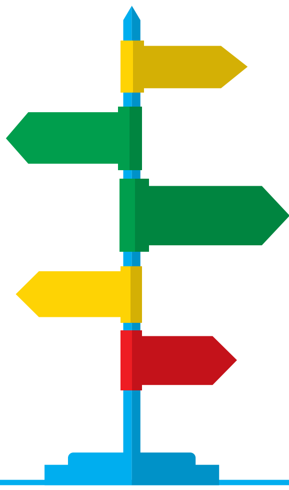
The good news is that there are real alternatives to savings accounts out there, with a variety of investment options available. As long as you're willing to accept an element of risk, investments could offer the potential for higher returns.

Entering the investment world

Along with seasoned investors, stocks and shares ISAs may appeal to savers who want to gain some exposure to financial markets for the first time. For the 2018/19 financial year, ISA holders can set aside up to £20,000 in a wide range of investments, with any profit or income they make shielded from personal tax.

We know that entering the investment world can seem complicated, but it doesn't have to be.

In this guide, we'll run through the basics of stocks and shares ISAs – and the different types of investments you could choose to hold in them. In particular, we'll look at the potential to include investment funds in these ISAs, along with the charges and risks which should be considered.



Investing in ISAs: the basics

You wouldn't buy a house without first taking a good look around and carefully considering its key features. And the same should be true of investment products like stocks and shares ISAs. That's why we've decided to start our guide with a basic run-through of how ISAs work – and the potential role investment funds can play in relation to them.

ISAs IN A NUTSHELL

Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) were introduced in 1999, in an effort to provide some helpful tax breaks to ordinary working families.

They've traditionally taken two forms – cash accounts on the one hand and stocks and shares ISAs on the other. But in recent years, other options have been launched by the Government, notably Junior ISAs for youngsters under 18 and Help to Buy ISAs to go towards a deposit for a home. In addition, there is also a Lifetime ISA (LISA) which can be used for a property purchase or help towards retirement.

CASH VS STOCKS AND SHARES

If you're a keen saver, it's likely you'll have come across cash ISAs at some point. These savings accounts allow you to put aside a set amount each financial year (£20,000 in 2018/19), with any interest you earn on your money tax-free.

Stocks and shares ISAs broadly work in a similar way. They're designed to be tax-efficient, while the same annual limit applies. But by introducing an investment element, they have a much different approach to risk.

As their name suggests, cash ISAs enable you to make cash deposits in a savings account. The returns you get on your money, while tax-free, are determined by the interest rate which your account pays. Ultimately, to avoid the risk of your savings falling in value, you have to accept lower returns.

In contrast, stocks and shares ISAs allow you to aim for stronger returns by placing your money in a range of investments. In exchange, you must be willing to take on a degree of risk – accepting that the value of your investments could go down as well as up.

KEY FEATURES OF STOCKS AND SHARES ISAs

Stocks and shares ISAs provide a place where different investments can be stored. They offer you the chance to gain some exposure to financial markets, rather than simply building up a cash nest egg in a savings account.

The good news is that despite their name, these products aren't limited to stocks and shares alone. Instead, they provide a gateway to a wide range of investments, including:

- **Investment funds**
- **Individual stocks and shares**
- **Investment trusts**
- **Bonds issued by companies**
- **Government bonds**

Stocks and shares ISAs have the potential to generate higher returns than cash savings accounts. And they boast other key benefits.

They are tax efficient because you're not charged either income or capital gains tax on any income or investment growth you receive, as any tax liability would be met by the fund, not individual investors.

On the flipside, there are potential drawbacks to consider. For instance, you'll encounter charges when making certain investments. And, as we've already flagged up, there's an element of risk involved since investments aren't guaranteed to go up.

Ultimately, these products may be better-suited to people willing to play the long game. It's generally thought you need to stay invested for five years or longer to increase your chances of success.

Just one final point before we move on. Don't forget that you can now use the annual ISA allowance however you wish, thanks to recent law changes. For example, in the 2018/19 financial year, you could invest the entire £20,000 allowance in a stocks and shares ISA, save it all in a cash ISA, or divide it between the two as you see fit.

ADDING INVESTMENT FUNDS TO AN ISA

A wide range of investments can be placed in stocks and shares ISAs, including bonds and shares. But for reasons of ease and flexibility, investment funds are also a major draw for ISA holders in their quest for strong returns.

