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Bestselling author of *Stock Investing For Dummies*





Al Investing

by Paul Mladjenovic



Al Investing For Dummies®

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Introduction

rtificial intelligence (AI) has taken the world by storm, and what better umbrella than a *For Dummies* guide? This book offers friendly and concrete guidance to either the newbie to AI or the intermediate investor, who is also interested in how this dynamic and soon-to-be pervasive topic affects you financially. That may mean investing and wealth-building or related issues ranging from retirement planning to estate planning and college planning. I also cover a wealth of practical resources, strategies, and tools to make sure you're ahead of the pack.

About This Book

AI investing is generally new to the public, and it can be valuable to anyone managing an investment portfolio or who needs information to achieve financial goals, especially with stocks and stock-related funds. This book is laid out so you can go from "What are AI prompts?" to how to use them and which ones work best in varying investing situations.

The first few chapters of this book go into the basics of AI, including its risks and rewards. Later parts go into the panorama of investing and financial topics that AI can help you with. The book doesn't just stop at AI stock investing — it goes deeper since AI affects so much in the world of investing, business, and general finance. No matter what your money concern is, this book has what you need to know written in an easy-to-digest and practical way.

Take a close look at the appendixes because this is the secret treasure of this book. Because AI is changing so quickly, you need to know where to look to keep up, and Part 6 is rich in how-to and where-to resources, educational and otherwise.

A quick note: Sidebars (shaded boxes of text) dig into the details of a given topic, but they aren't crucial to understanding it. Feel free to read them or skip them. You can pass over the text accompanied by the Technical Stuff icon, too. The text marked with this icon gives some interesting but nonessential information about AI investing.

One last thing: Within this book, you may note that some web addresses break across two lines of text. If you're reading this book in print and want to visit one of these web pages, simply key in the web address exactly as it's noted in the text, pretending as though the line break doesn't exist. If you're reading this as an e-book, you've got it easy — just click the web address to be taken directly to the web page.

Foolish Assumptions

In writing this book, I imagined someone pulling a copy off a bookshelf in their local bookstore and scanning it to see whether it's a valuable guide. And I wondered what that person would need to know to find this book interesting. Here are some of the assumptions I came up with about you, the reader:

- >> You have an interest in artificial intelligence and how it affects you financially.
- You're a consumer or investor and seeking guidance on how AI can increase your prosperity.
- >> You're worried about AI and how it affects your job or business, and you want to know what to do and how to proceed in this exciting, yet scary, new area.
- >> You want a convenient source of guidance on resources for the fast-paced world of AI technology.

Icons Used in This Book

In the margins of the book, you'll find these icons helping you out.



Whenever I provide a hint that makes an aspect of AI investing easier or potentially more successful, I mark it with a Tip icon.



The Remember icon marks paragraphs that contain information that you should absolutely take away from this book.

REMEMBER

Heed the paragraphs marked with the Warning icon to avoid potential AI investing disasters.

WARNING



Whenever I get technically inclined, I mark the paragraph with a Technical Stuff icon. If you're not into the nitty-gritty technical details of AI investing, you can skip these nuggets of info.

Beyond the Book

In addition to the material in the print or e-book you're reading right now, this product comes with some access-anywhere goodies on the web. Check out the free Cheat Sheet for info on ways that AI can help you save money and much more. To get this Cheat Sheet, simply go to www.dummies.com and search for "AI Investing For Dummies Cheat Sheet" in the Search box.

Where to Go from Here

This book is designed so that you can quickly jump to a specific chapter or section that most interests you. You don't have to start with the first chapter — although if you're new to AI and related investment issues, I recommend that you do so. Understanding the foundation of AI investing helps you better apply the techniques that you discover in the later chapters on the specifics of your investment activity.

You don't have to read this book from cover to cover, but if you're an especially thorough person, feel free to do so! If you just want to find specific information and then get back to work, take a look at the table of contents or the index, and then dive into the chapter or section that interests you. Besides investing and financial issues with AI, I especially suggest that you also review the business and career AI-related information so that you keep up with the professional challenges and opportunities that are unfolding with AI right now.

