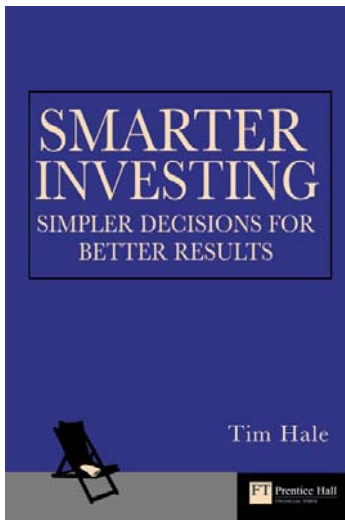


Smarter Investing: Simpler Decisions for Better Results By Tim Hale



A timely and very useful overview of practical recommendations, backed up by clear explanations and references to original research, on a wide range of personal investment and financial planning topics. The book should prove particularly valuable to UK investors who have only recently gained access to the competitively priced index and exchange traded funds which can form the basis of any investment portfolio. The book draws heavily on the writings of several US authors, notably Bernstein, Bogle, Ellis, and Swensen who have brought an understanding of the benefits of careful asset allocation, passive investment, and relentless focus on minimising taxes and transaction

costs, to countless US investors. Based on personal experience as an insider in the fund management industry, the author does not pull his punches in describing the inadequacies of most retail investment products available in the UK market. In addition, his analysis of alternative investments including hedge funds brings an open-minded but healthy scepticism to bear on some current favourites. The only minor complaint is that the book stops short of recommending specific service providers or sample portfolios, although this is perhaps understandable given the rate at which new products are appearing in the market. Overall, a welcome addition to the bookshelf of any serious investor.

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