If you're new to the world of investing, the term 'investment fund' may seem like just another piece of jargon. So let's get back to basics by looking at the roles these funds play – and why they're so popular with investors.

INVESTMENT FUNDS IN A NUTSHELL

Put simply, a fund pools together money from many different investors. The combined pot is then invested in things like stocks and shares, bonds and property, with the ultimate aim of delivering good returns to investors.

Buying a stake in a fund allows you to join forces with other investors and benefit from opportunities which might otherwise be off limits. For example, you may be able to access far-flung foreign markets more easily. Funds can also reduce investment costs by sharing them out across a broad range of people.

DIFFERENT FUNDS, DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES

Since investors have different interests and risk appetites, funds come in all shapes and sizes.

At one end of the scale are passive or index funds, which broadly track the performance of a particular market, e.g. the FTSE 100 Index. At the other end are active funds, which try to beat a certain market. Active funds have specific investment objectives and tend to specialise in a particular area – for instance certain geographic regions or sectors.

Different funds have different features and charges attached to them. In the rest of this guide, we'll go through their main characteristics and discuss what ISA holders should consider when selecting them. As a starting point, let's first take a look at the importance of understanding investment risk.

Understanding investment risk

All investments carry some degree of risk, and the funds you place in a stocks and shares ISA are no exception.

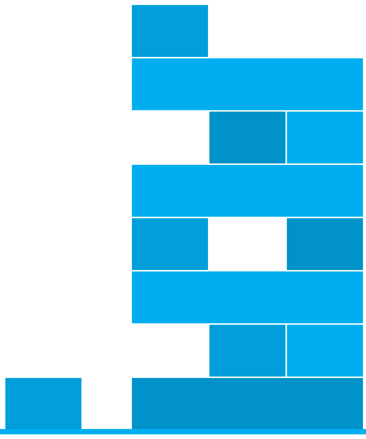
The concept of risk – and the amount you're willing to expose your money to – must be carefully considered before any fund selections are made.

You'll need to review the potential hazards which different funds could face, depending on their management style, and the assets, regions and industries they focus on. But that's not all, as your own personality should also shape your approach to risk.

RISK IN A NUTSHELL

If you're new to the world of investing, risk may seem like a fairly abstract concept. But it's not something that can be taken lightly. It refers to the fact your investments could go down as well as up – meaning you may get less back than you put in.

The risks attached to a particular investment product are often determined by the potential returns it could offer. Products aiming for strong gains can prove riskier than those seeking slow and steady returns.



HOW TO APPROACH RISK

Along with a product's specific features, three factors should be considered when deciding on your approach to risk. These are: the amount of time you're willing to invest for, your investment goals and your personality.

1. How long will you invest for?

Before making any investments, you should pause to consider how long you're willing to commit your money for. Doing this can identify the products which are right for your needs, and the amount of risk you should take.

Remember that money invested in investment ISAs can be accessed at any time if needed. However, you should be willing to stay invested for a number of years, ideally five or more. That's because your investments will have more time to ride out any market ups and downs.

2. What are your investment goals?

Time isn't the only thing to consider when it comes to risk. Your investment goals should also influence the amount of uncertainty you're willing to take on.

Many of us make investments with particular targets in mind. These can take the form of short-term goals which last for under five years, such as building up a deposit for a home, or longer-term aims like creating a nest egg for retirement.

Investing towards long-term goals can provide opportunities to be a bit more adventurous with your money. For instance, you could choose to invest in funds which focus on higher-risk areas. On the other hand, any goals which you want to achieve in a relatively short space of time may require a lower-risk strategy.

