

FOR WORKING PROFESSIONALS AND BUSINESS OWNERS

RETIREMENT PLANNING IN SINGAPORE



STEP-BY-STEP
GUIDE TO
COMFORTABLE
RETIREMENT



**7 Steps To Achieve Your Retirement
Goals 10-15 Years Earlier**

JEREMY GOH

THE KEY TO ACHIEVING YOUR COMFORTABLE RETIREMENT

Published by
Jeremy Goh

Copyright © 2022 MMXXII Jeremy Goh
First Edition, 2022

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the author, except for the inclusion of brief quotations in a review.

Disclaimer

This book is designed to provide information and motivation to our readers. Neither the publisher nor the individual author(s) shall be liable for any physical, psychological, emotional, financial or commercial damages, including, but not limited to, special, incidental, consequential or other damages.

Permission should be addressed in writing to:
info@yourretirementspecialist.com

Dedication

This book is dedicated to Financial Advisors who are striving to make a difference in the lives of individuals, families, and businesses by protecting their income, wealth, health, helping in growing their wealth, retire earlier, live their legacy to the fullest and leave a legacy.

Contents

- 1 Why This Book Is Important
- 2 Why Retirement Planning is Important?
- 3 How This Book Can Help You
- 4 Step 1: Determine Retirement Lifestyle And When To Retire
- 5 Step 2: Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets And Liabilities
- 6 Step 3: Evaluate Potential Financial Risks
- 7 Step 4: Determine Retirement Income Streams and Gaps For Retirement
- 8 Step 5: Create A Detailed Retirement Action Plan
- 9 Step 6: Implement The Plan And have A Disciplined Approach
- 10 Step 7: Review Progress Yearly And Make Changes To Keep On Track
- 11 Rave Reviews
- 12 Conclusion
- 13 Next Steps
- 14 About The Author





Introduction

Why This Book Is Important?

Introduction

Why this book is important?

Young minds are generally more occupied with the newness of adulthood, exciting career avenues, budding relationships, and more. Among the host of things they wish to explore, retirement planning is not on the top of their priority list.

However, the fast-paced world we live in is full of uncertainties, and it goes by so quickly, leaving us with little or no chances to resuscitate. Therefore, early retirement planning is advisable to enjoy those golden years.

Let's face it, retirement planning is never a fun topic. Beyond that, everyone would have a more urgent financial obligation that they need to prioritize. This is why many tend to neglect putting in place a plan.

However, the idea of working into your golden years can seem achievable. In fact more Singaporean seniors want to work into their 80s and 90s not only for income, but to keep mentally and physically active as well. Sure, there's nothing to stop you from working your entire life. However, this does not exonerate you from planning for your retirement.



Why this book is important?

For many people, retirement is regarded as a life event that's too far away to start planning for. But this mindset hinders the goal of being able to retire.

Those who do not act early on planning for retirement say it requires too much discipline and sacrifice. Or that it is still early. Some point to their CPF savings to provide for their retirement needs.

Those who do, however, may be saving too little, or know too little about how to go about accumulating and preserving their wealth.

Many people are uncertain of achieving a comfortable retirement, because of these common doubts:

How much would be enough?

What happens if I outlive my savings?

With inflation, will the retirement funds I have amassed be enough for the lifestyle I want?





Why Is Retirement Planning Important?

Why Is Retirement Planning Important?

Engaging in secure retirement planning is crucial to stay financially secure. A structured retirement annuity plan equips you to handle various factors such as surpluses, shortfalls and emergencies. So ultimately, a thorough retirement plan will let you develop a comprehensive understanding of your life goals (the aims) and define the path (the tools) to achieve the same. Here's why you should start preparing early on rather than when it's too late. Let's dive in:

