Helpful Stuff from QUOTEDDATA

A few tips before you get started

If you are thinking about buying an investment but you are fairly new to investing, take some time to familiarise yourself with the terminology – any term you come across here you can enter in the search box on our website and a brief explanation should pop up. *(If there's something we've missed, please let us know using the contact us tab and we'll get it added)*

Don't invest more than you can afford:	The first thing to think about is how much money do you have available to invest? Think about whether you are prepared to hold your investment for the long-term (years not weeks). If you might need to cash in your investment in a hurry, this restricts the type of investment you should be making.
Don't forget that the cash you have now might be needed in the future	Factor in things like long-term debts such as mortgages as well as short-term ones like credit cards.
Borrowing to invest is dangerous	Borrowing money to invest in high risk investments could leave you in a much worse position – make sure you can survive the loss of your investment.
Could you survive the loss of your investment?	Remember when you make an investment there is almost always a chance you could some or lose all of your money – that chance is higher for some investments than others – we go into this in more detail here.
Keep some money handy for emergencies	You should have some readily accessible savings in a bank or building society before you think about investing in shares. This makes sense because you might find you need sudden access to cash at a time when your investments are not doing so well – beware of being a forced seller.
Think long-term where you can	Investing for the long-term lets you sleep easier at night when short-term movements in value go against you.
Think about your attitude to risk	One of the most important decisions you'll need to make is how much risk you are willing to take. Risk is really all about two things – the chance of losing some or all of your money and the chance that, over the short-term, the value of your investment might change dramatically (volatility).
Hold a spread of investments	Don't put all your eggs in one basket – holding a spread of different investments reduces the chance that a single outside factor will have a big impact on your wealth.
But don't go overboard – factor in dealing expenses	But remember, because of the charges associated with dealing in shares, it often does not make sense to invest small amounts of money this way.
What goal do you have for this money	Think about what you hope to achieve from your investments? For instance, do you need an income now or are you saving for an event in the future?
Financial advisers are there to help	And, above all, if in doubt ask a financial adviser.
But QuotedData can't advise you	Remember here at QuotedData we are not allowed to give you investment advice and nothing we say on this site should be taken as a recommendation to buy or sell any investment.