

6 STEPS TO THOUGHTFUL FINANCIAL PLANNING

Your financial life is a unique blend of your past experiences with money, your current life, and where you want to be in the future.

At Nick Nauta Financial, we customize our process to support your unique situation and to create your financial plan.

Wherever you are in life, you have significant financial decisions to consider. Are you just starting your career or are you in the thick of it, trying to balance your family and work life? Are you 55 and getting ready to retire, or are you 85 and thinking about the legacy you want to leave? No matter your circumstances, having a solid financial plan in place will help you realize your goals.

Throughout our experience, we have found that there are 6 core phases of thoughtful financial planning. We live by these steps and hope you will benefit from them as well!



UNDERSTAND



INSPIRE



DREAM



PLAN



ACT



MONITOR

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6 STEPS TO THOUGHTFUL FINANCIAL PLANNING

1. Understand

You've likely put copious amounts of time and effort into developing a plan to reach your goals in life. When you made those decisions, was money the most important factor? Probably not. While it seems counterintuitive, should your financial plan strictly be about money?



To create a financial plan that reflects an accurate picture of who you are and the life you desire, we must first understand your history, who you are today, and who you wish to be in the future. And more specifically, we want to understand how money has impacted your life and your emotions toward finances.

Of course, we encourage you to ask us questions too! One of our goals is to educate you. To do that, we want to earn your trust and simplify the complicated details of financial planning in a way that resonates with you.

2. Inspire

Financial planning can have a bad rap for being boring and stressful. We don't think so. We want this process to encourage you to reach higher than you have before. We want to challenge you to take on things you think are impossible.



What would you do if you could not fail? If you could have the best retirement ever, what would it look like? No, we're not promising you the moon and the stars, but we will help you reach for them. After all, it is your life, right? Why not make it what you want?

When you create a financial plan, it shouldn't just be about setting goals with specific solutions in mind. There is value in setting goals that don't have identifiable solutions (yet). That's when you are pushed to take ownership and be creative. We want to inspire you to create a life you love, and we promise to do it in a way that is rooted in reality and sound strategies.

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3. Dream



A healthy financial plan positions you to get the most out of life. Our job is to create a safe environment where you can let your mind wander and dream big. After all, it's when we stretch ourselves that we can clearly see our real potential, right?

Is saving for retirement a dream? Not really. Saving for retirement is an abstract concept with no passion behind it. Is saving for the day you can stop working so you can travel the world to help the underserved, a dream? Yes! Your dreams should be powerful enough that you are willing to sacrifice to make them happen.

4. Plan



Once we have identified your big audacious dreams, we start to merge your finances with your life goals. A path to what you want to accomplish in life begins to emerge.

We will identify how you can use the resources you have to achieve your goals. As with everything in life, there will be roadblocks to achieving what you want. Your future will be made up of tiny decisions along the way. On the surface, they don't seem important, but when you stack them on top of each other, you see the skyscraper emerge. We will help you make decisions that are in line with your plan and support what you value most.

5. Act



Now it's time to make sure your plan is doing what it needs to. Your plan is designed to help you become organized and aware of the financial matters that will impact your life. Your plan should give you the confidence that you're headed in the direction of greatness, no matter what that means to you.

Throughout this process, we will help you make objective financial decisions. Our goal is to coach you in a way that positions you to understand how to limit the effect of emotions on your decisions. We are here to keep your best interests in mind and serve as your trusted advisor.

6 STEPS

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6. Monitor

Your financial plan is a living, breathing document, and as such, it needs to change and adapt as your life does. Think back to what your life plan was five years ago. So much has changed since then! That is why we regularly monitor and compare your plan to your current situation and your evolving goals. Our approach is to make small adjustments along the way so there aren't any surprises or big transitions.



We're all about proactive changes instead of reactive fixes. Communication is key to ensuring we know what is going on in your world and that your plan continues to guide you in the right direction. We will work with you on a monthly basis to update your financial plan. This regular maintenance will help you get the most out of your plan and ultimately, your life.

We rely on these 6 steps to produce thoughtful financial plans. Many people have asked us why we love financial planning. The answer? Every single day we are inspired by the amazing things that our clients are achieving in their lives. We can't wait to see where your financial planning journey takes you!

Contact us today for a free
consultation!

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