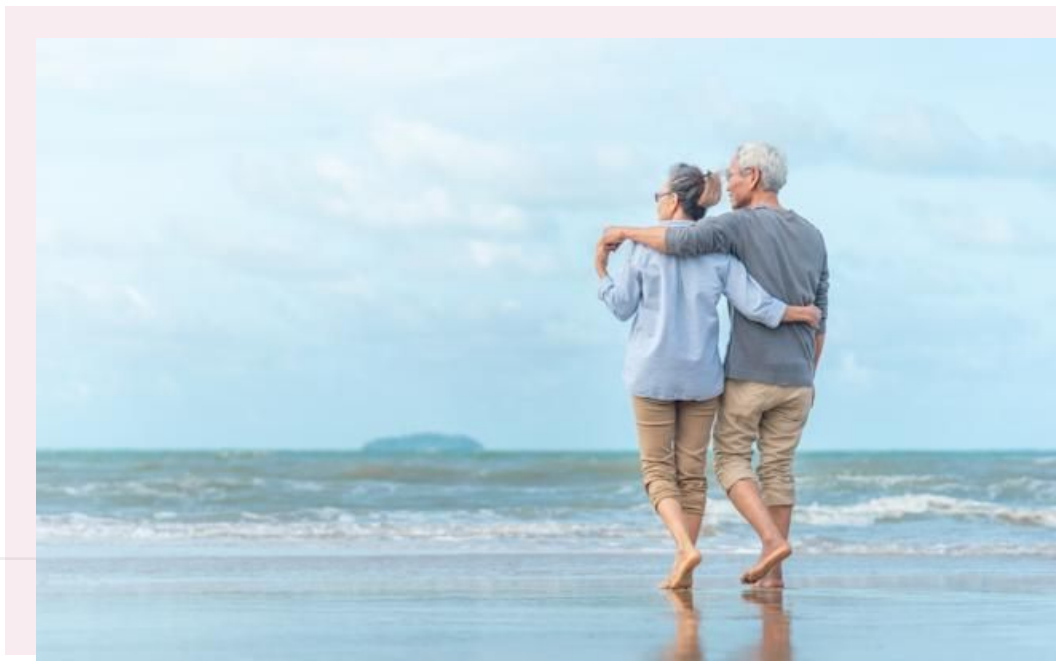
Fulfil Retirement Goals Retirement takes you to a new phase of your life wherein you can genuinely make the time for yourself and indulge in activities that you have not been able to pay attention to during your work life. These can include picking up on an old hobby, actively working on your kids' future, working on a venture you have been planning for years, etc.



Why Is Retirement Planning Important?

Emergency Ready Nobody can account for what is going to happen tomorrow. In such situations, it is best to stay prepared ahead of time and retirement plans allow you to do exactly that. By investing in one, you will ensure that you do not have to depend on anybody else financially in case of a medical or general emergency. The emergency fund will take care of that.

Good Standard of Living We all follow a certain lifestyle and with age, it gets deeply incorporated into our daily habits. The lifestyle we lead today is because of the income we receive every month. To ensure this same standard of living post retirement, investing in a retirement plan is necessary. That will help you with a steady income every month even after retiring.



Why Is Retirement Planning Important?

Beating Inflation Inflation can be defined as the rise in the price of goods & services. As we know that inflation is increasing day by day, the effect of inflation, which seems to be small in the short term, can be huge over a few years. This means that an individual will have to pay more for all expenses in the future. Thus, while performing vital retirement planning, you can consider this determinant and generate a sufficient retirement fund for your future to live a peaceful life.

Zero Family Burden During your retirement, you shouldn't be dependent on anyone, especially your own relatives. Having a firm plan in your position will ensure that you don't convert into a financial responsibility for those close to you. You want to be in a place to be able to help a family member's financial condition, not to make things adversarial.



Why Is Retirement Planning Important?

If you've planned consciously and kept a healthy amount loaded away for retirement, you may have a lovely gift to give your children by adding to their wedding plans or grandchildren for their studies, gifts, etc., when your time comes.

In addition to these, you get tax benefits, reduced costs on investment plans, no financial obstacles for the future, and in the end, a stress-free life. With all these benefits and more, you can't deny the fact that this is indeed a terrific investment opportunity to give up on.

That's right — start today! Not tomorrow. Now that you have understood the importance of retirement planning, you can start by refining your smart retirement plan today.





How This Book Can Help You

How This Book Can Help You

This book shows you the 7 proven comprehensive steps to address to retire 10-15 years earlier, and retire comfortably and joyously.

7-Step JIG Model® For Retirement



Step 7:
Review Progress Yearly And Make Changes To Keep On Track

Step 6:
Implement The Plan And have A Disciplined Approach

Step 5:
Create A Detailed Retirement Action Plan

Step 4:
Determine Retirement Income Streams and Gaps For Retirement

Step 3:
Evaluate Potential Financial Risks

Step 2:
Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets And Liabilities

Step 1:
Determine Retirement Lifestyle And When To Retire



STEP
1

**Determine
Retirement Lifestyle
And When To Retire**

Determine Retirement Lifestyle And When To Retire

Retiring is a major decision. This is why this question is so important – you cannot afford to live 10 to 15 years in retirement only to realize you need to re-enter the workforce or business because you ran out of money.

Carefully crunch your numbers and veer towards a range you would likely need rather than get down to a detailed amount. There will likely be unexpected expenses in your retirement so it will make sense to overestimate how much you will need as well.

