



Make the Big Play with Your 401(k)!

Tackle your retirement goals.

Know when you want to retire and how many years you expect to spend in retirement. While you're at it, envision your desired retirement lifestyle.

Establish your running game.

Financial planners say you'll need 75-85% of your pre-retirement income during retirement. Make sure you have a firm grasp of your own personal needs!

Open up your passing game.

You should make a strong effort to contribute the maximum that you can. Make sure you contribute at least enough to obtain your company's full matching contribution (if your plan includes a match) — otherwise you'll be leaving "free" money on the table.

Manage the play clock.

Remember, time is on your side. The sooner you start to save through your 401(k) plan (or increase your current contribution), the longer your money has to grow.

Throw a block on inflation.

Make sure you have an adequate amount of stock investments in your portfolio. They have the potential to help you keep up with or even stay ahead of inflation over the long term.

Stay focused during time outs.

Things like marriage, the birth of a child, inheritances, and financial emergencies are just a few of life's little "time outs." You'll want to make sure that your retirement savings strategy is flexible. Review it annually to make sure it still meets your needs.

Don't fumble the ball.

Avoid taking out a cash distribution or loan from your retirement savings account. If you do, you may face tax penalties for early withdrawal, along with regular taxes.

