

10 Benefits of Using a Financial Adviser

Everyone can benefit from Financial Advice. Not only can it help you protect and build your assets, it can help secure you and your family's long term future.

No 1: Protecting your family

Financial Advisers will assess your current position and guide you through the best options to protect yourself and your family - regardless of your age and circumstances. Whatever your needs, an adviser can help ensure a personal crisis does not turn into a financial crisis.

No 2: Help in planning your saving – and spending!

To secure your long-term future, you need to build some assets to get you through the rainy days and to pay for holidays and luxuries. Step one is to plan your spending so that you begin to save – and step two is to plan your saving so that you can build your wealth as efficiently as possible.

No 3: Helping you plan for retirement

Once you have sorted out your short-term saving needs, you can then start thinking about the long-term – and most people these days realise they cannot rely on the State for more than the absolute basics. However, planning for retirement is a complex business and there are many different options available. A financial adviser will not only help sift through the many rules and product options but also help construct a portfolio to maximise your long term prospects.

No 4: Securing your house

The mortgage market was complicated enough already with its discounts and variables, AERs and caps, indemnities and early redemption fees. Then the credit crunch hit and things have got even worse. However, buying a house is still one of the most expensive decisions we make, and the vast majority of us need a mortgage. A financial adviser could save you thousands, not only can they seek out the best rates, they can help you assess sensible levels of borrowing, make the most of your deposit and possibly access lenders who would otherwise not be available to you.

No 5: Helping you meet your investment goals

As you progress through life, you begin to build your assets and your income begins to increase. You then start considering how you can enhance your position rather than simply consolidate it. This could mean anything from looking to retire early through to paying school fees for private education or investing in overseas property. A financial adviser can help assess what is realistically possible – and put the best plan in place to help you achieve it.

No 6: Finding you the right combination of assets

Investment is as much about protecting the potential downsides as it is about targeting maximum growth. High returns are often associated with high risk. A financial adviser will make a detailed assessment of your attitude to risk before making any recommendations. They will also ensure you don't put all your eggs in one basket by helping you diversify your investments.

No 7: You get an objective assessment

Every new product or investment opportunity is accompanied by hype, proclaiming it is the best ever – but that does not mean it is right for you. Investors the world over have been caught out by market bubbles or high charges because they don't take a step back. A financial adviser knows how products work and can outline the downsides for you as well as the benefits. Between you, you can then make a more informed decision about what hype you can believe – and what products you really need to avoid.

No 8: Saving you money

Once your risk and investment assessments are complete, the next step is to look at tax and even the most basic overview of your position could help. It may simply mean using ISAs or a pension plan to benefit from Government incentives or it could mean choosing growth assets over income to use capital gains allowances rather than pay income tax. Alternatively, for more complicated arrangements, it might mean moving assets to your spouse or children to make full use of their personal allowances. A financial adviser will always have your tax position in mind when making recommendations and can help point you in the right direction even in complicated situations.

No 9: Keeping you on track

Even when you have every product you need taken care of and your investments are set up and running to plan, someone needs to keep an eye on them to ensure your overall financial plan remains on track. You can ask a financial adviser to do this monitoring work for you, they will also ensure that your asset allocation does not get distorted as markets move and help you consolidate gains as the dates of your ultimate goals approach.

No 10: You have peace of mind

Money is a complicated subject and there are many things you need to think about to both protect it and make the most of it. Markets are volatile and the media is prone to exaggeration of both the risks and the rewards. Employing a good financial adviser can take the emphasis away from you and move it into the hands of an expert.

Whether you need general, practical advice or a specialist with dedicated expertise, the money you invest in taking advice ought to be paid back many times over in the long term.

Contact us to discuss how we can help you:

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