3. What kind of personality do you have?

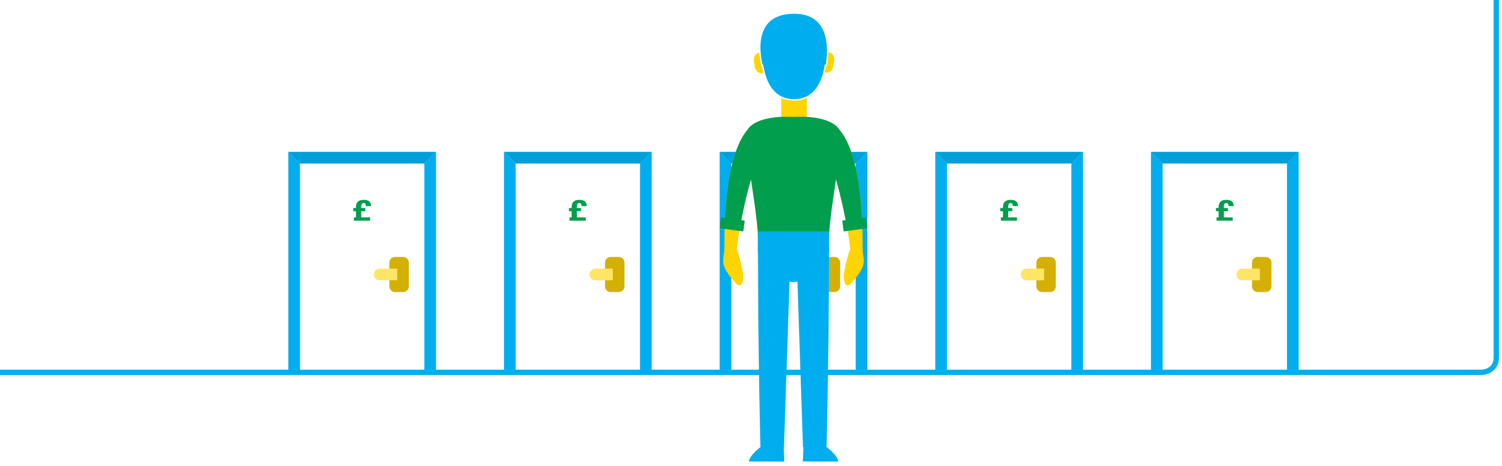
When weighing up investment risk, it's also important to think about your own personality and the amount of uncertainty you can stomach.

Are you traditionally quite a cautious person who hates the idea of volatility from ups and downs in the market? Or are you willing to be slightly more adventurous if there's the opportunity for higher returns? These are key questions to consider, as your risk tolerance can have a major bearing on your investment choices.

MITIGATING RISK

Whichever types of fund you choose to place in your ISA, you'll have to deal with some level of risk. Even products which focus on less volatile areas face an element of uncertainty – it just goes with the territory.

But the good news is that while risk can't be avoided completely, there are steps you can take to mitigate it. As we'll see later, diversification can prove helpful to investors.



Investment funds: the main types

There are thousands of different options out there, covering the full range of assets, geographic regions and sectors. When selecting funds for an ISA, it's all too easy to become confused by the sheer volume available, not to mention their different approaches to investment risk. That's why we've decided to cast our eye over some of the common types of investment fund – flagging up what ISA holders can expect from them.

ACTIVELY-MANAGED FUNDS

Active funds pool together money from different investors, with a professional fund management team using the combined pot to build a portfolio of assets like shares, bonds or property.

To cater for the tastes of different investors, each fund has a specialist area of focus – whether it's a particular geographic region, specialist sector or approach to risk. The job of the fund management team is to buy and sell assets on behalf of investors, to try and beat the wider market and ultimately provide them with decent returns.

As with any form of investment, there are potential opportunities and risks associated with actively-managed funds.

On the plus-side, they aim to take the pressure off individual investors – with a dedicated fund management team of industry specialists carrying out detailed research on their behalf. Rather than investors having to spend time hand-picking investments themselves, buying and selling decisions are made by this team of experts.

On the downside, the involvement of very hands-on professional management teams means active funds tend to command higher charges and while fund managers might aim to outperform a certain benchmark, it's not guaranteed they'll be successful.

PASSIVE FUNDS

If you don't feel actively-managed funds are the right fit for your stocks and shares ISA, there are still plenty of other options to explore.

At the opposite end of the spectrum are passive funds or index funds, which tend to have lower charges attached to them. So what makes these funds different to their actively-managed cousins?

Rather than aiming to beat a certain benchmark with the help of a very hands-on fund management team, passive funds are designed to broadly track the performance of a market or sector instead, for example the FTSE 100 Index. They buy a basket of investments in a particular market in order to track its performance.

These funds offer a number of potential benefits to investors. For instance, because they don't rely quite as heavily on the expertise of hands-on fund managers, their charges tend to be lower than active funds. And they can also save people valuable time, since they don't have to hand-pick investments themselves.

However, there are possible drawbacks to consider here too. As we've already mentioned, passive funds aren't designed to beat the wider market, but instead match the performance of a particular market or sector. So, think carefully about the strategy you want to follow.