Contributing to this question, you have to decide the kind of lifestyle you want to live during your retirement for your savings to work. A practical estimate for how much you will spend in retirement is slightly under your current level of expenditure, but if you want you go on holidays and spend on luxury, this will need to be added to the equation from the start.





 **STEP**
2

Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets & Liabilities

Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets & Liabilities

This is probably the most important step. Evaluate your health condition now and the protection plan you currently have and determine if the protection plan can support you when you retire.

Look at all your assets and liabilities and find out if you have a positive cash flow.

In Singapore, the CPF Lifelong Income For the Elderly (LIFE) acts as an annuity plan providing Citizens and Permanent Residents (PRs) a monthly payout in their retirement. The exact amount depends on your Retirement Account (RA) balances.

If you're planning for an early retirement, you will not be able to rely on it from the outset as it only begins paying out once you turn 65. You also have to note that while everyone is still working and contributing to their CPF Special Account (SA) and Retirement Account to grow this sum, you will not be doing so.



Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets & Liabilities

After turning 65, you can opt to go with the Basic Plan (providing between \$1,185 and \$1,309) or the Standard Plan (providing between \$1,301 and \$1,435). From 2018, there is a third plan – Escalating Plan – that will provide an increasing monthly payout.

Since CPF LIFE is not on the cards until you turn 65, you may need to cater for other sources of cashflow to support yourself in retirement. One of Singaporeans' favorite investment is properties, which generate a passive monthly rental income while enabling investors to also realize capital gains when the market performs well.

Younger investors are increasingly turning to stock investments. Companies and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) that provide regular dividends that can also supplement your retirement income.



Make An Assessment of Health, Current Assets & Liabilities

However, during economic downturns, these two asset classes may be affected by market forces. This could strip you of passive income or a force you to realize a loss in asset value. You need to be ready for these scenarios as an early retirement will likely mean facing the economic downturns, if any.

Another way you can add an income stream in your retirement is by purchasing a retirement financial product, which provides a regular stream of guaranteed monthly income from ages 55, 60 or 65 for a period of 15 or 20 years with the potential to receive non-guaranteed dividends.



EVALUATE

 **STEP**

3

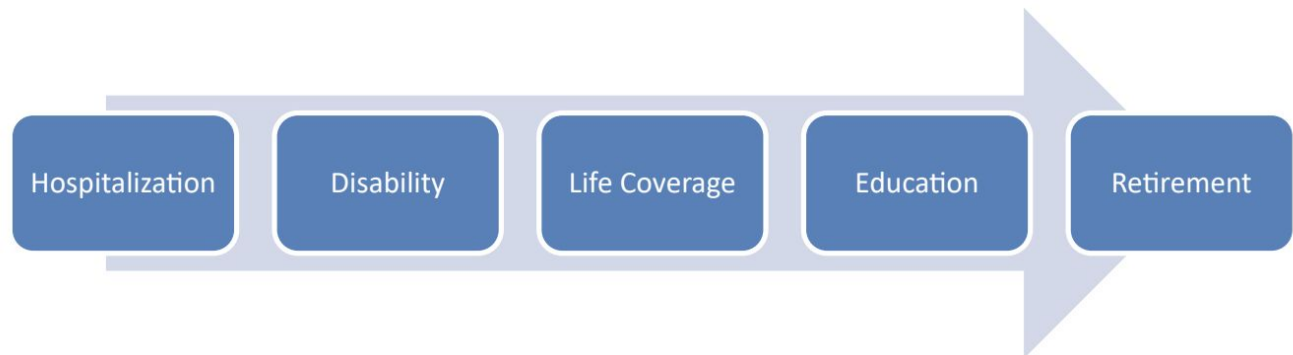
Evaluate Potential Financial Risks

Evaluate Potential Financial Risks

At this step, it is critical to evaluate your financial risks and take stock of your current protection coverage, whether it is hospitalization, disability, and critical illness. Evaluate any educational fund requirements for your children if required.

Align your existing insurance plans against your goals for each category and evaluate the financial risk exposure. This is a critical step that most people miss out on and end up losing all their savings, emergency funds, and investments because of the unforeseen events happening in their lives.

If the exposed financial risks are taken care of to a sufficient extent, then you can live your life more peacefully, joyously, and even retire comfortably, if you have a retirement plan in place.





 **STEP**

4

Determine Retirement Income Streams and Gaps For Retirement

Determine Retirement Income Streams and Gaps For Retirement

While not running out of money is a primary concern for most future retirees, covering healthcare expenses is a close second. In fact, this is one of the most important aspects of retirement planning.

