# Saving for RETIREMENT

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# Imagining RETIREMENT

## What do you want your retirement to look like?



A worldwide adventure?



The simple life?



Pursuing a passion?



Moving to a new city?

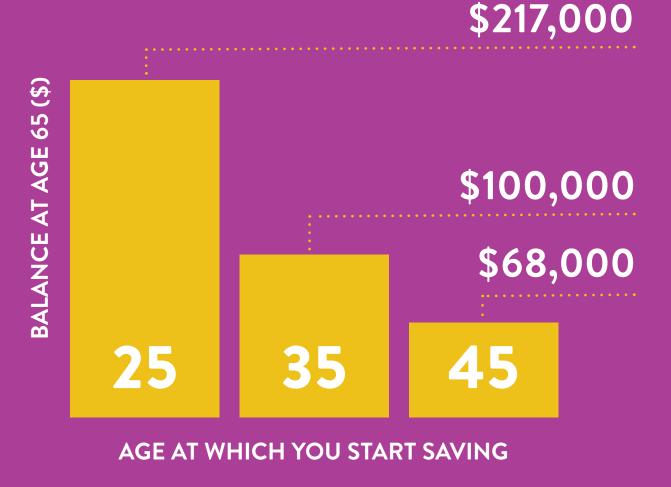


# Your retirement fund will likely be your longest-term savings goal

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 RRSP and do nothing further until it's time to withdraw the balance at age 65



# 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 RRSPs and TFSAs



## COMPARING OPTIONS

### **RRSP**

Set up at your financial institution— RRSPs are registered by the federal government

### \$26,010 annual contribution limit

Contributions are made with **pre-tax** dollars and may be deducted from your income tax for that year

#### **TFSA**

Set up at your financial institution

### \$5,500 annual contribution limit

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

## COMPARING OPTIONS

### **RRSP**

Withdrawals of investment income and contributions are taxable

Early withdrawals are subject to an additional withholding tax

#### **TFSA**

There are no taxes on withdrawals of investment income and contributions

You can make withdrawals from your TFSA at any time

## COMPARING OPTIONS

### **RRSP**

**RRSPs** are basically a tax deferral program—they are specifically designed for retirement savings

You'll pay tax on your savings when you withdraw them in retirement— the idea is that you'll be in a lower marginal tax bracket in retirement than you are in your working years; however, this is not always the case

#### **TFSA**

**TFSAs** are not strictly for retirement savings—they can be used for any savings goal

TFSAs are flexible—unlike RRSPs, there are no age restrictions for making contributions or withdrawals; however, the TFSA's flexibility also makes it tempting to withdraw your savings early

## STARTER PLAN

Take advantage of employer RRSP contribution-matching (if applicable)

Max out your TFSA contribution (be careful not to overcontribute)

If you have money left over, top up your RRSPs

# 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 savings— even if you have to start small, start saving today

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