



HDFC MF

Weekend Bytes

A weekly series from HDFC Mutual Fund

Every Birthday is a
Portfolio Check-in!



hdfcfund.com

This content has been created with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence.

HDFC Mutual Fund: SEBI Registration Number: MF/044/00/6

Illustration

Birthdays usually come with cake, calls and a few reflections on the year gone by. But they can also be a good reminder to look at something we often forget: how our investments are spread between equity and debt. As we move through different stages of life, our goals, responsibilities and ability to handle market ups and downs change too. Here's how a father and son, Mr. Mehta and Kabir, talked it through over a birthday dinner.



Papa, I turned 30 today, and I realised I've never really looked at how my investments are split. Almost everything I have is in equity.

Kabir

Mr. Mehta

At your age, that's not unusual. When you're younger, you usually have a longer time horizon, so you may be able to stay invested in equity through market cycles. But your mix shouldn't stay the same forever.

What do you mean?

Kabir

Mr. Mehta

As we grow older, our goals come closer. Retirement, children's education, a home. When a goal is near, there's less time to recover from a market fall. So many investors gradually reduce their equity exposure and increase their allocation to debt as they age.

Is there a simple way to think about it?

Kabir

Mr. Mehta

One commonly used rule of thumb is "100 minus your age". It suggests the percentage you might hold in equity, with the rest in debt. It's only a starting point, though. Your actual mix should depend on your goals, income, responsibilities and risk appetite.

So, I shouldn't move everything to debt suddenly when I'm older?

Kabir

Mr. Mehta

Not at all. The shift works best when it's gradual, a little every few years, rather than one big move. That way you aren't trying to time the market, and your portfolio adjusts with your life.

How often should I check whether my mix is right? I already look at my portfolio app every day.

Kabir

Mr. Mehta

That's the other side of it. Reviewing your portfolio regularly is important, say once or twice a year, or when something major changes in your life. But checking it every day often leads to decisions driven by short-term market movements. A review is about your plan. A daily check is mostly about the market's mood.

So, a yearly review, maybe around my birthday?

Kabir

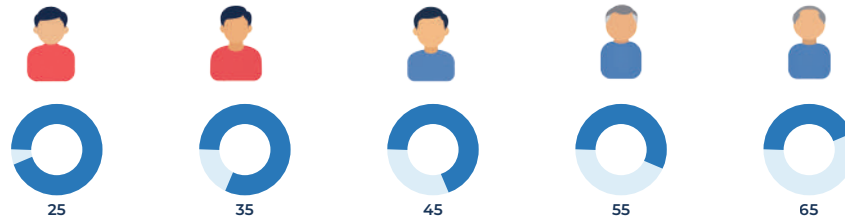
Mr. Mehta

That's a good habit. Look at whether your goals have changed, whether your equity-debt mix has drifted, and rebalance if needed. Then let your investments do their work.



How asset allocation may change with age?

Here is an illustrative allocation based on the “100 minus age” rule of thumb:



Age	Equity (%)	Debt (%)	Typical life stage
25	75	25	Early career, long investment horizon
35	65	35	Growing income and responsibilities
45	55	45	Peak earning years, goals coming closer
55	45	55	Pre-retirement, focus on preserving wealth
65 onwards	35	65	Retirement, focus on income and stability

Equity (%) = 100 minus age; Debt (%) = 100 minus Equity.

The above allocation is for illustrative purposes only and is not a recommendation. Actual asset allocation should be based on an individual's goals, risk profile, time horizon and financial situation

