



Don't be complacent about your finances

Pocket watch

Trevor Grant is managing director of Select Finance Group, a nationwide network of independent financial advisers. Select Finance offers advice on general financial services and mortgages. Grant, 39, is married to Geraldine. They live in Glengageary in Dublin with their three children.

What's the best investment you ever made?

Buying my first property in 1996.

What was the worst investment you ever made?

There have been a few, but none too serious.

Which investment options do you currently favour?

Short-term deposits, as cash is king at the moment.

Do you own your own home or other investment property?

Yes.

What type of car do you have?

What was the best financial advice you ever received?

Complacency can be detrimental to your financial well-being. It's important to be proactive when it comes to your finances, since they are crucial to the future security of you and your family.

What financial advice would you give to someone starting in a career?

Listen to the experts. I have been in this industry long enough to know that I don't know everything. If I had realised that from the beginning of my career, I might have avoided a few financial faux pas. It is crucial that people make well-informed financial decisions from the outset of their career.

When you started your career, if you had the financial knowledge you now have, would you have done things differently?

I would have taken more advice from those more knowledgeable than me at the time.

Do you have a pension?

Yes, I do – and while mine has taken a knock over the past 12 months, along with thousands of others, I am confident that it will come full circle over the next few years. Investment markets are cyclical in nature, so I look forward to the recovery.

Do you invest in equities or equity-based funds?

Again, I use a financial adviser to assist, which takes much of the emotion out of the decision-making, and prevents me from rushing in and rushing out.

Are you a saver or a spender?

If I didn't spend so much

time in the office, I think I'd be verging on the spending option. However, free time is somewhat of a rarity at the moment so, even if I wanted to spend, I couldn't.

What's your top financial priority?

Always to be mindful of my current financial situation. Regular financial health checks are essential. People would be surprised if they knew how much they could save by a regular review of spending and personal balance sheets.

How would you describe your attitude to your personal finances?

Healthy.

If you had all the money you could wish for, what three things would you buy?

Only three?



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