6 Rules for Successful Dividend Investing





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Investing in stocks that pay out dividends is a strategic way to establish a reliable income stream and build wealth.

Understanding of some basic principles of dividends helps you find the best solution for your goals. Here are six rules you should be aware of when investing in dividends.





1. Dividend Yield

Higher yield typically indicates better returns, yet appearances can be deceiving. Ensure the stock's current payout is sustainable long-term, as seemingly lucrative dividends may diminish rapidly.



Choosing a stable investment may involve sacrificing short-term yield for long-term benefits. While lower-risk dividend stocks may yield less income initially, they tend to offer more reliable returns over time.



2. Stick With Established Companies

Stock market cycles fluctuate, with yields varying from high to low. Consider investing in established companies that have consistently increased dividend payouts to investors over the past 25 years.

3. Look for Growth Potential

Aside from looking at past and present returns, it's also important to look at the company's future potential to increase its dividend payouts.





4. Be Mindful of the Payout Ratio

A company's dividend payout ratio can reveal how safe the investment is. This ratio can indicate, if income stream of a high yield stock dries up, the future dividend would dry up.

5. Mix It Up

Diversifying your dividend-paying investments minimizes risk by spreading assets across multiple holdings. If dividends decrease in one area, the impact may be lessened by the performance of the rest of your portfolio.



6. When to Hold and When to Fold?

Smart investors take the long view but know when to cut losses. With dividend stocks, there's a fine line between waiting for returns and holding on too long.





The Bottom Line

Dividend investing holds the potential to significantly enhance an investor's portfolio, adding layers of value and stability.

The art lies in skillfully evaluating stocks to identify those poised to deliver robust returns while mitigating risks and preserving a diversified portfolio.