As with other investments, also bear in mind that markets aren't guaranteed to rise. The markets which passive funds track can still go down as well as up. A slump in the value of the market or sector would have a knock-on effect on your investment.

Away from active and passive funds, other investment funds which you can hold in a stocks and shares ISA include:

MIXED FUNDS

Also known as multi-asset investment funds, these products give investors the chance to spread their money across a combination of assets, such as shares, bonds and cash. Some even make investments in other funds.

They're overseen by professional fund management teams, who carefully review the performance of different assets before buying and selling them on behalf of investors. The balance of the assets held in a mixed fund can be adjusted in response to changing market conditions or major economic events.

Mixed funds may appeal if you want to diversify and balance your investments, rather than focusing on just one specific area. You can access different assets, sectors and strategies all in one place, instead of having to select a number of separate investment funds.

But with each mixed fund having its own unique balance of assets, you'll need to do your research to find the one best-suited to your investment goals and risk appetite.

PROPERTY FUNDS

These products are a more specialised type of investment fund, generally focusing on commercial buildings based in the UK.

They tend to invest in major properties like shopping centres, offices and industrial buildings, with the aim of achieving capital growth over the long term. These funds generate returns for investors when the value of the properties they own rises – and through the rent which is paid by tenants.

They're a popular way for investors to diversify, so that not all their money is tied up in the stock market for instance. On the downside, they can experience volatility when the economy takes a turn for the worse and demand for commercial property falls.

INCOME FUNDS

This type of fund aims to provide a regular source of income to investors.

Income funds invest in assets which have a history of making regular payments. These can include:

- **Bonds**, which governments and companies issue to raise money. Bonds make fixed interest payments to investors, meaning they can provide a steady income stream.

- **Dividend-paying shares**. Companies listed on the stock market can pay dividends to shareholders.

By focusing their attention on these assets, income funds aim to provide payments at set intervals to those who invest in them – for example on a monthly or quarterly basis.

But once again, there are potential benefits and drawbacks to consider before taking the plunge and signing up for an income fund.

In the positive column, adding these funds to an ISA may provide a regular income stream which you could then put towards your family's expenses. If you're retired, the income they provide could also help top up your pension.

On the flipside, income funds might face periods of volatility, and the payments they offer aren't guaranteed. The income provided by a fund has the potential to rise and fall – for example if interest rates on bonds change or if companies alter their dividend policies.

As with other types of investment fund, these products are designed with medium to long-term investors in mind. That means you're more likely to benefit if you stay invested for five years or longer.

When selecting investment funds for an ISA, you really are spoilt for choice. But once you've decided on a particular style of fund, what other factors should you consider?

Distribution and accumulation funds: breaking down the jargon

When choosing a fund for a stocks and shares ISA, you'll need to think carefully about how you want to receive any returns which are generated by its investments.

Funds can deliver returns in a number of ways. For example, they can take the form of dividends when funds invest in shares, or interest payments if they focus more on bonds. Funds angled towards property can also provide returns from the rental income they receive.

Although the exact details will vary from fund to fund, returns are often paid out to investors on a monthly or quarterly basis, or every six months.

The question of how you want any returns to be paid is key when selecting investment funds. They can be structured in two ways, either as distribution funds or accumulation funds. As with so much of the investment world, these phrases may sound like complicated jargon at first. But don't let that put you off, as they're actually pretty easy to understand.

DISTRIBUTION FUNDS EXPLAINED

Distribution funds simply pay out any returns which you're due in the form of a regular income.

Returns are paid into your bank account at set intervals, and the money can then be withdrawn and used however you wish. It could top up your pension if you're retired, or be put towards living expenses.

HOW ACCUMULATION FUNDS DIFFER

In contrast, accumulation funds may be an option if you're keen to focus more on the long term and don't need to rely on a regular income.

Instead of being paid into your bank account as an income, any returns you make are automatically reinvested in the fund. This increases your stake in the fund and the value of your investment in it.

Common fund charges

Funds can open the door to a wide range of investments. But the flexibility and expertise they offer to ISA holders can come at a cost.

The fees charged by investment funds can vary considerably, depending on the assets, regions and sectors they invest in. The way they're structured can also have an impact – for example active funds tend to charge more than passive funds since they're proactively managed by a team of experts.

By failing to do your homework, fees could eat into your investment returns. You'll need to review them carefully and make like-for-like comparisons with similar funds to ensure you're getting a good deal.

