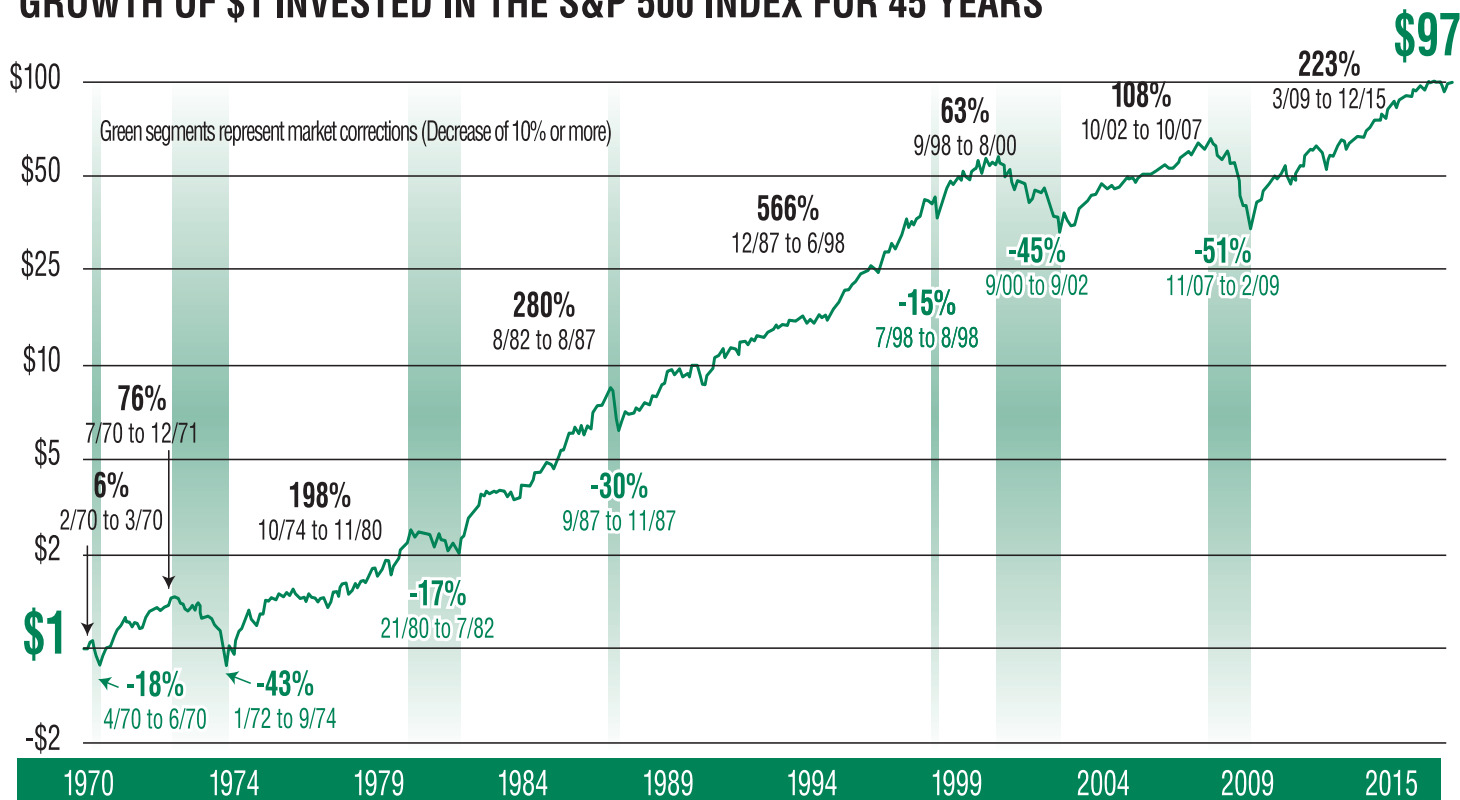


GROWTH OF \$1 INVESTED IN THE S&P 500 INDEX FOR 45 YEARS



Source: Morningstar, Inc. Data based on growth of \$1 invested in the S&P 500 Index from January 31, 1970 to December 31, 2015, with all dividends reinvested. Performance shown represents past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

If you save \$10,000 in a Roth IRA, and keep all of it in the stock market through every crash and correction, after 45 years you might have \$970,000. That's what happened between 1970 and 2015; yes, it was a very good time to invest in the stock market, but in most of those years people thought it was an unusually painful time.

There was a huge crash in technology stocks in 2000, and a massive financial crisis in 2008. Interest rates hit 20% in the early 1980s when inflation was running out of control. Oil

prices soared, several times, and investors believed that the world was going to run out of oil. Each of those bubbles burst, and the oil stocks cratered. There were also bubbles in gold, silver, copper, and real estate. Each time the real estate market collapsed there were bankruptcies across the housing sector.

Even so, you might find that in the next 45 years your \$10,000 doesn't grow beyond \$500,000, despite doubling and doubling, again and again. If that happens you'll just have to wait a few

years for one more doubling that will take you to a million dollars. In the chart above that last doubling happened in little more than 5 years, but in most decades you'll have to be more patient ...

The last doubling always puts as much wealth in your hands as all the growth of all the preceding years. Once you reach a million, it will only take another decade, more or less, to add **another million dollars** to your portfolio. ■

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