

# **Shah Financial Planning Inc.**

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Plan:		
Client's Name:	Signature:	Date:
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# **Investor Questionnaire**

**Investment Time Horizon:** The length of your investment time horizon impacts the types of investments that may be suitable for you. Investors with a time horizon of greater than three years have a greater degree of flexibility when building a portfolio (although risk tolerance and investment objectives must also be considered). If you have a very short time horizon, more conservative investments like GICs or money market funds may be the only suitable option for you.

- **1.** When do you expect to need to withdraw a significant portion (1/3 or more) of the money in your investment portfolio?
  - i) Less than 1 year
  - ii) 1-3 years
  - iii) 4-6 years
  - iv) 7-9 years
  - v) 10 years and more

**Investment Knowledge:** If you have a high level of investment knowledge, you have a good understanding of the relative risk of various types of investments and understand how the level of risk taken affects potential returns. If you have very little knowledge of investments and financial markets, speculative and high risk investments and strategies are likely not suitable options for you.

- 2. Which statement best describes your knowledge of investments?
  - i) I have very little knowledge of investments and financial markets.
  - ii) I have a moderate level of knowledge of investments and financial markets.
  - iii) I have extensive investment knowledge; understand different investment products and follow financial markets closely.

**Investment Objectives:** Investment objectives are the goal or result you want to achieve from investing. Understanding your investment goals helps determine the types of investments best suited to meet your needs. The investment products used to meet different goals have varying levels of risk and potential returns.



- 3. What is your primary goal for this portfolio:
  - i) I want to keep the money I have invested safe from short-term losses or readily available for short-term needs. (Safety Investments that will satisfy this objective include GICs and money market funds)
  - ii) I want to generate a steady stream of income from my investments and I am less concerned about growing the value of my investments. (Income Investments that will satisfy this objective include fixed income investments such as funds that invest in bonds)
  - iii) I want to generate some income with some opportunity for the investments to grow in value. (Balanced A balanced fund or a portfolio that includes at least 40% in fixed income investments and no more than 60% in equity funds will satisfy this objective)
  - iv) I want to generate long-term growth from my investments. (Growth A portfolio with a relatively high proportion of funds that invest in equities will satisfy this objective if you also have a long time horizon and are willing and able to accept more risk)

**Risk Capacity (Questions 4-9):** Your financial situation including your assets, debt and the amount and stability of your income are all important when determining how much risk you can take with your investments. In addition, the larger the portion of your total assets that you are investing, the more conservative you might wish to be with this portion of your portfolio.

- 4. What is your annual income (from all sources)?
  - i) Less than \$25,000 (0 points)
  - ii) \$25,000 \$49,999 (2 points)
  - iii) \$50,000 \$74,999 (4 points)
  - iv) \$75,000 \$99,999 (5 points)
  - v) \$100,000 \$199,999 (7 points)
  - vi) \$200,000 or more (10 points)
- 5. Your current and future income sources are:
  - i) Stable (8 points)
  - ii) Somewhat stable (4 points)
  - iii) Unstable (1 points)
- 6. How would you classify your overall financial situation?
  - i) No savings and significant debt (0 points)
  - ii) Little savings and a fair amount of debt (2 points)
  - iii) Some savings and some debt (5 points)
  - iv) Some savings and little or no debt (7 points)
  - v) Significant savings and little or no debt (10 points)
- 7. What is your estimated net worth (investments, cash, home and other real estate less mortgage loans and all other debts)?
  - i) Less than \$50,000 (0 points)
  - ii) \$50,000 \$99,999 (2 points)
  - iii) \$100,00 \$249,999 (4 points)
  - iv) \$250,00 \$499,999 (6 points)
  - v) \$500,000 -\$999,999 (8 points)
  - vi) \$1,000,000 or more (10 points)
- **8.** This investment account represents approximately what percentage of your total savings and investments. (Total savings and investments include all the money you have in cash savings, GICs, savings bonds, mutual funds, stocks and bonds)?
  - i) Less than 25% (10 points)
  - ii) 25%-50% (5 points)
  - iii) 51%-75% (4 points)
  - iv) More than 75% (2 points)