Prioritizing this financial issue is a smart move, as healthcare will likely be one of your largest required expenses as you age.

Paying a substantial amount for medical services isn't possible unless you've prepared as part of your retirement plan. When setting your retirement savings goals, factor in these costs and either increase the amount you're investing in existing retirement accounts

Having an idea of how much retirement will cost is key to a successful retirement plan. This is important because it can both help you set a savings goal and tell you if you're really ready for retirement.



Determine Retirement Income Streams and Gaps For Retirement

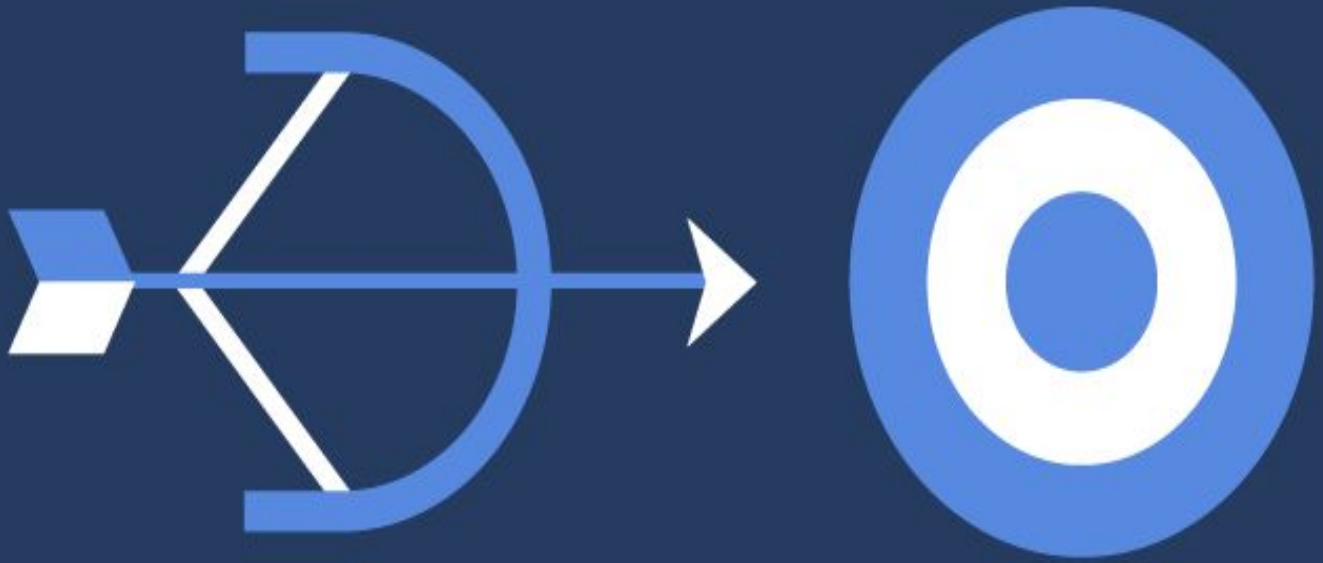
Knowing what your monthly expenses will add up to gives you a clear picture of how much income your savings need to produce. And, as mentioned above, if you determine how much you need to be able to withdraw from your accounts, you can work backward from there to figure out how big your balance should be.

Most people think that they can start planning for retirement when they reach 50 plus. This is probably the biggest mistake people make. In fact, retirement planning should start when you get your first pay check or first income. If you have not yet started to plan for your retirement, then the next best time is NOW!

How you live out your later years in the future is dependent on the steps you take today to achieve a secure retirement.

The only person who will take care of the OLDER YOU someday...is the YOUNGER YOU are today!





Create A Detailed Retirement Action Plan

Create A Detailed Retirement Action Plan

Start committing to a plan today, If you want to retire early because what you do with your money in the earlier years matter much more. You need to commit to a plan that will allow you to accumulate sufficient funds for an early retirement.

The reason many people desire to retire early is so they can lead a better quality or more fulfilling life. This is only possible if you have your health to go with your early retirement plan.

By putting in place a plan for both your wealth and health, you will be setting yourself up for a longer, healthier and better life. Even if your early retirement plan does not fully pan out, you'll be fit enough to continue working and likely accumulated enough savings to take on a less stressful work.





 **STEP**
6

**Implement The Plan
And have A
Disciplined Approach**

Implement The Plan And have A Disciplined Approach

Most people never plan for their retirement, thinking that they could plan for retirement at a later stage in their life.

In fact, the best time to plan for retirement is when you get your first paycheck. The next best time is NOW!