With all this in mind, what common charges should you consider when mulling over a particular fund?

ENTRY CHARGES

Also known as an initial charge, you might have to pay an entry charge to invest your money in some funds.

If you're wondering why a charge can arise at such an early stage, it's to cover the cost of setting up your investment. Not all funds carry entry charges either.

FUND MANAGEMENT FEES

Sometimes known as an annual management charge (AMC), this fee covers the yearly costs involved in running a fund.

Things like investment management, accounting, valuation and auditing can be covered by the fund management fee. Funds which focus on higher-risk assets such as shares and property may charge more than those which invest in less risky areas.

ONGOING FUND CHARGES

By law, all funds need to include this charge in their 'Key Investor Information' documents. It's often the same as the annual fund management fee, highlighting the main costs which an investor is likely to face over a year.

However, the ongoing fund charge may also flag up additional costs which come on top of the fund management fee. For example, extra costs can be charged if a fund invests in other funds run by different companies.

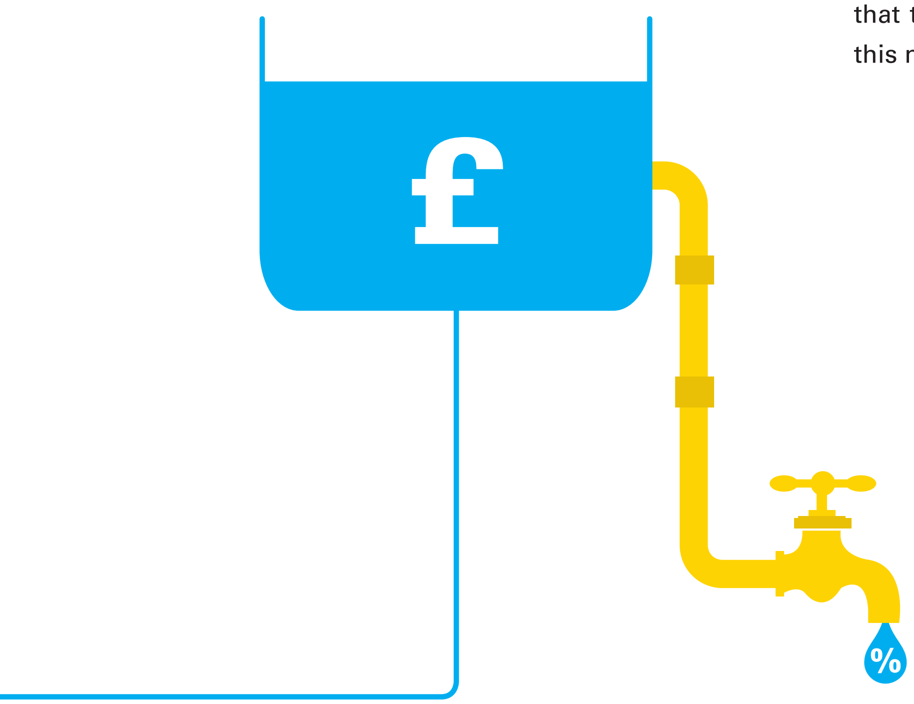
PERFORMANCE FEES

Some funds may charge investors a performance fee if they manage to beat a certain benchmark. For example, this might be the case if they outperform other funds which have a similar area of focus. The fee is paid to the fund management team in recognition of their achievements.

Performance fees can be taken from the income which a fund has generated for its investors so it could affect the value of your investment returns.

OTHER CHARGES TO CONSIDER

To quickly recap, entry charges, annual fund management fees, ongoing fund charges and performance fees are the headline costs which you'll need to consider when weighing up an investment fund.



But the charges won't necessarily end there. Other potential costs associated with investment funds include:

- Transaction costs when a fund buys or sells assets. Local taxes and fees paid to brokers to help deals go through are just two examples of transaction costs.

- Platform fees. These could apply if you make use of so-called 'fund supermarkets' to buy investment funds. Platforms charge a fee to use their services.

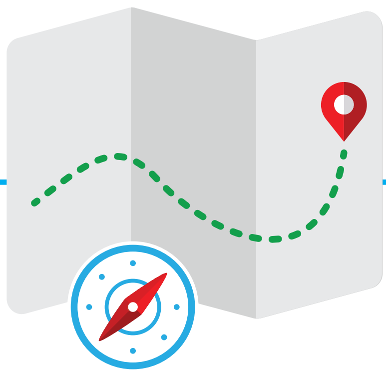
- Property management costs. As their name suggests, these fees can specifically apply to funds which invest in commercial property.