Keep in mind that success in any endeavor is initially reliant on sound information and guidance, and a *For Dummies* guide is there for you right from the start. *AI Investing For Dummies* will help you forge ahead successfully on your AI-driven path to a brighter future.

Artificial Intelligence Basics

IN THIS PART . . .

Discover what artificial intelligence is and check out some common Al tools.

Get a primer on ChatGPT, the biggest AI tool out there. Look at its features and uses.

Take stock of the risks and rewards of Al.

- » Defining "artificial intelligence"
- » Exploring the two major types of Al
- » Knowing how AI can help with your financial pursuits

Chapter **1**

Artificial Intelligence 101

rtificial intelligence, more commonly known as AI: It's all the rage today, and it will likely end up in every corner of modern life. It stokes both excitement and fear. It's changing the business, social, and financial landscape as I write this.

When it comes to AI, the best choice for people is to do what you're doing right now — learning what it is, what it can do, and how you can use it to your advantage in today's competitive economy. Like every major innovation in human history, it can have amazing positive power, and it can have the power to harm. Use it to make yourself stronger. This chapter gets you started on the road to investing with AI.

First Things First: What Is AI?

As a business person and a financial educator, I generally avoid in the scope of this singular book the techie stuff and stick to the how-do-I-use-this-stuff approach. I pride myself on being an educator, and I look at artificial intelligence the same way I look at a laptop computer or a smartphone — like a tool. I may not be able to explain the inner workings of it with much precision, but I know how to use it to achieve my goals or to satisfy my wants and needs.

As for AI, let's do the obvious thing here and ask AI about AI. I use ChatGPT (which is covered in greater detail in Chapter 2). My question (more commonly known as a prompt):

"Please define and explain AI in less than 150 words as if I were an eighth grader."

The response from ChatGPT is in Figure 1-1.



ChatGPT

Artificial Intelligence, or AI, is like giving computers the ability to think and learn on their own. It's a smart computer system that can understand things, make decisions, and even solve problems without being explicitly programmed for each task. Imagine a really smart robot that can figure out how to play a new game or help you with your homework by learning from examples. AI uses data and patterns to make predictions and choices, making it a bit like a computer brain. From virtual assistants to video game opponents, AI is all around us, making machines smarter and more helpful.

FIGURE 1-1: Asking Al about Al.



Cool! ChatGPT says it's like a smart robot that can help you with your problems and tasks. That's my kind of answer. Throughout the book I use examples from AI tools, predominately from ChatGPT and also AI-enhanced tools such as Bing Chat (yes, the turbo-charged version of Microsoft's Bing Search engine).



TIP

I wrote this book fully mindful that AI is constantly changing and improving. Make it a point to visit any resource listed throughout this book (especially in Part 6) that is relevant to your concerns (and plenty of valuable resources are included). The resources are both general and specific, but timely, and they are constantly updated to help you keep up with AI's development.

Distinguishing the Two Types of Al

Although I could ask AI to provide an extensive explanation of AI and I could spew all the facets and jargon about it, I'll stick to my terminology about AI in the following sections. The two types of AI are general and specific. Horizontal and vertical would also do.

General Al

The reason I also refer to general AI as "horizontal" is that this type of AI spans the vast digital landscape to produce the response to your inquiry or request. It can be good for starters and for general knowledge.

A good example of this type of AI is the popular ChatGPT (see Chapter 2). Despite its awesome capabilities, I wouldn't use it for an intense, specific purpose. For example, I could use it to learn skills such as creating a web page, but I wouldn't rely on it to learn about brain surgery or cancer. I would go to specialized sources for that or (better) human experts.



Another general AI tool to add to your arsenal would be AI-enhanced search engines. The last time I looked, you could choose from 18 AI-enhanced search engines, but that number may have changed in the time it took for you to read this! You can find them in Appendix B.