Follow the first 5 steps outlined in this book and if you need help just get the help of an experienced financial advisor, who can guide you at every step and give you a customized plan that can implemented immediately.

Here is a pro tip. Regardless of your age, you need to take on less risky investments during your retirement. The reason is when you're in retirement, you will likely depend on your investments to provide a regular cash flow to fund your monthly expenses.



Implement The Plan And have A Disciplined Approach

You may consider gradually shifting your investments to blue chip equities or bonds. Relying solely on monthly rental income from a single property can also be risky as economic downcycles can impact certain asset classes more heavily than others.

As much as possible, you should try to diversify your portfolio to mitigate this risk.

Your retirement may also have an impact on your family. Your spouse may want to continue working. If you're retiring before your children have completed school, you may have to consider the cost of their education. Planning in advanced will prevent family members from having to make unexpected decisions and allow them more time to plan for their futures as well.

If you do not plan for your retirement, then know that you are planning to fail to lead your life comfortably and joyously.





PERFORMANCE



STEP 7

**Review Progress
Yearly And Make
Changes To Keep
On Track**

Review Progress Yearly And Make Changes To Keep On Track

Congratulations if you have made it to this step.

Once you have a plan and implemented the strategies required for your retirement, it is important to monitor the plan and review it yearly.

One of the dominating reasons why people fail to retire comfortably and joyously is because they fail to monitor their progress and take corrective action where necessary.

As market conditions changes, with inflation changes and economic condition changes it critical to review the plan and keep it current.

It is highly recommended to get an experienced financial advisor who can assist you and give you a customized plan, and follow through each year diligently and help you to retire earlier.



Rave Reviews



Chi Sing Yew

Deputy Director at Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS)

"Jeremy has provided me with great advice in financial planning. As an independent financial adviser, I truly appreciate that he's able to analyze and compare all the market products available that best fit my requirements. He has helped me with several of my investments and guaranteed income portfolios. In the process . I'm now in a much better position as I was clueless then. Anyone who is interested in wealth accumulation or retirement planning should have an expert who they can trust as their ally. I would say Jeremy is that guy and I would highly recommend him."



Andrew Han

Assistant Director(IT Systems) / Smart Buildings

"In all my meetings with Jeremy, he had always shown a level of professionalism in his work & explanation. in choosing an advisor, my own criteria are that he must be able to empathize with my needs and follow up with me in times of need. Jeremy has done these, I highly recommend talking to him for your success in financial planning."



Alan Koo

CFO / Deputy General Director at SABECO

"I was happy with the service that Jeremy rendered given my requirements. Good follow through and always able to provide different offerings for me to decide upon and not just a standard solution. Definitely a strong recommendation from me. Cheers, Alan Koo"



Conclusion

Living and leaving a legacy for your loved ones.

A comprehensive retirement plan includes factoring in how much your bequest will be at various stages of your life. This is less about safeguarding your retirement, and more about protecting your family's standard of living and financial backing.

How You Live Out Your Later Years In The Future depends On The Steps You Take Today To Achieve A Comfortable And Joyous Retirement





**NEXT
STEPS**

Next Steps

Next Steps

Remember that only when you take action, you get results.

You can use this guide to start planning for your early retirement.

If you want to know how to retire comfortably, joyously and happily, then you can get in touch with me and I can give you customized plan for free with no-obligation whatsoever.

It is your time now!



About The Author

I specialize in helping working professionals and business owners to protect their income, wealth, health, grow their wealth and retire earlier.

I'm deeply humbled that my dedication to my service to my clients had allowed me membership into the highly prestigious Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT)- Court Of Table (COT - Top of The Table (TOT). This membership is conferred upon those who have demonstrated exceptional professional knowledge, client service & ethical conduct. As less than 1% of the world's life insurance and financial services professionals qualify annually, membership in MDRT is a prestige that every financial services professional strives to attain.

My clients include working professionals and business owners from all walks of life and I have helped over 1000 individuals and families.

It would be my privilege and honor to help you in your retirement journey.

Looking forward to talking to you soon.

Your Retirement Specialist,
- Jeremy Goh



info@yourretirementspecialist.com



Be relentless in your pursuit to retire comfortably, joyously, and Happily

Disclaimer

The information provided in this resource guide is general in nature and does not constitute financial advice and is for educational purpose only.

Before making any decision, we recommend you to consult a professional financial consultant to take into account your particular investment objectives, financial situation and individual needs.

The author of this resource guide do not accept any liability for any error or omission in this guide or for any resulting loss or damage suffered by the recipient or any other person.