- **9.** What is your age group? (Your age is an important consideration when constructing an investment portfolio. Younger investors may have portfolios that are primarily invested in equities to maximize potential growth if they also have a higher risk tolerance and long investment time horizon. Investors who are retired or near retirement are often less able to withstand losses and may have portfolios that are invested to maximize income and capital preservation)
  - i) Under 35 (20 points)
  - ii) 35-54 (8 points)
  - iii) 55-64 (3 points)
  - iv) 65 or older (1 point)

#### Your score for questions 4-9\_\_\_\_\_

<u>**Risk Attitude (Questions 10-15):**</u> Your comfort level with risk is important in determining how conservatively or aggressively you should invest. Generally speaking, you need to consider accepting more risk if you want to pursue higher returns. If you decide to seek those potentially higher returns, you face the possibility of greater losses.

- **10.** In making financial and investment decisions you are:
  - i) Very conservative and try to minimize risk and avoid the possibility of any loss (0 points)
  - ii) Conservative but willing to accept a small amount of risk (4 points)
  - iii) Willing to accept a moderate level of risk and tolerate losses to achieve potentially higher returns (6 points)
  - iv) Aggressive and typically take on significant risk and are willing to tolerate large losses for the potential of achieving higher returns (10 points)
- **11.** The value of an investment portfolio will generally go up and down over time. Assuming that you have invested \$10,000, how much of a decline in your investment portfolio could you tolerate in a 12 month period?
  - i) I could not tolerate any loss (0 points)
  - ii) -\$300 (-3%) (3 points)
  - iii) -\$1,000 (-10%) (6 points)
  - iv) -\$2,000 (-20%) (8 points)
  - v) More than -\$2,000 (more than -20%) (10 points)
- **12.** When you are faced with a major financial decision, are you more concerned about the possible losses or the possible gains?
  - i) Always the possible losses (0 points)
  - ii) Usually the possible losses (3 points)
  - iii) Usually the possible gains (6 points)
  - iv) Always the possible gains (10 points)

- **13.** The chart below shows the greatest one year loss and the highest one year gain on four different investments of \$10,000. Given the potential gain or loss in any one year, which investment would you likely invest your money in:
  - i) EITHER a loss of \$0 OR a gain of \$200 (0 points)
  - ii) EITHER a loss of \$200 OR a gain of \$500 (3 points)
  - iii) EITHER a loss of \$800 OR a gain of \$1,200 (6 points)
  - iv) EITHER a loss of \$2,000 OR a gain of \$2,500 (10 points)



- 14. From September 2008 through November 2008, North American stock markets lost over 30%. If you currently owned an investment that lost over 30% in 3 months you would:
  - i) Sell all of the remaining investment to avoid further losses (0 points)
  - ii) Sell a portion of the remaining investment to protect some of your capital (3 points)
  - iii) Hold onto the investment and not sell any of the investment in the hopes of higher future returns (5 points)
  - iv) Buy more of the investment now that prices are lower (10 points)

- **15.** Investments with higher returns typically involve greater risk. The charts below show hypothetical annual returns (annual gains and losses) for four different investment portfolios over a 10 year period. Keeping in mind how the returns fluctuate, which investment portfolio would you be most comfortable holding?
  - i) Portfolio A (0 points)
  - ii) Portfolio B (4 points)
  - iii) Portfolio C (6 points)
  - iv) Portfolio D (10 points)









Your score for questions 10-15\_\_\_\_\_

On the table below circle your answers to the time horizon, investment knowledge and investment objectives questions and your total scores for the risk capacity and risk attitude questions.

Your investor profile is determined by the circle that is in the column furthest to the left in the table.

