



USEFUL LINKS

Auto

- [Car Buying Tips](#) – Free information on buying new and used cars, leasing and avoiding auto scams.
- [CarFax](#) – See the history of the car you are considering (VIN required)
- [Edmund's Publications](#) – Consumer information experts. Easily run comparisons on new and used vehicles.
- [Fighting Chance](#) – For \$34.95, you receive complete pricing data on the vehicle you're considering, plus its record in the market place, available cash incentives, negotiating tips, and access to a "live" purchasing coach.
- [Intellichoice OnLine Car Center](#) – Automotive research and comparisons.
- [J.D. Power & Associates](#) – Automotive marketing research.
- [Kelley Blue Book](#) – New and Used vehicle pricing reports.
- [RoadLoans](#) – Competitive rates on financing for new and used cars (refinancing, too).

Banking

- [FDIC site](#) – Check to see if your bank is FDIC insured or if it is in trouble.

Education

- [Finaid](#) – A comprehensive site that covers all aspects of financial aid.
- [National Center for Education Statistics](#) – Information on past three years of college/university costs.
- [Salliemae](#) – Calculators for estimating college costs, savings needs, and student loan payments as well as a great deal of financial aid and scholarship information.

Income Tax

- [IRS Website](#) – The IRS Website, information on forms, publications, and frequently asked questions.

Investments – Discount Brokers

- [Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.](#) – Discount broker.
- [TD Ameritrade](#) View account balances, market news, and other services offered by the discount broker.

Investments – Financial News & Quotes

- [Bloomberg](#) – Financial market news and stock/mutual fund quotes.
- [CNN Financial News](#) – Financial market news and stock/mutual fund quotes.
- [InvestorGuide](#) – Comprehensive stock research tool. “Tools” tab provides links to other sites.
- [MSN Money](#) – Financial market news and stock/mutual fund quotes.
- [Yahoo](#) – Keep track of your overall portfolio and get detailed charts on your individual stocks and bonds.

Investments – Investor Education

- [Investorwords](#) – This site is a database of more than 5,000 key investment terms, plus some 15,000 links related to words and concepts.
- [Motley Fool](#) – Online calculators and information to help answer basic questions.
- [SEC Investor Education site](#) – Online calculators, broker and/or advisor information, investor alerts, plus links to other government sites.

Investments – Mutual Funds

- [Fund Alarm](#) – Stay abreast of significant changes influencing the people behind the funds, and receive email alerts whenever a fund you own announces a key development.
- [IndexFunds.com](#) – A resource on the use of index funds, or passive investing, versus conventional actively managed mutual funds.
- [Morningstar](#) – This company is well-known for its mutual fund star rating system, and this site has many useful research and analysis tools.
- [Mutual Fund Education Alliance](#) – A large source of mutual fund news and information, plus daily price info and one-, five- and ten-year annualized returns.

Investments – Publications

- [Forbes](#) – Online edition of Forbes magazine.
- [Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine](#) – Magazine plus calculators, investor education and more.
- [Smart Money](#) – Smart Money

Mortgages/Real Estate

- [Bankrate.com](#) – Mortgage calculator and basic information
- [Eloan](#) – Compare loans, quotes, calculators
- [Realtor sites](#) – Customized searches by city, mortgage information and glossary.

Smart Spending

- [Consumer Reports Magazine](#) – Informational articles and product recalls are free on this site (subscription required for full online version).
- [The Dollar Stretcher Tips](#) – Free online newspaper full of tips, hints, stories and links for living better for less.