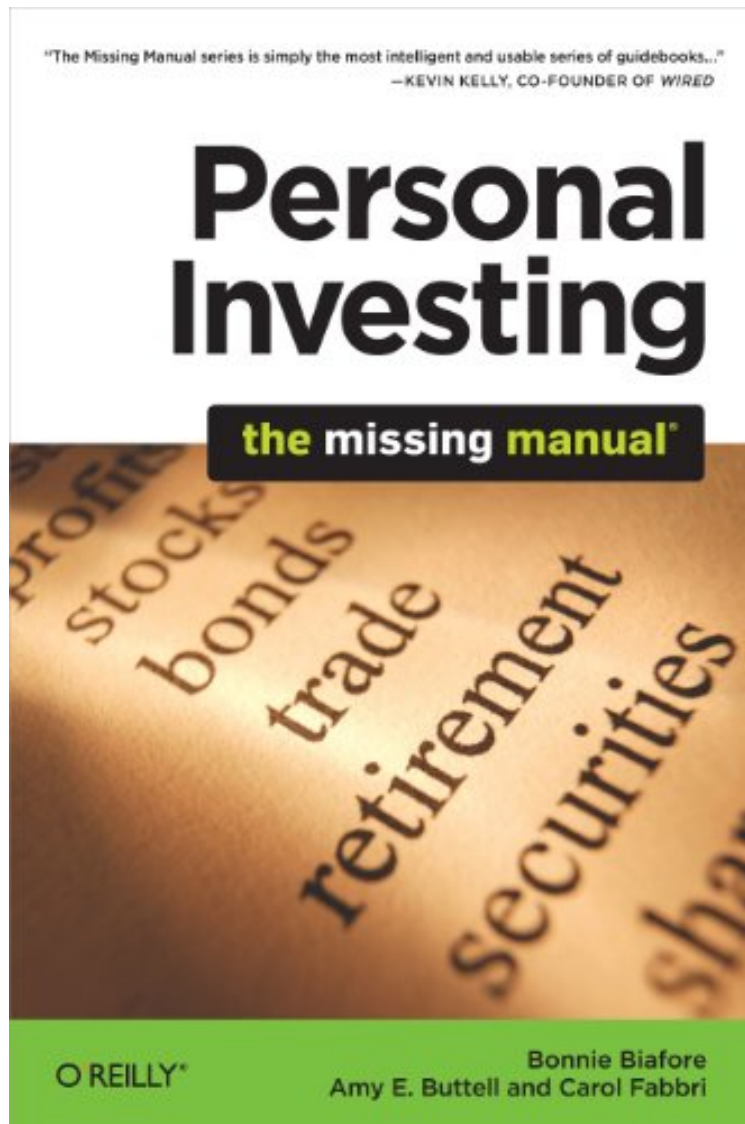


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## Personal Investing: The Missing Manual (Missing Manuals)

*Bonnie Biafore, Amy E. Buttell, Carol Fabbri*  
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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Personal Investing: The Missing Manual (Missing Manuals):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Worth it only if this is the first you've ever learned about investing. By Lorenzo B. Mangubat I was looking for a book that was more insightful, something deeper. I wanted to learn more about what kinds of questions you ask yourself in comparing different investing options. This was just way too basic for what I was looking for. I felt like i was just being told something so obvious if not something I already knew. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Learning more than I imagined By CLK CarolLee Kidd I never

thought I didn't know that much. The information will help me know about my finances, not just how to put it in a bank and forget it. Highly recommend for everyone. 16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Investing - Nuts Bolts By John Jacobson As is typical for the missing manual series, this is a well written, informative book that covers many investing topics. It starts by having you set goals for your life, and then encourages you to get out of debt (It's hard to invest when you're underwater financially). Budgeting is promoted, spending wisely has its own chapter, and a brief section on psychoanalyzing your personal approach to investing fills out the introductory chapters. The next section of the book gives an A-Z summary of common investment options. The "magic" of compounding is explained. The authors then go on to discuss what they call the "big four" of investing, mutual funds, stocks, bonds, and REITs. Pros and cons of each of these choices are clearly discussed. There is also a section on asset allocation, which suggests different amounts portioned to different investments depending on the financial climate. The book ends with chapters on putting money aside for college and health care. There are references to online tools that will allow one to refine strategies. One puzzling mistake that is repeated throughout the book is giving the incorrect age for "full retirement" as defined by social security for most of the baby boom generation. This doesn't detract from the usefulness of the book for people looking for a thoughtful introduction to personal investing.

Your financial goals probably include a comfortable retirement, paying for your kids' college education, and long-term healthcare. But you can't reach those goals by putting your money in a savings account. You need to invest it so it grows over time. Three seasoned personal finance experts show you how in this jargon-free guide. Investing demystified. Get clear, real-world examples of why investing is crucial to your financial goals How to invest. Learn how to evaluate four types of investment so you make the right decisions Hidden gems. Discover lesser-known, low-cost investments that provide tax advantages Retirement, Education, Healthcare. Find chapters devoted to the fine points of each of these big-ticket goals Flexibility. Learn how to change your investment strategy as you age Choices. Find an investment plan that's right for you -- whether you're a conservative investor or go-for-broke risk-taker

About the Author Bonnie Biafore has always been a zealous planner, whether setting up software demos, cooking gourmet meals, or scheduling a vacation to test the waters of spontaneity. Ironically, fate, not planning, turned this obsession into a career as a project manager. When she isn't managing projects for clients, Bonnie writes about project management, small business accounting, personal finance, investing, and technology. She's also branching out into other "dry" topics with articles for the Wine Enthusiast. As an engineer, she's fascinated by how things work and how to make things work better. She has a knack for mincing dry subjects like accounting and project management into easy to understand morsels and then spices them to perfection with her warped sense of humor. Bonnie is the award-winning author of more than a dozen books including *Quicken 2009: The Missing Manual*, *QuickBooks 2009: The Missing Manual*, *Project 2007: The Missing Manual*, the *Better Investing Stock Selection Handbook* (which won an APEX Award of Distinction), *Online Investing Hacks*, and *On Time! On Track! On Target!*. She also writes regularly about financial topics for *Better Investing* bankrate.com and interest.com. When unshackled from her computer, she hikes in the mountains, cycles, rehabilitates horses, cooks gourmet food, and, most importantly, tries saying no to additional work assignments.