



[BUSINESS LEADERS](#) > [WARREN BUFFETT](#)

The Best Books on Warren Buffett

By [ANDREW BEATTIE](#) | Updated Jan 16, 2020

What Are the Best Books on Warren Buffett?

For a man who is almost 90 years old, [Warren Buffett](#) still gets around. ^[1] At least, that is how it seems at first glance. Search the financial section of any bookstore and you are likely to see his face at least once and his name several more times.



Advertisement



It is hard to imagine all of these authors have a definitive [insight into Buffett as an investor](#) or a person. In fact, it is hard to imagine some of them



([BRK-A](#)) [shareholder letters](#) that Buffett writes. That said, there is a lot to be found in those letters, and a few of the books on those shelves hold some truly unique insight.

Advertisement

Advertisement



KEY TAKEAWAYS

- While Warren Buffett himself has never authored a book, many books have been written about him, his investment strategies, and his philosophies.
- Some books about Buffett focus more on his life and achievements, while others focus on replicating his investment style.
- Gaining insight into a great investor like Warren Buffett can be useful to beginning or



A lot of pages are devoted to Buffett, but they are all pulling from similar source material. Choosing which to read comes down to whether you want to learn to invest from the man or learn about the man and the investor. These books probably aren't as satisfying as owning Berkshire [shares](#) has been for the last 45 years, but a lot of knowledge and enjoyment can be found in their pages anyway.



WARREN BUFFETT

The Warren Buffett Way, by Robert G. Hagstrom

If you are looking for investing lessons from the impressive record that Buffett has put together, Hagstrom's book may be all you need. [*The Warren Buffett Way*](#) lays out all the [rules of thumb](#) Buffett uses in his investing and walks the reader through them with case studies out of Buffett's own portfolio.

These include well-known rules like buying businesses you understand and ignoring [Mr. Market](#), as well as some deeper lessons drawn from the real-life investments the Oracle from Omaha has made. It is a great book for investors just starting out and it continues to be a strong read even when you think you know what you're doing. ^[2]

The Essays of Warren Buffett: Lessons For Corporate America, by Warren Buffett & Lawrence Cunningham



to the equivalent of several books—though, if read back-to-back, they suffer for the lack of an editor. Lawrence Cunningham solved that issue, going through the letters and organizing Buffett’s thoughts around topics. ^[3]

He's imposed some editorial voice—possibly a necessary step to tie everything together—but the content is Buffett’s and so is the philosophy. Now in its fifth edition, [*The Essays of Warren Buffett: Lessons For Corporate America*](#) takes on a larger scope than *The Warren Buffett Way* and isn’t solely aimed at the [*individual investor*](#), although you will still learn a lot about investing.

The Warren Buffett CEO, by Robert P. Miles

The Warren Buffett CEO is less about Buffett as an investor and more about him as a manager. The book shows how Buffett selects the [*CEOs*](#) for Berkshire’s



[*The Warren Buffett CEO*](#) isn't an investment manual, but you will learn a lot about great companies and great management, two things every investor needs to keep in mind. More importantly, the book shows a side of Warren Buffett that is often overshadowed by his portfolio performance. Buffett is a great manager *and* a great investor. This is a great book for aspiring managers and business professionals. ^[4]

Dear Mr. Buffett: What an Investor Learns 1,269 Miles from Wall Street, by Janet Tavakoli

This is a [Buffett book](#) that really isn't about Buffett, although he is one of the main characters. Janet Tavakoli is a [structured finance](#) expert whose previous books focused on collateralized debt obligations. She met with Buffett and, following the financial mess of 2009, started to see more value in Buffett's philosophy and value investing methods. ^[5]



some of the insights will be unsettling for investors, particularly the systematic abuses that encouraged the onset of [The Great Recession](#).

The Snowball: Warren Buffett and the Business of Life, by Alice Schroeder, and Buffett, Making of an American Capitalist by Roger Lowenstein

If you read through the Buffett canon and still feel you haven't absorbed enough Buffett, these two Buffett biographies are thorough looks at the life and times of Warren Buffett. [Lowenstein's book](#) slants a bit more to the facts, while [Schroeder's book](#) was written with Buffett's cooperation.

Neither will change your knowledge of the man's [investment strategies](#) other than to emphasize that his approach evolved over time, but they will give you a long look at Buffett's remarkable life and achievements.



Finding the right financial advisor that [fits your needs](#) doesn't have to be hard. SmartAsset's free tool matches you with [fiduciary financial advisors](#) in your area in 5 minutes. Each advisor has been vetted by SmartAsset and is legally bound to act in your best interests. If you're ready to be matched with local advisors that will help you achieve your financial goals, [get started now.](#)

ARTICLE SOURCES ▼

Take the Next Step to Invest

[Advertiser Disclosure](#)



Brokers

Smart Asset

Charles Schwab

Interactive Brokers

Smart Asset

Charles Schwab

IBKR Lite starts at \$0 commissions, no account mir

Get matched with fiduciary financial advisors in your are

\$0 online stock, ETF, and options commissions at Schwab.

Related Articles

INVESTING ESSENTIALS

10 Books Every Investor Should Read

INVESTING ESSENTIALS

The Top 5 Books Every Young Investor Must Read



INVESTING ESSENTIALS

7 Top Finance Books to Gift This Christmas

INVESTING ESSENTIALS

5 Books for Millennials Interested in Investing

WARREN BUFFETT

How did Warren Buffett get started in business?

INVESTING ESSENTIALS

Investing Books It Pays To Read



Partner Links

Related Terms



chairman and CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, who is arguably one of the greatest investors of all time. [more](#)

The Difference Between Berkshire Hathaway's Class A and Class B Shares

Price is the primary difference between Berkshire Hathaway's Class A stock and Class B stock, but there are other distinctions. [more](#)

Benjamin Graham

Benjamin Graham was an influential investor who is regarded as the father of value investing. [more](#)

Mr. Market Definition and History

Mr. Market is an imaginary investor devised by Benjamin Graham and used as an allegory in his 1949 book "The Intelligent Investor." [more](#)

Value Investing: How to Invest Like Warren Buffett



have long-term potential. [more](#)

Larry Ellison

Larry Ellison is the founder of software company Oracle Corporation. He is known for his immense wealth and his trophy properties. [more](#)



[About Us](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Editorial Policy](#)

[California Privacy Notice](#)

[Terms of Use](#)

[Dictionary](#)

[Advertise](#)

[News](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Careers](#)



Investopedia is part of the [Dotdash](#) publishing family.