- Fees for financial advice. You may wish to speak to an Independent Financial Adviser (IFA) before adding any investment funds to your stocks and shares ISA. Professional advisers can provide some useful perspective on your personal situation, while offering tips on what to do with your money. The downside is that they tend to charge for their expertise, meaning this might be another extra cost to consider.

Exploring assets, regions and sectors

As we've shown, a variety of fund types have emerged over time. But whether you're after a passive fund or an active fund, selecting a particular management style is only half the equation.

That's because even funds of the same type can have wildly different areas of focus. As well as deciding on the type of fund you want to invest in, you'll need to research the assets, regions and sectors which each one specialises in.



ASSETS

Each fund invests in a certain type of asset or, in the case of mixed funds, a balance of different assets. They can range from shares and bonds through to cash and property.

The asset class which a fund invests in can influence its approach to risk and returns. For example, income funds focus on assets which make regular pay-outs, such as bonds or shares which have dividends attached to them.

GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

Just because a fund is based in Britain doesn't mean its investments are confined here. In fact, many funds aim to discover new growth opportunities by focusing exclusively on foreign markets. These can include developed markets such as Europe, or emerging markets in Asia.

Once again, a fund's geographic focus can influence its approach to risk. Some foreign markets may face regular volatility, while currency fluctuations could also affect investment returns.

SECTORS

Along with particular assets and regions, some funds only invest in specific industries, or companies of a certain size.

Health, pharmaceuticals, property, technology and telecoms are among the sectors which they may choose to specialise in.

Building a diverse portfolio

'Diversification' is a popular buzzword in the investment world. But rather than dismissing it as just another piece of financial jargon, it's an important concept which investors should get to grips with. So what does diversification mean, and how can it be achieved?

DIVERSIFICATION IN A NUTSHELL

Diversification isn't a word to be afraid of. In fact, it's a fairly straightforward idea that could protect you from swings in the value of your investments.

It broadly refers to the process of creating a balanced investment portfolio that covers a range of assets, sectors and geographic regions. The opposite of putting all your eggs in one basket, in other words. The thinking is that if one part of your portfolio experiences a period of volatility, it'll be balanced out by other areas. In contrast, by only investing in one area, you'd be exposed if it suffered a downturn.

By creating a balanced portfolio, you can take steps to mitigate the risks which are attached to investing.

HOW ISA HOLDERS CAN DIVERSIFY

When investing through a stocks and shares ISA, diversification could involve spreading your money across a number of funds which each focus on a different asset class. For example, you could sign up to funds which invest in assets like bonds and property, as well as those which focus exclusively on shares.

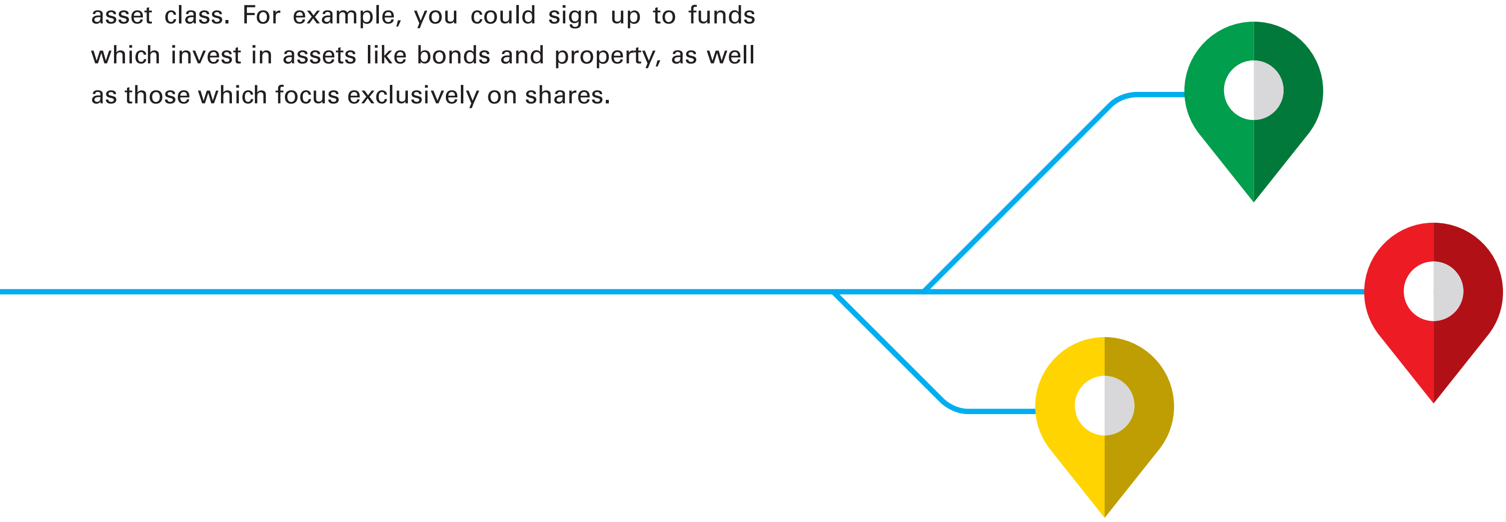
Alternatively, you could choose to diversify your portfolio by investing in funds which focus on different geographic regions and industries.

