TWO WATERS WEALTH

SMART RETIREMENT BLUEPRINT®

ASSET MANAGEMENT

PILLAR A

SMART Bucket Allocation™ Workbook

A practical planning workbook for giving every part of your household picture a clear job before retirement begins.

WHAT THIS WORKBOOK HELPS YOU ORGANIZE

A more useful way to see the roles your income sources, protective resources, accessible reserves, and long-term investments may play in the retirement experience you want.

PLANNING OUTCOME

Connect each resource to a job, a record, and a question

PLANNING OUTCOME

Turn a long account list into a clearer retirement conversation

RESOURCE TYPE
Planning Workbook

EDITION
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ASSET MANAGEMENT · START HERE

Your money needs jobs, not just labels

Most statements show account names and balances. Retirement planning begins when you can explain what each part of the picture is meant to do for your life.

A PORTFOLIO IS A STARTING POINT

The SMART Bucket Allocation™ framework helps organize the questions behind your resources. It does not prescribe an investment, a product, an allocation, a withdrawal, or a tax decision.

What to gather

Current account statements, benefit or pension materials, insurance and beneficiary records, recent household notes, and the names of people already connected to important decisions.

What you will leave with

A clearer view of the four jobs, the records behind each one, questions that need confirmation, and a small number of next steps for a planning conversation.

A FOUR-STEP COMPLETION PATH

- [ ] Name the life and responsibilities your resources need to support.
- [ ] Map each resource to one or more jobs, using only current records where possible.
- [ ] Mark missing terms, timing details, and cross-pillar questions instead of guessing.
- [ ] Use the final map and handoff page to prepare your next conversation.

What retirement outcome or responsibility do we most want our resources to support? Use plain household language. A good answer can be as simple as a routine, commitment, person, or choice you want to protect.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · THE FRAMEWORK

The four jobs your resources may need to do

One account can raise more than one question. One job can be supported by more than one source. The point is not to force a perfect label. The point is to see the role, record, and question clearly.

USE THE JOB BEFORE THE ACCOUNT

The four jobs below are planning labels, not product categories or fixed percentages. Start by asking what your household wants a resource to help make possible, then verify the current document or detail behind that answer.

FOREVER

Income sources you may want to understand as part of a long-term income foundation. Think Social Security, pension, annuity, or other recurring income, along with the terms and survivor details shown in the record.

PROTECTION

Resources, coverage, ownership, and planning questions that may matter when life does not cooperate. Think care, survivor, insurance, beneficiary, and household-continuity questions.

LIQUIDITY

Accessible resources and records connected to near-term spending, known commitments, or flexibility when a question cannot wait. Think access, timing, restrictions, and the document that explains them.

GROWTH

Longer-horizon resources connected to future purchasing power, optionality, legacy, or a later-life priority. Think purpose, time horizon, account type, and the assumptions that should be reviewed.

Job	What it could help support in our retirement	Current record or question to carry forward
Forever		
Protection		
Liquidity		
Growth		

Asset Management works alongside the Medical & Healthcare, Risk Management, and Tax-Conscious Planning & Legacy planning areas. Use this workbook to identify the connection, then keep the right question with the right source or professional.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 1 · FOREVER

Start with the income sources that may outlast a paycheck

Record the sources you already associate with ongoing income, the details you would want to verify, and the household need each source may help support.

RECORD THE SOURCE, NOT THE STORY

Use current benefit estimates, plan documents, contract summaries, and statements. Do not assume that an old verbal explanation, an illustration, or a remembered amount is still the current answer.

Source or arrangement	Whose record / current owner	Timing or amount shown, or verify	Survivor or contract question
Social Security or benefit estimate			
Pension or employer income			
Annuity or other recurring income			
Other source to understand			

Which essential expense or responsibility could this source help support?

What source document, issuer, or professional would confirm the question?

- [ ] I have distinguished a current record from an estimate, a memory, or an assumption.
- [ ] I have identified any survivor, timing, access, or tax question that needs a separate conversation.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 2 · PROTECTION

Protect the plan, not just the portfolio

Use this page to make the household continuity questions visible, especially where a change in health, family circumstances, ownership, or care could affect the choices available.

PROTECTION IS A PLANNING QUESTION

This page does not recommend insurance, a beneficiary choice, or a legal action. It helps identify the records and questions that belong in a coordinated conversation with the appropriate professional.

Question or situation	Resource, coverage, or record connected to it	Current owner / contact	What needs confirmation
If one spouse or partner could no longer manage the plan			
If care needs or a health change affected our choices			
If a family, beneficiary, or ownership question changed			
If a policy or account term is unclear			

KEEP THE QUESTION WITH THE RIGHT PLANNING AREA

Medical & Healthcare

Coverage, care needs, Medicare timing, and healthcare records can change the plan. Record the question here, then carry the detailed coverage question to the appropriate source or professional.

Risk and Tax & Legacy

Survivor, ownership, beneficiary, estate-document, tax, and legal questions can affect the household picture. Mark the record and coordinate with the appropriate professional before acting.

What uncertainty would feel most important to reduce before making a meaningful change?

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 3 · LIQUIDITY

Make near-term flexibility visible before you need it

Liquidity is not simply a cash balance. It is the ability to understand access, timing, restrictions, and the choices your household has when a known or unexpected need appears.

PLAN FOR THE QUESTION, NOT THE EMERGENCY

This page is not a cash-reserve recommendation. It helps you identify the planned needs, time-sensitive commitments, and account-access questions worth discussing before decisions feel urgent.

Need, commitment, or opportunity	When it may matter	Potential record or source to discuss	Access, timing, or restriction question
Regular household spending or obligation			
Planned use within the next few years			
Tax, insurance, healthcare, or home-related question			
Unexpected change we want to be ready to discuss			

Questions that belong with the record

What does the current document say about access, timing, terms, ownership, tax treatment, or the process for taking action? Copy the question before making an assumption.

