Saving for **RETIREMENT**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



- IT'S A -MONEY THING®

Someday you will be an **OLD PERSON**

PUZZLES

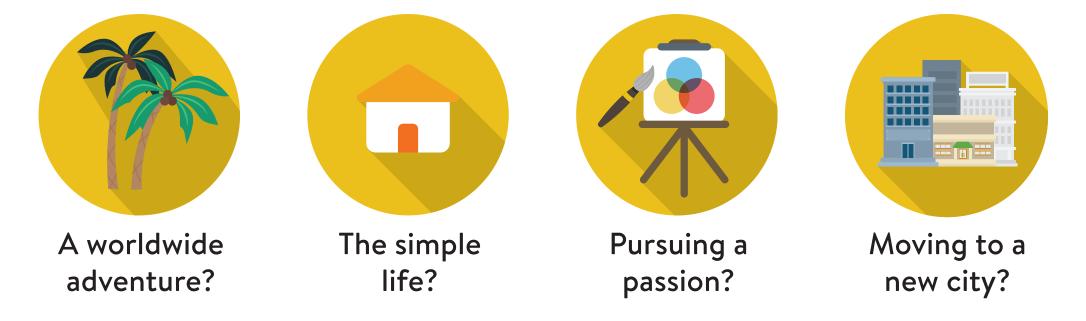


Take a moment and let that sink in

PUZZLES

Imagining RETIREMENT

What do you want your retirement to look like?





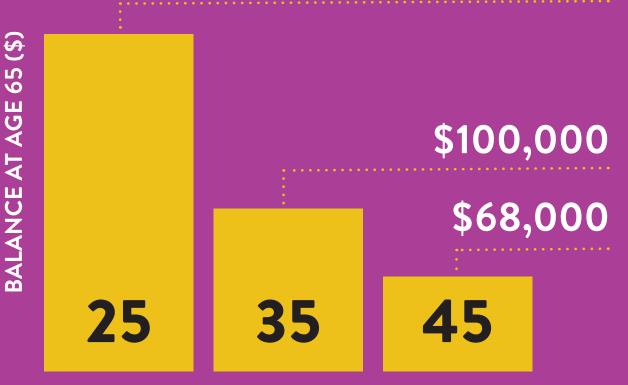
Your retirement fund will likely be your longest-term savings goal

That makes it tricky to prioritize but it pays to start saving early!

Timing is **EVERYTHING**



Let's say you put **\$10,000** in your **401(k)** and do nothing further until it's time to withdraw the balance at **age 65**



AGE AT WHICH YOU START SAVING

*based on an 8% average annual return

The same investment can be worth a lot more when given some extra time to grow

Retirement SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

Retirement savings accounts act like containers in which your various investments can grow tax-free



The most popular options include Traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs and 401(k)s



COMPARING OPTIONS

TRADITIONAL IRA

Set up at your financial institution

\$6,000 contribution limit (combined limit for all IRAs)

Withdrawals can be made after age **59**½

Set up at your financial institution

ROTH IRA

\$6,000 contribution limit (combined limit for all IRAs)

Withdrawals can be made after age **59**¹/₂

401(k)

Set up through your employer

\$20,500 contribution limit

Withdrawals can be made after age **59**¹/₂

COMPARING OPTIONS

TRADITIONAL IRA

Contributions are pre-tax and can be deducted from your income tax return

Withdrawals are taxed as ordinary income

ROTH IRA

Contributions are made with **after-tax** dollars and cannot be deducted from your income tax return

Withdrawals are tax-free

401(k)

Contributions are pre-tax and do not count toward your taxable income for the year

Withdrawals are taxed as ordinary income

COMPARING OPTIONS

TRADITIONAL IRA

Traditional IRAs offer a wide range of investments, but their RMDs (required minimum distributions) mean you *have* to start withdrawing funds at a certain point

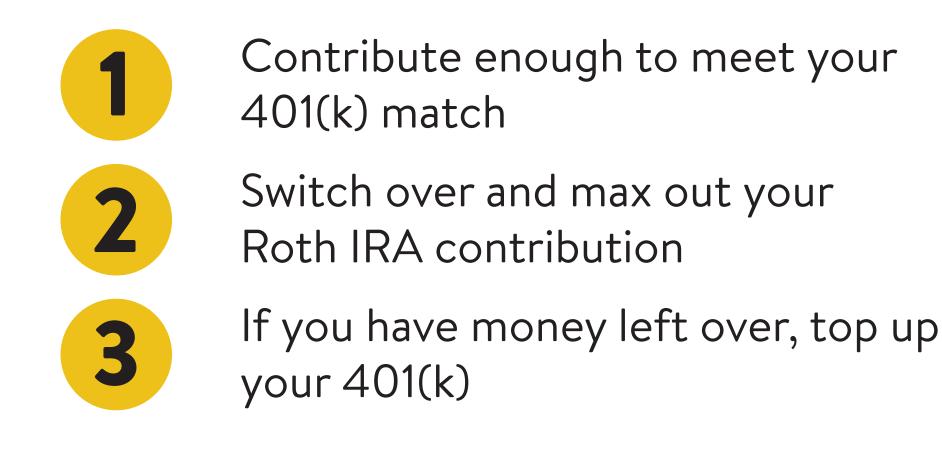
ROTH IRA

Unlike Traditional IRAs, Roth IRAs have tax-free distributions and no RMDs however, they will not give tax breaks on your contribution amounts

401(k)

Your employer may offer a 401(k) contribution match, which is like free money-however, 401(k) plans are sometimes associated with limited investment options and higher fees

STARTER PLAN



Strategies for **SAVING**

In order for your money to grow, you need to create the right environment



Eliminate high-interest debt Paying down credit cards (and other high-interest debt) should be your top financial priority





Build an emergency fund The last thing you need is an unexpected expense taking a bite out of your savings

Maximize your repayment plan See if there's a smart way to consolidate or refinance your loans as a way of freeing up extra cash for savings





Start today Time is on your side when it comes to retirement savingseven if you have to start small, start saving today

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Sources: Investopedia, IRS.gov, NerdWallet, The Motley Fool, Time Inc.

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