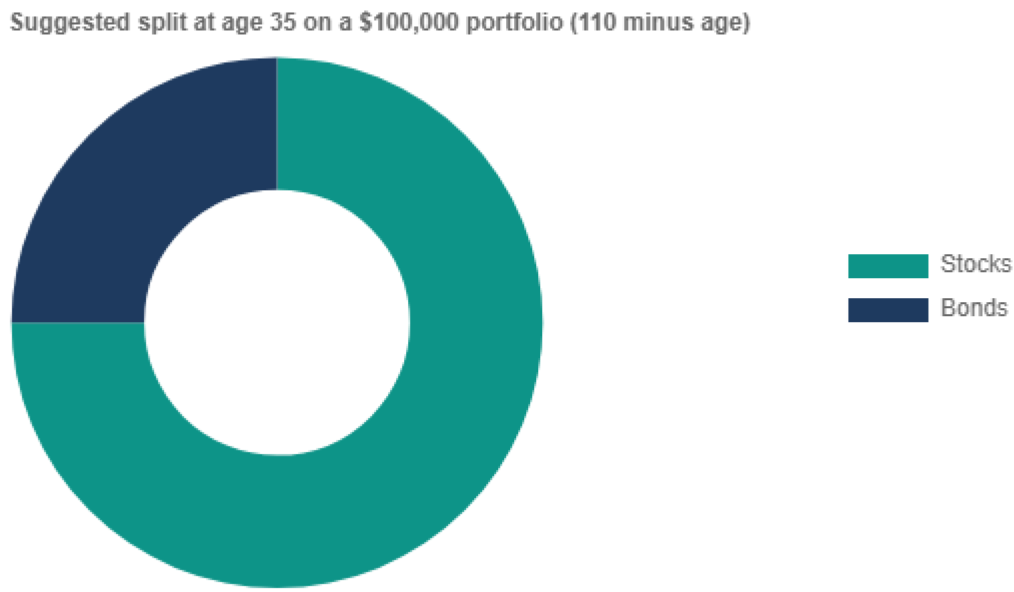
AssetBaseline

VISUAL

Stocks vs Bonds by Age

> A simple rule of thumb sets your stock share to a base number minus your age. Slide through the ages to watch the mix shift toward safety over time.

How much of your portfolio belongs in stocks versus bonds is one of the biggest decisions you make, and it shifts as you age. A common rule of thumb captures the idea in a single line. Your stock share is a base number minus your age, and the rest goes to bonds.



Asset	Share	Amount
Stocks	75%	$75,000
Bonds	25%	$25,000

Reading the chart

The doughnut shows the suggested split for the age you set, on a 100,000 dollar portfolio, using a base of 110. At 35, that is 75 percent stocks and 25 percent bonds, or 75,000 dollars against 25,000. Slide the age up and watch the stock slice shrink.

At 50 the same rule suggests 60 percent stocks, and at 70 it suggests 40 percent. The idea is simple. Younger investors can hold more stocks because they have decades to ride out downturns, while those near retirement shift toward bonds to protect the money they are about to spend.

A starting point, not a rule

The base you pick sets how aggressive the glide path is. The old standard was 100 minus age, but with longer lifespans many now use 110 or 120, which keeps more in stocks for longer. None of these numbers is magic.

Your own split should weigh how long until you need the money, how steady your income is, and how well you sleep during a market drop. The Asset Allocation calculator lets you set your own base and portfolio, and the Compound Interest Guide shows why the stock-heavy early years matter so much.

> **Key takeaway.** Hold more stocks when young and shift toward bonds as retirement nears. The rule-of-thumb split is a sensible starting point, not a personalized plan.

Assumptions

- The stock share is the rule base minus your age, capped between 0 and 100 percent, with bonds the rest. The default base is 110.
- This is a broad rule of thumb, not personalized advice. Your real mix should reflect your goals, timeline, and comfort with risk.

Sources

- U.S. SEC Investor.gov, asset allocation