Questions that belong with the household

Which near-term responsibilities, opportunities, or changes would you want visible before deciding where funds should come from? Keep the answer connected to the life you want to protect.

If a significant need appeared tomorrow, which fact or document would we want to locate first?

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 4 · GROWTH

Connect long-horizon resources to the future they are meant to support

Growth is about the part of your household picture that may need time, patience, and a clear purpose. This page helps connect account type, time horizon, and open questions without prescribing an investment approach.

PURPOSE BEFORE PERFORMANCE

A return number alone does not explain what a resource is for. Record the purpose, account type, time horizon, and question you would want reviewed before treating a label or past experience as a decision.

Account or resource label	Tax category shown on record	Future purpose or time horizon	Question for tax or investment discussion
	Taxable / verify		
	Tax-deferred / verify		
	Roth / verify		
	Other / verify		

What future purpose feels worth protecting with a longer time horizon?

What account label, assumption, or anticipated withdrawal needs a current review?

- [ ] I have separated the current account type shown on a record from a conclusion about the best action.
- [ ] I have marked any tax, risk, distribution, or investment question for the appropriate professional conversation.

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 5 · INVENTORY

See the account list through a retirement lens

Use this two-page inventory to connect each important resource to a current record, a possible job, and the question that must be answered before it becomes part of a retirement plan.

WRITE WHAT YOU CAN VERIFY

A blank field is useful information. Do not estimate a balance, tax category, beneficiary, access term, or purpose if the current record would be more accurate. Mark it for follow-up instead.

Account, source, or resource	Owner / institution	Current record date or location	Possible job(s) to discuss
			Forever / Protection / Liquidity / Growth
			Forever / Protection / Liquidity / Growth
			Forever / Protection / Liquidity / Growth
			Forever / Protection / Liquidity / Growth

Tax category or treatment shown	Access / timing term to confirm	Beneficiary, ownership, or contact question	Next record to locate

Which resource has the clearest role today, and which one creates the most uncertainty?

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 6 · COORDINATION

Find the questions that cross planning areas

The most important asset-management questions often touch income, healthcare, risk, tax, or legacy planning at the same time. This page helps make those connections explicit.

A COORDINATED RETIREMENT PLAN IS NOT A STACK OF SEPARATE ANSWERS

Use the table to identify the question, the records it touches, and the appropriate next conversation. Do not use it to choose an account, product, tax strategy, or coverage path on your own.

Asset-management question	Other planning area involved	Record or detail to gather	Person or source to include
How does this resource connect to our income picture?	Secure Your Foundation		
Could coverage or care change the role of this resource?	Medical & Healthcare		
What if a market, family, or life change altered the plan?	Risk Management		
Does account type, ownership, or legacy create a question?	Tax-Conscious Planning & Legacy		

A question worth slowing down for

If the answer could lead to a pension election, claiming choice, contract decision, estate change, or other hard-to-reverse action, write down the question and make sure the current record and appropriate professional are part of the conversation.

A question worth documenting

If a household decision affects both spouses, a future caregiver, a beneficiary, or another trusted person, note what each person needs to understand and where the current record is kept.

Which connected question feels most important to carry into a coordinated planning conversation?

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · EXERCISE 7 · SYNTHESIS

Build your SMART Bucket Map

This is the visual payoff. Place the resources and questions that matter most into the four jobs, then notice what is missing, overlapping, or ready for a more focused discussion.

MAP THE QUESTIONS, NOT A RECOMMENDATION

A resource may appear in more than one section. Use the map to make the household picture easier to explain, not to create a target allocation, select a product, or direct a transaction.

FOREVER

ROLE · RECORD · QUESTION

Income source or role

Record or question to confirm

PROTECTION

UNCERTAINTY · RECORD · PERSON

Change or concern to understand

Record or person to involve

LIQUIDITY

NEED · ACCESS · QUESTION

Need or access point

Record or question to confirm

GROWTH

PURPOSE · HORIZON · QUESTION

Future purpose or time horizon

Account or question to review

What does the map make easier to see?

Where is a record missing, a role overlapping, or a question unresolved?

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ASSET MANAGEMENT · HANDOFF

From questions to a clear next conversation

Finish with a small, visible list of what to verify first, what to discuss with Two Waters, and what may need coordination with another qualified professional.

PROGRESS DOES NOT REQUIRE A RUSHED DECISION

A clear next step may be as simple as locating a statement, confirming a term, asking a better question, or deciding who should be part of a conversation. Keep irreversible choices separate from preparation.

Priority	Question, record, or decision point	What I will prepare next	Who should be involved
Verify first			
Discuss with Two Waters			
Coordinate with another professional			

Bring or confirm

Current statements, benefit estimates, plan or contract materials, account and beneficiary records, and the exact language behind any term you want to understand.

What a productive conversation can clarify

The role each resource may serve, the questions that must be answered before a decision, the records still missing, and whether a deeper personal blueprinting visit is the right next step.

The one question I want to leave the next conversation with more clarity around

- [ ] I have used this workbook to organize questions, not to make a recommendation for myself.
- [ ] I have marked records and conversations that should happen before a meaningful or difficult-to-reverse decision.

A retirement plan should explain what your money is for.

If you would like help organizing the questions behind your resources, explore a Retirement Brainstorm Session at calendly.com/first-twwm/retirement-brainstorm-session-clone. We will begin with your priorities, then decide together whether a deeper personal blueprinting visit makes sense.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION · DISCLOSURES

Important Disclosure Information

Please read this information before relying on this educational workbook.

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