Specific Al

Vertical or specific AI concentrates on a given topic or specialty. Good examples of this are robo-advisors (covered in Chapter 7). Keep in mind that part of the power of AI is that it uses its technological power to learn about what it's working on. Some AI tools specialize in finance, but other tools specialize in healthcare, and so on.



I think the best example of this is when you need medical treatment or the attention of a doctor. You would first go to a general practitioner (GP). But after that you may need some specialized attention. The GP may know about your heart, for example, but the GP would ultimately need to refer you to a cardiologist. Think of general and specific AI in the same way.

In Chapter 3, different categories of AI are covered; take a look there for some excellent AI directories that can help you find the right AI tool for whatever issue you want to address.

Investing in Stocks with Al's Help

The primary reason you may have gotten this book is because the title includes both "AI" and "investing," and the heart of this combo is covered in Part 2.



Keep in mind that in this book, as with most of the investing books I author, I point out the crucial distinctions between "investing" and "speculating." To put it simply, investing is putting your money into assets and/or vehicles that have value today and the possibility of much greater value over time. Meanwhile, speculating is essentially like educated gambling, hopefully to make greater gains sooner despite greater risks. Everybody wants to get that amazing stock when it's cheap and obscure and to watch it soar to mind-boggling levels as "ka-ching" is ringing in our brokerage accounts. It could happen with your investing (such as large-cap tech stocks), and you could hit it big with your speculating (such as with small-cap stocks), but you should know the difference.

For investing in large-cap stocks that are neck-deep in AI, head over to Chapter 4. If you're looking for that small company that could soar to the moon, check out Chapter 5. Just keep in mind that many of today's small tech companies won't be around a few years from now, so take heed of the word "fundamentals" (covered in Chapter 8) since that is at the heart of true investing. Speculating, meanwhile, is a stone's throw away from financial gambling, so learn the difference.

For those of you who want to get into AI in a safer way, consider going through exchange-traded funds (ETFs) and/or mutual funds, which are investing in AI through a portfolio approach. See Chapter 6 for details.

Using AI to Try Stock Investing Alternatives

The prior section covered investing in AI-related vehicles. But keep in mind that AI is a versatile tool that can be used across the investing landscape. Part 3 goes into assets from precious metals and commodities to cryptocurrencies and real estate. Getting into these areas will be much easier with AI as your digital research assistant.



TIP

Perhaps the hidden gem for you is Chapter 12. It concentrates on helping you with AI to tackle business and career ventures. For many folks, the rise of AI brings some concerns and uncertainty. Here is where you turn lemons into lemonade, and boost your professional prospects and see AI through the lens of possibilities. Be like me and make an AI-assisted home-based business part of your financial situation (check out my AI resources at www.ravingcapitalist.com/AI/).

Looking at Your Total Financial Picture with Al

Don't just look at the investment landscape. Use AI to kick it up a notch and be holistic with every corner of your financial situation.

As I write this, the national economy and the world's geopolitics are bringing uncertainty everywhere. Be prepared. AI can be used for analyzing the economy (see Chapter 13) so you know what to do whether you are facing a recession, inflation, or both (or worse).

Keep in mind that investing is a part (yes, a large part) of the financial planning process. Get to know the other parts, too. Part 4 goes into retirement planning, budgeting, and much more, so don't ignore these vital parts of your situation. Of course, you need to address the tough stuff like estate planning and taxes (ugh), but AI makes it easier than ever to deal with these issues.



In some of these areas you'll likely need a human expert, but AI will make the process so much easier, reduce your stress, and increase your knowledge and confidence.

Getting Smart about Al



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For those of you who want to get really informed about AI (beyond the scope of this book), here are some places to turn to that place a heavy emphasis on the world of AI:

- >> Al Practical Guide (https://aipracticalguide.com/): They have a beginners' guide as well.
- >> IBM's developer blog (https://developer.ibm.com/): Why not learn the technical side with what is arguably Al's longest participant?
- >> Adult education sites such as Coursera (www.coursera.com) and Udemy (www.udemy.com): They have some excellent free and low-cost courses on Al.

Appendix A has more AI educational resources.

