

Press Clipping

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Start from SCRATCH

TAKING your first step in an uncharted territory is never easy. So be it entering a new city, college life, or for the matter, your first job, everybody goes through those initial jitters. Dalal Street is no different place. You research, ask people familiar with the dynamics of the market to guide you, but finally it's your own gut feel and learning that help you take smart decisions. Also, how well you prepare for taking the first plunge into the stock markets is important. Here're seven ways in which you can teach yourself how to invest in stocks.

START HERE

You can find many beginners' guide at your nearest book stall. Make sure that the investment book you buy is by a renowned writer or an investment guru. "If you don't want to read heavy stuff and at the same time understand

the dynamics, books by investment gurus like Warren Buffet are really helpful. Not only they will clear your notions about investing but also inculcate long-term investment habits," suggests Kartik Jhaveri, an expert at financial planning and director of Transcend Consulting. Alternatively, you can consult the research team of a brokerage house where you have opened your account on which book to buy. These books generally cover terminologies which are essential for interaction with your advisor/broker.

ONLINE TUTORIALS

Another way to learn the ABC of trading in the capital markets is online tutorials offered by e-brokerages. It is a smart way to start dabbling in stocks. "Whatever said and done, theories are still handy. The best part about online tutorials is that they save you a lot of time which would have

been otherwise spent searching for a book which relates theories with practical," says Arindam Chanda, vice-president, Kotak Securities.

CRASH COURSE

If you are a serious investor, analysts recommend that you must go for a stock exchange's certificate course in stock markets. Currently, there are a number of institutes offering such courses. It will help you understand the processes better, although they are primarily meant for entry-level professionals. In fact, you can also opt for diploma courses, if it excites you as a career.

INVESTOR SEMINARS

For starters, attending investor seminars and research events, which are often offered free by reputed investment houses and media companies, is a good way to learn how the bulls and bears