

Safeguard Your Savings

How to protect your wealth –

There's not much point in accumulating retirement savings if you then fail to protect them from all the bad things that can happen during a lifetime — from costly damage to your home to a lawsuit that goes against you.

You don't want to use your nest egg to fund anything other than your golden years. Review all the safeguards you have in place to help protect your assets and see where there might be gaps that need to be closed.

Build a rainy-day fund

Everyone needs an emergency fund to pay unexpected bills so you don't have to borrow from your retirement funds. The rainy-day fund should equal at least three months worth of living expenses and should be kept where you can access it immediately.

Fine-tune your insurance coverage

Go over every policy you have with your financial planner or insurance agent to make sure that even a serious fire or illness won't bury you under bills you have to pay out-of-pocket.

Don't overlook estate planning

There are crucial documents everyone needs, no matter what your age or financial situation, such as a will, which ensures that your assets are properly distributed. Note: You can't use a will to distribute money from a 401(k) plan or an individual retirement account (IRA). You need to complete beneficiary statements to accomplish that.

Planning for a secure retirement involves more than just contributing to your workplace savings plan.

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