- » Getting an introduction to ChatGPT
- » Picking apart Al prompts
- » Considering the disadvantages of ChatGPT
- » Checking out alternatives to ChatGPT

Chapter 2

A Primer on ChatGPT

lthough AI has been evident in recent years through consumer apps like those annoying voices when you call a company's main telephone number and Amazon's Alexa and Google's Siri (and many more applications when you think of them), the dam broke on the public's radar screen about the power and potential of AI when ChatGPT was launched in 2022.

ChatGPT hit one million users in record time and much more quickly than any prior tech launch. Netflix, for example, didn't hit one million users until three years after it launched. In this chapter, I introduce you to using ChatGPT and list some alternatives to consider.

Acquainting Yourself with ChatGPT

ChatGPT was created and launched by Open AI, and it can be accessed at https:// chat .openai .com. There are two versions at the time of this writing: the free version (GPT version 3.5) and the premium version GPT Plus (\$20 per month for version 4). The free version is fine for your AI investing pursuits now so that you can get comfortable interacting with it and exploring its power and potential.



ChatGPT offers plenty of help. Besides many forums and educational sources online (many are listed in Appendix A), ChatGPT's creator is a great first place to start: https://help.openai.com/en/.

Asking ChatGPT to describe itself

Why not have ChatGPT introduce itself? Use the simplest prompt imaginable:

"What is ChatGPT?"

ChatGPT's response when I asked this prompt is in Figure 2-1. This figure is of the interface itself.



ChatGPT

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ChatGPT is a language model developed by OpenAI. It belongs to the GPT (Generative Pre-trained Transformer) family, specifically GPT-3.5. OpenAI, a research organization focused on artificial intelligence, created ChatGPT to understand and generate human-like text based on the input it receives. It has been trained on diverse internet text and is designed to perform various natural language processing tasks.

ChatGPT is known for its ability to generate coherent and contextually relevant responses in conversation-like interactions. Users can input prompts or queries, and the model responds accordingly. It's a powerful tool for a wide range of natural language understanding and generation tasks, making it useful for applications like content creation, text completion, language translation, and more.

It's important to note that ChatGPT doesn't have real-time awareness, and its responses are generated based on patterns it learned during training. Additionally, as of my last knowledge update in January 2022, ChatGPT is a product of OpenAl and is used via OpenAl's API or other interfaces provided by OpenAl.

FIGURE 2-1: An introduction from ChatGPT.



As far as the name goes, "Chat" refers to your interaction with it, and the "GPT" refers to "Generative Pre-trained Transformer." Find out more about the meaning of the term "ChatGPT" at www.coursera.org/articles/chatgpt.

Discovering what ChatGPT can help you with

I think that you could be like a kid in a candy store after you start using ChatGPT and getting creative with your prompts. Let's get your creative juicing flowing by giving you some ideas of what you can accomplish with ChatGPT. Consider a prompt like this:

"Please provide a list of ten specific benefits and services that ChatGPT can provide to investors. Please give an explanation and an example of each item."

The first part of ChatGPT's response is in Figure 2–2. Note that number 4 is about portfolio diversification strategies. Right out of the starting gate, you have issues you can address or discuss with your financial advisor. Take each issue and ask AI about them in depth; it will only enhance your knowledge and performance as an investor.

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ChatGPT

Certainly, here's an extensive list of 10 specific benefits and services that ChatGPT can provide to investors, each with an explanation and an example:

1. Market Analysis:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can analyze market trends and provide insights into investment opportunities.
- Example: "Analyze recent market data and identify emerging trends in the renewable energy sector, highlighting potential investment opportunities."

2. Stock Price Predictions:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can generate predictions on stock price movements based on historical data and market conditions.
- Example: "Predict the potential price movement of a specific tech stock over the next quarter, considering recent earnings reports and industry news."

3. Risk Assessment:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can assess and quantify risks associated with specific investments.
- Example: "Evaluate the risks associated with investing in a high-volatility cryptocurrency and provide risk mitigation strategies."