Something else to think about is the potential to diversify between different fund management styles. Including active, passive and mixed funds in your ISA is one option to consider.

CAREFUL PORTFOLIO PLANNING

While diversification can prove useful to investors, it's important not to overdo it.

Spreading your investments across too many areas – over-diversifying – could lead to more charges and weaker returns. Rather than rushing into things, aim to strike the right balance.



Deciding how to invest: lump sum and regular contributions

Over the course of this guide, we've run through all the things you need to mull over before selecting investment funds for a stocks and shares ISA. Now, as we near the end, there's just one last topic to address: the difference between lump sum and regular investing.

LUMP SUM INVESTMENTS EXPLAINED

Lump sum investments might be an option if you've received a sudden windfall such as an inheritance. Rather than gradually drip-feeding money into a fund, you can invest it all in one go.

It's been suggested that by 'timing' the markets right, lump sum investors have the potential to achieve stronger returns. For example, if you buy a stake in a fund at a low price just before a market upturn, the value of your investment could increase quickly in a short space of time.

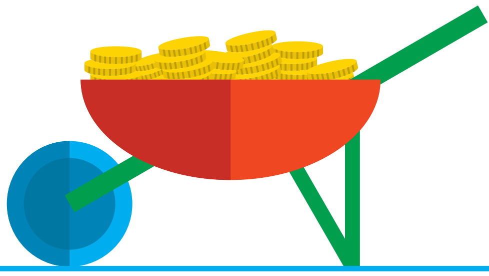
The trouble is that timing markets correctly can be easier said than done. If you buy at the wrong time at too high a price, the value of your investment could fall.

HOW REGULAR INVESTING DIFFERS

Lump sum investing isn't your only option. You can also choose to invest regularly, gradually increasing your stake in an investment fund over time. Taking this approach allows you to invest a set amount at regular intervals – generally every month.

Regular investing can initially leave you less exposed to market fluctuations than if you invest a lump sum. You'll end up making investments at different prices each month – rather than with a lump sum where you only buy at one price. This can help to smooth out market ups and downs.

Remember that you can combine lump sum and regular deposits, as long as you don't go over your annual ISA allowance. For example, you might want to invest a regular amount each month, but occasionally set aside a lump sum if you receive a financial gift, windfall or bonus.



Stocks and shares ISAs: a final checklist

Stocks and shares ISAs offer easy access to financial markets, whether you're an experienced or first-time investor.

And, as our guide has shown, placing investment funds in an ISA allows you to spread your money across a wide range of sectors and assets.

Here's a handy checklist of facts and tips which investors should remember. From annual allowances through to the importance of regularly reviewing your portfolio, make sure you consider the following before investing in an ISA or any funds.

MAKE THE MOST OF THE ISA ALLOWANCE

Each financial year, you get an ISA allowance, which is the maximum you can put aside tax-efficiently. In 2018/19 the limit stands at £20,000.

You can invest all your allowance in a stocks and shares ISA, save it all in a cash ISA, or split it between the two.

If you can afford it, try to take full advantage of your ISA allowance. You can't carry over any unused allowance into the next financial year, so make the most of it while you can. Any money you plan to invest over and above the ISA limit will need to be placed in other products.

BE WARY OF 'CHASING PERFORMANCE'

Whether you're a seasoned expert or completely new to investments, it can be tempting to 'chase performance'.

