

17 Investing Resolutions for 2017



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Long-term readers know that I like to share my list of investing resolutions at the start each year. The list started in 2012 and has grown since. This year, I've added one additional resolution about protecting yourself when managing your finances online and on your computer.

If this is the first time you're seeing my annual list of resolutions, I'll share a bit of guidance. You don't have to follow everything on this list at once. Read through it and decide what you want to address first. Some of these resolutions can be completed very quickly, some require thought and some won't be applicable right now, but will be very relevant at some point in the future. The key is to stick to them (or any other resolutions you might make) throughout the year. One way to do so is to set up reminders to prompt you to go back and review this list throughout 2017. Positive change often requires a willingness to put yourself back on track whenever you drift away from the plan.



One thing you won't notice in the list is anything related to expectations of what might happen in 2017. This is because the unexpected can and will happen. Just look what happened in 2016: Brexit, President-elect Donald Trump's victory, negative bond yields in Europe, the Chicago Cubs winning their first World Series in 108 years, Prince and David

Bowie both passing, etc. As we move into 2017, analysts are predicting low double-digit percentage growth in S&P 500 earnings, the Fed is expected to raise interest rates three more times and the market is pricing in stronger economic growth. None of these events are certain to happen. The future often unfolds in ways we don't expect it to. This is why it's important to think long-term when investing and not make decisions based on what might happen. **Continue Reading »**

More on AAll.com

- **Five Steps for Gaining Control of Your Investments and Avoiding Mistakes** - Simple actions you can take to focus on the things you can control.
 - **The Portfolio Review: Why It Is Important and How to Do It** - Regular portfolio reviews are the foundation of successful investing; here are suggestions on how to do them.
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Highlights from this month's *AAll Journal*

- **The Individual Investor's Guide to Personal Tax Planning 2016** - Our new tax guide is now online, just in time for your year-end tax planning.
 - **AAll Journal 2016 Index of Articles** - This compilation can help you find a previous article you found to be useful.
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AAll Sentiment Survey

Optimism among individual investors rose to a five-week high, and the third-highest level of 2016. **More about this week's results.**

This week's results:

Bullish: 45.6%, up 1.0 points

Neutral: 28.7%, up 2.5 points

Bearish: 25.7%, down 3.4 points

Historical averages:

Bullish: 38.5%

Neutral: 31.0%

Bearish: 30.5%

Take the **Sentiment Survey**.

What's Trending on AAI

1. **The Individual Investor's Guide to Personal Tax Planning 2016**
 2. **Why Buy Bonds If Interest Rates Will Rise?**
 3. **16 Financial Ratios for Analyzing a Company's Strengths and Weaknesses**
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The Week Ahead

The U.S. financial markets will be closed on Monday in observance of New Year's Day. On behalf of everyone at AAI, I wish you a healthy and prosperous new year.

Just three members of the S&P 500 are scheduled to report: Constellation Brands, Inc. (**STZ**), Monsanto Company (**MON**) and Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc. (**WBA**) on Thursday.

The week's first economic reports will be the December purchasing managers' manufacturing index, the December Institute for Supply Management (ISM) manufacturing index and November construction spending, which will be released on Tuesday. Wednesday will feature December motor vehicle sales, the December ADP employment report and minutes from the Federal Open Market Committee's mid-December meeting. The December ISM non-manufacturing index will be released on Thursday. Friday will feature the December employment situation, November international trade and November factory orders.

Two Federal Reserve officials will make public appearances: Chicago president Charles Evans and Richmond president Jeffrey Lacker on Friday.

Local Chapter Meetings



AAII Local Chapter Meetings offer you a variety of presentations from expert speakers who will give you their view on the world of investing. A bonus of attending a Chapter Meeting near you is the opportunity to meet other AAII members who share your interest and enthusiasm for investing. You can even share the Chapter experience with your family and friends by inviting them to attend Chapter Meetings with you! **Upcoming Meetings »**

AAII Members Receive Tax Guidance

The December *AAII Journal* features our popular tax guide. This annual guide helps investors stay up to date with the ever-changing tax regulations, includes last-minute reminders for 2016 and provides tax strategies for 2017.



It will help you understand your current tax liability and what you can do to potentially lower your tax bill this year and next year.

Start your AAII membership today to get The Individual Investor's Guide to Personal Tax Planning 2016, and to benefit from everything AAII has to offer.