4. Portfolio Diversification Strategies:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can suggest strategies for diversifying investment portfolios to manage risk.
- Example: "Provide recommendations on how to diversify a stock portfolio, considering various sectors and asset classes."

FIGURE 2-2: The first few things ChatGPT can help with.

Figure 2-3 provides the next batch of items for the investor's consideration. Take item number 7 on dividend stock selection. Dividends are an important part of a long-term stock investing strategy (especially for income investors). You can use AI to locate, analyze, and choose dividend stocks.

Figure 2-4 wraps up the choices with IPOs (initial public offerings) and long-term strategies, both of which can be handled with AI. IPOs are covered in Chapter 5, but now you know that AI can help you choose in a way that was not possible before.

5. Economic Indicator Analysis:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can analyze economic indicators and their potential impact on investments.
- Example: "Examine the implications of inflation and interest rate changes on bond investments and recommend adjustments to a fixed-income portfolio."

6. Investment Research Assistance:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can assist in researching specific investment options or industries.
- Example: "Research the growth prospects of emerging markets in the technology sector, providing key data and potential risks."

7. Dividend Stock Selection:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can help identify dividend-paying stocks for incomefocused investors.
- Example: "Suggest a list of dividend stocks with a history of consistent payouts and strong financial health."

8. Real-Time Market News Updates:

- * Explanation: ChatGPT can provide real-time updates on market news and events.
- Example: "Summarize the latest news affecting the pharmaceutical industry and its potential impact on healthcare stock prices."

FIGURE 2-3: More things that ChatGPT can assist with.

9. Initial Public Offering (IPO) Analysis:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can analyze upcoming IPOs and provide insights into their potential performance.
- Example: "Evaluate the financials and market potential of a company preparing for an IPO, predicting its attractiveness to investors."

10. Long-Term Investment Strategies:

- Explanation: ChatGPT can offer advice on long-term investment strategies aligned with financial goals.
- Example: "Propose a long-term investment strategy for retirement planning, considering a mix of growth and income-generating assets."

FIGURE 2-4: ChatGPT can provide plenty of help. These examples showcase the diverse range of benefits and services that ChatGPT can offer to investors, helping them make informed decisions, manage risks, and optimize their investment portfolios.

I don't mean to overwhelm you, but to invite you to start getting proficient with a groundbreaking new technology that will only get better and more proficient for those willing to embrace it.

It's All About the Prompt

Your part in using ChatGPT is to enter your question or request, and this is referred to as the "prompt," which makes sense; you're prompting it to generate a response you're seeking.

Yes, you can prompt about anything, but let's keep it in the realm of this book's financial topics. Here's an example in which I prompted ChatGPT about prompts:

"Please provide a list of 20 useful prompts for financial planning and investing with an explanation and an example of each."

The first part of ChatGPT's response is in Figure 2–5. Using AI to use AI could be the first best approach for investors. Take the item of risk tolerance assessment. Plenty of investors are not that sure about their own tolerance for risk. Using AI to go in–depth here will ultimately mean making choices that will make your path going forward less stressful.

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ChatGPT

Certainly! Here's a list of 20 useful prompts for financial planning and investing, each with an explanation and an example:

1. Retirement Planning Strategies:

- Explanation: Seek advice on planning for retirement and optimizing investment strategies.
- Example: "Provide personalized strategies for retirement planning, considering a goal of retiring in 20 years with a comfortable income."

2. Tax-Efficient Investing:

- Explanation: Inquire about tax-efficient investment strategies to maximize returns.
- Example: "Suggest tax-efficient investment options to minimize liabilities while maintaining portfolio growth."

3. Diversification Techniques:

- Explanation: Request insights into effective diversification strategies across asset classes.
- Example: "Advise on diversifying my investment portfolio to balance risk and return, considering various sectors and geographic regions."

4. Risk Tolerance Assessment:

- Explanation: Assess and understand an individual's risk tolerance for tailored investment advice.
- Example: "Evaluate my risk tolerance and recommend an investment strategy aligned with my comfort level and financial goals."

FIGURE 2-5: Some financial planning and investing prompts.