

2020 · WHAT ISSUES SHOULD I CONSIDER DURING A RECESSION OR MARKET CORRECTION?



CASH FLOW ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Will your cash flow be tight? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Reexamine your budget looking for areas to reduce spending, especially discretionary expenses. ■ Fund any shortfalls strategically, using the most advantageous source of cash. ■ You may need to prioritize your obligations, and take advantage of opportunities to extend due dates or alter payment schedules, minimizing fees, penalties, and any negative impact upon your credit. ■ Reference “What Emergency Relief Options Should I Consider During The Coronavirus Pandemic?” checklist. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to review or increase your emergency fund? If so, evaluate the size of your fund and assess the number of months that it can support your living expenses.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Have you experienced a disruption in your employment? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ If you were laid off from work through no fault of your own, you may be eligible for unemployment benefits. ■ Reference “What Issues Should I Consider If I Lose My Job?” and “What Emergency Relief Options Should I Consider During The Coronavirus Pandemic?” checklist for more planning issues. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Were you planning to retire in the near future? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review your options to make sure you are still comfortable with retiring or if you would prefer to work a little longer. ■ Review your budget, and possibly reduce spending in non-essential categories in the first few years of retirement. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are you taking a distribution from an investment or retirement account? If so, consider the impact of changing your distribution schedule to protect accounts (defer remaining distributions until the end of the year or spread the distributions over the rest of the year).</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ASSET & DEBT ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Do you have a mortgage or debts? If so, consider if you should refinance any debts now while interest rates are low.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you want to rebalance your investment and retirement accounts? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Revisit your target asset allocation and overall investment philosophy. ■ Identify holdings that you have retained only because of their low basis, and consider reducing your position while valuations are low, minimizing realized gains. ■ As always, exercise discretion and discipline, taking a long-term view and prudent action. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have extra cash that is not earmarked for an upcoming expenditure? If so, consider investing it to take advantage of low valuations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you typically make contributions to a Traditional IRA or Roth IRA? If so, consider making a contribution now, to take advantage of low valuations.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are you a small business owner? If so, you may be eligible for a small business loan, or other forms of federal, state, and community relief.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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TAX PLANNING ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Do you have a traditional 401(k) or IRA? If so, converting some of the assets into a Roth IRA could be beneficial while valuations are low. If you are laid off, you may have more room in your bracket to do Roth conversions.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you have any assets with a tax loss? If so, consider harvesting the loss, which could reduce your tax liability.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

LONG-TERM PLANNING ISSUES	YES	NO
<p>Do you have an annual gifting strategy in place to pass assets to your heirs? If so, consider gifting assets (up to \$15,000 per person) now, while valuations are low, and while support may be particularly helpful to the donee.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Are you in a position to help family members in need of financial assistance? If so, consider making intrafamilial loans when the AFR is low. This avoids gift tax, locks in a favorable interest rate for the borrower, and can act as an “advance” on an inheritance when structured with your heirs.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Do you need to update your estate plan? If so, consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review the impact of any change in asset values upon the ultimate distribution of your estate including probate and non-probate assets. ■ Consider implementing wealth transfer techniques that take advantage of low valuations and rates (such as GRATs, CLATs, IDGTs and private annuities). ■ Reference “What Issues Should I Consider Before I Update My Estate Plan?” checklist. 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Maximizing Your Return on Life

ORGANIZATION

We help bring order to your financial life, by assisting you in getting your financial house in order (at both the “macro” level of investments, insurance, estate, taxes, etc., and also the “micro” level of household cash flow). We build *Mission Control* for your personal finances.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We help you follow through on financial commitments, by working with you to prioritize your goals, show you the steps you need to take, and regularly review your progress towards achieving them.

OBJECTIVITY

We bring insight from the outside to help you avoid emotionally driven decisions in important money matters, by being available to consult with you at key moments of decision-making, doing the research necessary to ensure you have all the information, and managing and disclosing any of our own potential conflicts of interest.

PROACTIVITY

We work with you to anticipate your life transitions and to be financially prepared for them, by regularly assessing any potential life transitions that might be coming, and creating the action plan necessary to address and manage them ahead of time.

EDUCATION

We explore what specific knowledge will be needed to succeed in your situation, by first thoroughly understanding your situation, then providing the necessary resources to facilitate your decisions, and explaining the options and risks associated with each choice.

PARTNERSHIP

We help you achieve the best life possible but will work in concert with you, not just for you, to make this possible, by taking the time to clearly understand your background, philosophy, needs and objectives, work collaboratively with you and on your behalf (with your permission), and offer transparency around our own costs and compensation.

