



# The Handbook of Financial Instruments

By Frank J. Fabozzi

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**The Handbook of Financial Instruments** By Frank J. Fabozzi

**An investor's guide to understanding and using financial instruments**

*The Handbook of Financial Instruments* provides comprehensive coverage of a broad range of financial instruments, including equities, bonds (asset-backed and mortgage-backed securities), derivatives (equity and fixed income), insurance investment products, mutual funds, alternative investments (hedge funds and private equity), and exchange traded funds. *The Handbook of Financial Instruments* explores the basic features of each instrument introduced, explains their risk characteristics, and examines the markets in which they trade. Written by experts in their respective fields, this book arms individual investors and institutional investors alike with the knowledge to choose and effectively use any financial instrument available in the market today.

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**Frank J. Fabozzi**, PhD, CFA, CPA, is Editor of the *Journal of Portfolio Management*, which is read by thousands of institutional investors, as well as editor or author of over 100 books on finance for the professional and academic markets. Currently, Dr. Fabozzi is an adjunct Professor of Finance at Yale University's School of Management and on the board of directors of the Guardian Life family of funds and the Black Rock complex of funds.

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## **Editorial Review**

### **From the Inside Flap**

One of the most important decisions you as an investor will encounter is how to allocate your funds among the wide range of financial instruments currently available. That decision requires an understanding of the investment characteristics of all asset classes—not just a few of them. *The Handbook of Financial Instruments* explores the basic features of each instrument introduced, explains their risk characteristics, and examines the markets in which they trade. Written by experts in their respective fields, this book arms individual investors as well as institutional investors with the knowledge to choose and effectively use many of the financial instruments available in the market today.

Frank Fabozzi has assembled a team of financial experts who are ready to instruct and advise you on every aspect of these financial instruments, but before they do so, you will receive a basic primer on financial assets and financial markets; the fundamentals of investing; and the proper methodology for computing investment returns.

After clarifying these important investment issues, *The Handbook of Financial Instruments* moves on to provide comprehensive coverage of a broad range of financial instruments, including:

- \* Common stock
- \* Fixed income securities including mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities
- \* Mutual funds and exchange-traded funds
- \* Stable value products such as traditional guaranteed investment contracts (GICs)
- \* Investment-oriented life insurance products such as cash value life insurance and annuities
- \* Hedge funds and private equity funds
- \* Real estate investments

You'll also learn how to use derivative instruments such as forward contracts, options, futures options, swaps, caps, and floors to control risk within any type of portfolio.

*The Handbook of Financial Instruments* provides the most comprehensive coverage of financial instruments that has ever been assembled in a single volume. This book fully explains financial instruments and their characteristics, so you can make smarter investment choices by constructing a portfolio with a risk-return profile that is most likely to fulfill your investment objectives. Take this opportunity to broaden your investment horizons and learn how to grow and manage a portfolio with a wide variety of proven financial instruments.

### **From the Back Cover**

A key decision that investors face is how to allocate their funds among the wide spectrum of financial instruments available. To intelligently make that allocation decision, it is imperative that you understand the investment characteristics of the major asset classes and the markets in which they trade.

*The Handbook of Financial Instruments* is the first book to provide comprehensive coverage of such a wide variety of financial instruments. Written by experts in their respective fields, this book arms individual investors as well as institutional investors with the knowledge to choose and effectively use many of the financial instruments available in the market today.

Topics covered include:

- \* The properties of financial markets and the fundamentals of investing
- \* Common stock
- \* Fixed income products, including money market, Treasury, federal agency, corporate bonds, emerging market, mortgage-backed securities, and asset-backed securities
- \* Mutual funds and exchange-traded funds
- \* Investment-oriented life insurance products, including cash value life insurance and annuities
- \* Hedge funds and private equity funds
- \* Real estate investments
- \* Derivative instruments such as futures/forward contracts, options, futures options, swaps, caps, and floors

Pick up The Handbook of Financial Instruments and find out how you can use a variety of different asset classes to construct and manage a portfolio to achieve your investment objectives.

#### About the Author

FRANK J. FABOZZI, PhD, CFA, is Editor of the Journal of Portfolio Management and an Adjunct Professor of Finance at Yale University's School of Management. Dr. Fabozzi is on the board of directors of the Guardian Life family of funds and the BlackRock complex of funds. He is an Advisory Analyst for Global Asset Management (GAM) with responsibilities as Consulting Director for portfolio construction, risk control, and evaluation. He earned a doctorate in economics from the City University of New York in 1972 and, in 1994, received an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Fabozzi is a Fellow of the International

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