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The Economist Guide To Financial Markets (6th Ed): Why They Exist And How They Work (Economist Books)



Synopsis

Extensively revised and updated following the fallout from the global financial crisis, the 6th edition of this highly regarded book brings the reader right up to speed with the latest financial market developments, and provides a clear and incisive guide to a complex world that even those who work in it often find hard to understand. In chapters on the markets that deal with money, foreign exchange, equities, bonds, commodities, financial futures, options and other derivatives, the book examines why these markets exist, how they work, and who trades in them, and gives a run-down of the factors that affect prices and rates. Business history is littered with disasters that occurred because people involved their firms with financial instruments they didn't properly understand. If they had had this book they might have avoided their mistakes. For anyone wishing to understand financial markets, there is no better guide.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A very well-written, informative, and affordable (appropriately) introduction to financial markets. Covers stocks, bonds, options, derivatives, and other key financial concepts. He avoids writing in an overly technical style, but still gets the concepts across. Useful for both novices and those with some background in finance. There are 9 total chapters in the book, 275 pages total.

I knew nothing about financial markets before this book. It is a very simple and easy book for you to start understanding the financial market dynamics!

Really tells you a lot of the workings of the various financial markets, especially conditions and changes after the crisis. As a young professional just getting my feet wet in studying financial markets (and with a more theoretical economics background) this has been pretty useful.

As someone who didn't know what securities, dividends, or interest were whatsoever, this book went a bit over my head at first. Thus I would recommend that people with absolutely zero financial background read this book only after brushing up on the basics of financial markets. However, the book is extremely clear, engaging, and informative. Also, one minor complaint: There isn't much of a difference between the bold and regular versions of the font, which are used for headings and subheadings respectively, so sometimes it's a little hard to figure out if you're still in the same section, or if you're now in a different section.

This book does assume you have prior knowledge of the financial market. Heavy going for the layman. It's definitely not meant for beginners.

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