Conclusion

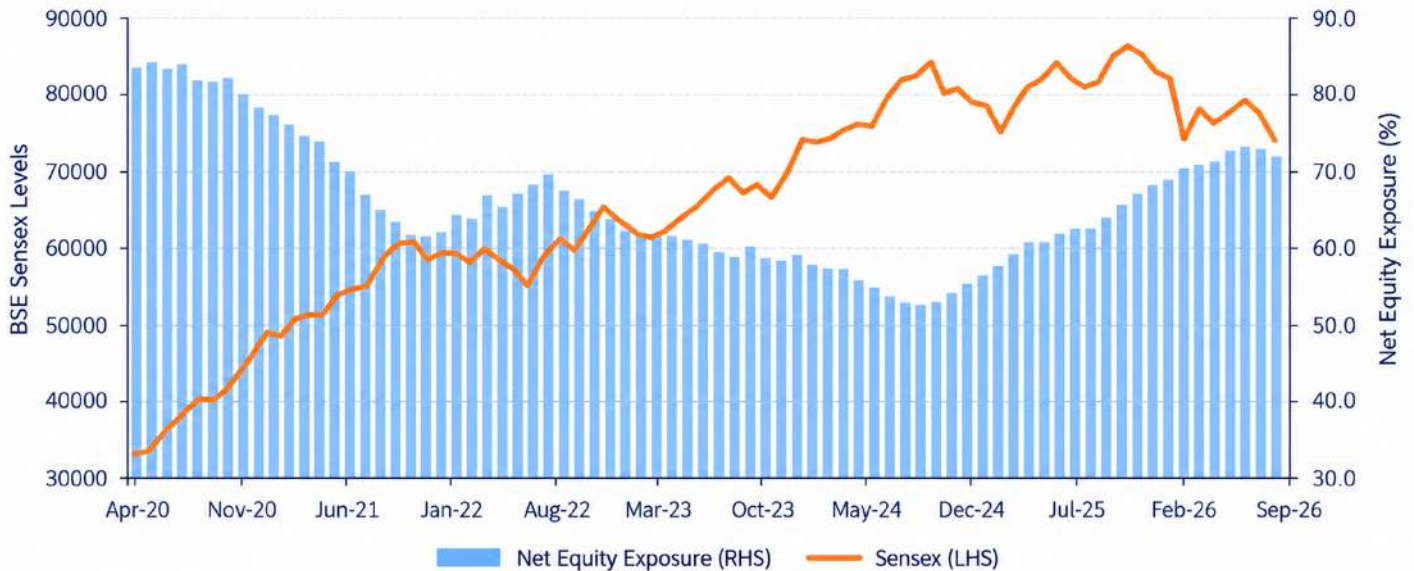
Kabir left dinner with a simple plan: review his portfolio once a year, rebalance when his mix drifts, and gradually reduce his equity exposure as his goals come closer. Asset allocation isn't something you set once and forget. It changes as your life does.

For investors who would rather not manage these shifts between equity and debt on their own, a balanced advantage fund can be one way to approach it. Such funds dynamically manage their allocation between equity and debt based on market conditions, within a single scheme.

HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund is an open-ended balanced advantage fund that aims to provide long-term capital appreciation/income from a dynamic mix of equity and debt investments. The fund's allocation decisions are based on valuations, macro assessment and bottom-up opportunity analysis. Investors seeking a single-fund approach to managing their equity-debt mix may consider investing in HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund.

As the chart below shows, the fund has historically reduced its unhedged equity exposure as markets rose and increased it during corrections. This disciplined approach manages the equity-debt mix within the fund, so investors don't have to make these shifts on their own. After all, investing well is about having the right mix for every stage of life.

HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund - Equity Asset Allocation



Source: MFI360 Explorer. The above chart is for illustration of the fund's dynamic asset allocation only and should not be construed as an indication of future allocation or performance. The fund's asset allocation may vary based on market conditions and the fund manager's assessment. **Past performance may or may not be sustained in the future and is not a guarantee of any future returns.**

HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund tactically manages the equity exposure based on the investment framework. The current investment strategy is subject to change within prescribed asset allocation limits depending on the market conditions.

Review your portfolio regularly, revisit your goals, rebalance your mix, and let time do the rest.

A. HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund – ^SIP Performance – Regular Plan – Growth Option

	Since Inception*	15 year SIP	10 year SIP	5 year SIP	3 year SIP	1 year SIP
Total Amount Invested (₹ in lacs)	39.20	18.00	12.00	6.00	3.60	1.20
Market Value as on September 30, 2026 (₹ in lacs) \$\$	1,527.53	53.77	23.76	7.67	3.73	1.16
Returns (%) \$\$	17.73	13.42	13.10	9.74	2.27	-5.49
Benchmark Returns (%)#	N.A.	9.37	8.42	5.02	1.41	-6.41
Additional Benchmark Returns (%)##	12.54	11.22	10.21	4.59	-1.44	-13.60

Assuming ₹10,000 invested systematically on the first Business Day of every month over a period of time. CAGR returns are computed after accounting for the cash flow by using XIRR method (investment internal rate of return) for Regular Plan – Growth Option. The above investment simulation is for illustrative purposes only and should not be construed as a promise on minimum returns and safeguard of capital.

B. HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund – ^Performance – Regular Plan – Growth Option

NAV as on September 30, 2026: ₹505.327 (per unit)

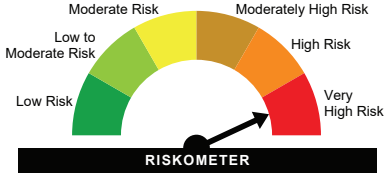
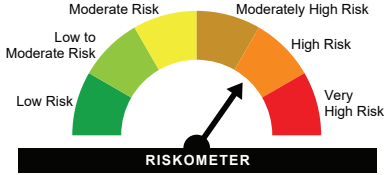
Date	Period	Scheme Returns (%) \$\$	Benchmark Returns (%)#	Additional Benchmark Returns (%)##	Value of investment of (₹) 10,000		
					Scheme (₹) \$\$	Benchmark (₹)#	Additional Benchmark (₹)##
Sep 30, 25	Last 1 Year	-1.99	-2.65	-7.09	9,801	9,735	9,291
Sep 29, 23	Last 3 Years	9.55	6.04	6.05	13,154	11,928	11,931
Sep 30, 21	Last 5 Years	12.61	5.96	6.37	18,113	13,358	13,621
Sep 30, 16	Last 10 Years	12.59	9.35	11.47	32,756	24,458	29,635
Feb 01, 94	Since Inception*	17.36	NA	10.54	1,870,196	NA	264,184

Common notes for the above tables A & B: ^Past performance may or may not be sustained in future and is not a guarantee of any future returns.

Load is not taken into consideration for computation of performance. # Benchmark Index: NIFTY 50 Hybrid Composite Debt 50:50 Index (Total Returns Index). ## Additional Benchmark Index: NIFTY 50 Index (TRI). *Inception Date: February 01, 1994. Returns as on September 30, 2026. The above returns are of Regular Plan – Growth Option. Returns greater than 1 year period are compounded annualized (CAGR). N.A./NA: Not Available. TRI: Total Returns Index.

Scheme performance may not strictly be comparable with that of its Additional Benchmark in view of the balanced nature of the scheme, where a portion of the scheme's investments are made in debt instruments. \$\$ All distributions declared prior to the splitting of the Scheme into IDCW & Growth Options are assumed to be reinvested in the units of the Scheme at the then prevailing NAV (ex-distribution NAV). As NIFTY 50 TRI data is not available since inception of the scheme, additional benchmark performance is calculated using composite CAGR of NIFTY 50 PRI values from February 1, 1994 to June 29, 1999 and TRI values since June 30, 1999.

To view the performance of the other funds managed by the Fund manager, please click on the link in the description or visit – <https://www.hdfcfund.com/mutual-funds/scheme-performance-summary-fund-manager-wise>

HDFC Balanced Advantage Fund (An open ended dynamic asset allocation fund investing in debt and equity instruments only) is suitable for investors who are seeking*:	Scheme Riskometer#  The risk of the scheme is very high	Benchmark Riskometer# NIFTY 50 Hybrid Composite Debt 50:50 Index (Total Returns Index)  The risk of the benchmark is high
- To generate long-term capital appreciation / income - Investments in a mix of equity and debt instruments	* Investors should consult their financial advisers, if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them. # For latest Riskometer, investors may refer to the Monthly Portfolios disclosed on the website of the Fund viz. www.hdfcfund.com Scheme and Benchmark Riskometer as on September 30, 2026.	

Views expressed above are indicative and should not be construed as investment advice or as a substitute for financial planning.

**MUTUAL FUND INVESTMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO MARKET RISKS,
READ ALL SCHEME RELATED DOCUMENTS CAREFULLY.**

Mission: To be the wealth creator for every indian

Vision: To be the most respected asset manager in the world