

# Dollar Cost Averaging

It's not market timing, it's TIME IN THE MARKETS

Instead of trying to time the markets, use dollar cost averaging as a simple strategy that helps you build your investment portfolio while averaging out the cost of your purchases. It helps take the guess work out of investing.

## How does dollar cost averaging work?

You invest the same amount on a regular basis. Since market prices fluctuate, you will purchase more units when markets are low and buy less units when markets are high. Think of it as paying a bill—paying yourself to invest!

Dollar cost averaging usually lowers the average cost of your investments over time. Set up a Pre-Authorized Contribution (or PAC) and have Equitable Life® automatically transfer a pre-set amount of money from your bank account into any of our Equitable Life investments. You determine how much you want to invest and how often. Once you start, investments are made regularly, so you don't have to worry about it.

## Here's an example for if you started investing regularly:

Month	Unit Price	Units Bought	\$ Invested	Value
1	\$15	15.00	\$225	\$225.00
2	\$13	17.31	\$225	\$420.00
3	\$14	16.07	\$225	\$677.31
4	\$12	18.75	\$225	\$805.55
5	\$16	14.06	\$225	\$1,299.07
6	\$15	15.00	\$225	<b>\$1,442.87</b>
		<b>96.20</b>	<b>\$1,350</b>	
Average Price		Total Units	Average Cost Per Unit	
<b>\$14.17</b>		<b>96.20</b>	<b>\$14.03</b>	

Dollar cost averaging can lower your average price and increase the number of units you can purchase. Despite the "market volatility" the investment in the example gained **\$92.87** due to **dollar cost averaging**. You can use this market volatility to your advantage.

## But if you only did a lump sum investment:

Month	Unit Price	Units Bought	\$ Invested	Value
1	\$15	90.00	\$1,350	\$1,350.00
2	\$13	0.00	\$0	\$1,170.00
3	\$14	0.00	\$0	\$1,260.00
4	\$12	0.00	\$0	\$1,080.00
5	\$16	0.00	\$0	\$1,440.00
6	\$15	0.00	\$0	<b>\$1,350.00</b>
		<b>90.00</b>	<b>\$1,350</b>	
Average Price		Total Units	Average Cost Per Unit	
<b>\$15.00</b>		<b>90.00</b>	<b>\$15.00</b>	

## Why dollar cost averaging makes sense:

1. No guessing when to "get into the market" or time the market
2. Emotion and stress are eliminated from your investing strategy
3. You don't have to invest large amounts
4. Helps you maintain consistency in your long-term financial plans

For more information, please contact your advisor today, or visit [www.equitable.ca](http://www.equitable.ca).

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