	1	2	3	4	5
Time Horizon (question 1)	i	ii		iii, iv	~
Investment Knowledge (question 2)			i	ii	iii
Investment Objectives (question 3)	i	ii	iii		iv
Risk Capacity (total of questions 4-9)		<15	15-25	26-40	>40
Risk Attitude (total of questions 10-15)	<20	20-24	25-30	31-45	>45

# Sample Investor Profiles and Asset Allocations

1.	Very Conservative	Asset Allocation
	You have a very low tolerance for risk and are unable to tolerate any investment	
	lossies or you have a very short investment time horizon. You prefer knowing	100% Money
	that your capital is safe and are willing to accept lower returns to protect your	Market/ GICs
	capital.	
2.	Conservative Income	Asset Allocation
	You have a low tolerance for risk and potential loss of capital or a short	
	investment time horizon. You are willing to accept some short term fluctuations	■ 75% Fixed
	and small losses in your investment portfolio in exchange for modest returns.	■ 25% Equities
	The primary objective of your investment portfolio will be to provide income by	
	investing primarily in funds that invest in fixed-income securities. While capital	
	appreciation is not a priority, a small portion of the portfolio may be invested in	
	equity funds to provide the potential for some growth to offset the impact of	
	inflation.	
З.	Balanced	Asset Allocation
	You have a moderate tolerance for risk and loss of capital. You are willing to	<b>60%</b> Equities
	tolerate some fluctuations in your investment returns and moderate losses of	
	capital. You have at least a medium term investment time horizon. The	■ 40% Fixed
	objective of your portfolio will be to provide a combination of income and long	Income
	term capital growth and therefore the portfolio will include at least 40% in fixed	
	income investments.	
4.	Growth	Asset Allocation
	You have a high tolerance for risk and loss of capital. You are willing to tolerate	80% Fourties
	large fluctuations in your investment returns and moderate to large losses of	
	capital in exchange for potential long-term capital appreciation. You do not	■ 20% Fixed
	have any significant income requirements from your investments. You have at	Incame
	least a medium term investment time horizon.	
5.	Aggressive Growth	Asset Allocation
	Your tolerance for risk, portfolio volatility and investment losses is very high.	■ 100% Equities
	You are willing to tolerate potentially significant and sustained price fluctuations	invest in specific
	and large loss es of capital. You have extensive investment knowledge. You have	market sectors or
	no income requirements from your investments and have a long investment	employ speculative trading strategies)
	time horizon.	

### **Illustrative Examples**

On the table below circle your answers to the time horizon, investment knowledge and investment objectives questions and your total scores for the risk capacity and risk attitude questions.

Your investor profile is determined by the circle that is in the column furthest to the left in the table.

## Example One

	μ	2	3	4	5
	Safety	Conservative	Balanced	Growth	Aggressive
		Income			Growth
Time Horizon (question 1)	i	ii		iii, iv	v
Investment Knowledge (question 2)			i	ï	iii
Investment Objectives (question 3)	i	ii			iv
Risk Capacity (total of questions 4-9)		<15	15-25	26-40	>40
Risk Attitude (total of questions 10-15)	<20	20-24	25-30	31-45	>45

In this example, although the client expressed a willingness to accept risk, they have very limited risk capacity (ability to withstand losses). The client's Risk Capacity is the most constraining element, leading to a Conservative Income profile.

#### Example Two

	1	2	3	4	5
	Safety	Conservative	Balanced	Growth	Aggressive
		Income			Growth
Time Horizon (question 1)	i	ï		iii, iv	v
Investment Knowledge (question 2)			i	Ξ	iii
Investment Objectives (question 3)	i		iii		iv
Risk Capacity (total of questions 4-9)		<15	15-25	26-40	>40
Risk Attitude (total of questions 10-15)	>20	20-24	25-30	31-45	<45

In this example, the client has significant financial resources but is unwilling to take any risk with their investments. The client's Risk Attitude is the most constraining element, leading to a Safety profile.