This simply refers to the process of moving your money from one investment to another just because it's currently performing strongly. For example, if a certain type of asset is enjoying a rally, it may be tempting to move your money into a fund which specialises in that area.

The trouble is that all markets go up and down, facing sticky patches as well as successful periods. Constantly flitting between different investments could prove costly and stressful – and you may end up achieving similar returns by just staying put and riding out any ups and downs.

REGULARLY REVIEW YOUR PORTFOLIO

It's not enough to simply build a portfolio of investments within your stocks and shares ISA. You'll also need to keep tabs on them at regular intervals, to check they're still right for your personal circumstances.

If you forget about your investments and lose track of their performance, your returns could start to suffer.

A particular example would be when you're building up a retirement pot. Rather than focusing on higher-risk investment funds with the potential for stronger returns, you may need to rebalance your portfolio more towards lower-risk products as your retirement date draws closer.

DON'T GET HUNG UP ON 'TIMING' THE MARKET

Investors often aim to 'time' a particular market by predicting its future direction and buying or selling investments accordingly.

The theory is that buying when prices are low helps investors capitalise if the market enjoys an upturn soon after. On the other hand, people may sell their investments if they believe a market is about to drop in value.

It may all sound tempting, but the problem is that timing the market is easier said than done. After all, if it was really that simple then everyone would be doing it. Ultimately, it's an uncertain strategy which demands a lot of research.

DON'T OBSESS OVER PAST PERFORMANCE

A fund's history may be used by some investors as an indicator of how it might do in the future. But this is far from an exact science as past performance is no guarantee of future returns.

OK, so a fund may have performed particularly strongly for a year or two. But that may simply mean that the assets which it's focused on have been in vogue. Tread carefully when considering past performance.

UNDERSTAND DIFFERENT ASSET CLASSES

Before choosing a fund for an ISA, it's vital to get to grips with the underlying assets which it invests in to generate returns.

Funds come in many varieties, focusing on everything from shares and bonds through to commercial property. In some cases, they even invest in other funds.

To develop a firm understanding of how a particular fund works, you'll need to get your head around the asset class (or classes) which it favours – and how any returns are likely to be generated.

CAREFULLY REVIEW RISKS AND CHARGES

Don't ever jump into an investment. Instead, carefully review the potential risks and charges which are attached to a fund, and think hard about whether they tally with your own personality and budget.

The assets, geographies and sectors which a fund focuses on can all influence its approach to risk and charges. The structure of a fund and its management style can also have an impact.

Consider the trade-off you're willing to accept between risk and potential returns. And don't forget about the importance of diversifying to ensure your portfolio isn't overly exposed to one particular area.

PAY CLOSE ATTENTION TO 'KEY INVESTOR INFORMATION DOCUMENTS'

By law, each investment product needs to have its own 'Key Investor Information Document' (KIID), describing its main objectives, key features and potential risks. Details concerning a product's past performance and charges may also be included in this document.

Funds are no exception to the rules. Before committing your money, spend some time carefully reviewing the key documents – doing so could help you avoid any surprises and ultimately make sure a product is right for your personal needs.

Learn more about ISAs and funds

If you have any questions about stocks and shares ISAs or the world of investment funds, we're happy to help.

TO FIND OUT MORE

Visit **www.legalandgeneral.com/investments**

Phone **0800 980 2691**

Lines are open Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm.

We will record and monitor calls.

Here at Legal & General, we offer a wide selection of investment funds which can be placed in a stocks and shares ISA. They include actively-managed, passive, mixed funds and property.

Our customers can securely manage their investments online using our 'My Account' service. This tool allows you to see the funds you've invested in all in one place, while it offers instant valuations of your investments seven days a week. It provides a breakdown of all your investment transactions and documents.

As an added feature My Account gives you the chance to send secure messages to our UK-based customer services team, in case you have any queries regarding your investments. Finally, if you wish, it allows you to receive any documents in a paperless format, helping you to cut down on clutter.

Notes

Please remember

The value of your investment and any income from it may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. You may get back less than you invest. Past performance is not a guide to future performance. Recommended investment period medium to long term, ideally five years or more.

Changes in exchange rates between currencies may cause the value of an investment and the level of any income to rise or fall.

The tax efficiency of ISAs is based on current rules. The current tax situation may not be maintained. The benefit of the tax treatment depends on individual circumstances.

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