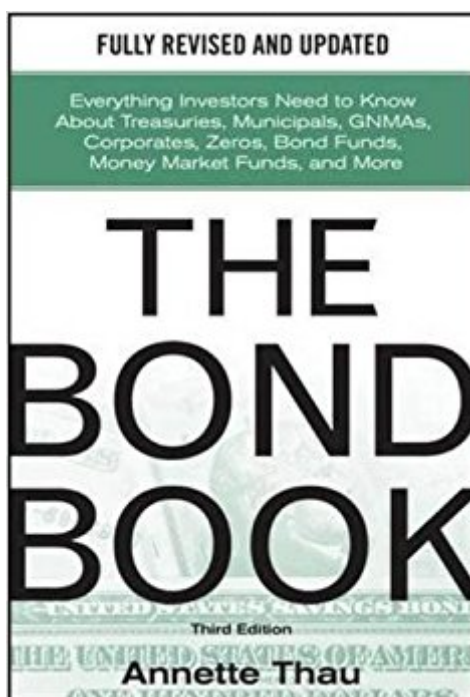


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# **The Bond Book, Third Edition: Everything Investors Need To Know About Treasuries, Municipals, GNMAs, Corporates, Zeros, Bond Funds, Money Market Funds, And More (Professional Finance & Investment)**



## Synopsis

Everything on Treasuries, munis, bond funds, and more! The bond buyer's answer book • updated for the new economy • As in the first two editions, this third edition of *The Bond Book* continues to be the ideal reference for the individual investor. It has all the necessary details, well explained and illustrated without excessive mathematics. In addition to providing this essential content, it is extremely well written. • James B. Cloonan, Chairman, American Association of Individual Investors • Annette Thau makes the bond market interesting, approachable, and clear. As much as investors will continue to depend on fixed-income securities during their retirement years, they'll need an insightful guide that ensures they're appropriately educated and served. *The Bond Book* does just that. • Jeff Tjornejoh, Research Director, U.S. and Canada, Lipper, Thomson Reuters • Not only a practical and easy-to-understand guide for the novice, but also a comprehensive reference for professionals. Annette Thau provides the steps to climb to the top of the bond investment ladder. *The Bond Book* should be a permanent fixture in any investment library! • Thomas J. Herzfeld, President, Thomas Herzfeld Advisors, Inc. • If the financial crisis of recent years has taught us anything, it's buyer beware. Fact is, bonds can be just as risky as stocks. That's why Annette Thau's new edition of *The Bond Book* is essential reading for investors who want to know exactly what's in their portfolios. It also serves as an excellent guide for those of us who are getting older and need to diversify into fixed income. • Jean Gruss, Southwest Florida Editor, Gulf Coast Business Review, and former Managing Editor, Kiplinger's Retirement Report About the Book The financial crisis of 2008 caused major disruptions to every sector of the bond market and left even the savviest investors confused about the safety of their investments. To serve these investors and anyone looking to explore opportunities in fixed-income investing, former bond analyst Annette Thau builds on the features and authority that made the first two editions bestsellers in the thoroughly revised, updated, and expanded third edition of *The Bond Book*. This is a one-stop resource for both seasoned bond investors looking for the latest information on the fixed-income market and equities investors planning to diversify their holdings. Writing in plain English, Thau presents cutting-edge strategies for making the best bond-investing decisions, while explaining how to assess risks and opportunities. She also includes up-to-date listings of online resources with bond prices and other information. Look to this all-in-one guide for information on such critical topics as: Buying individual bonds or bond funds The ins and outs of open-end funds, closed-end funds, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) The new landscape for municipal bonds: the changed rating scales, the near demise of bond insurance, and Build America Bonds (BABs) The safest bond funds Junk bonds (and emerging market bonds) Buying Treasuries

without paying a commission From how bonds work to how to buy and sell them to what to expect from them, The Bond Book, third edition, is a must-read for individual investors and financial advisers who want to enhance the fixed-income allocation of their portfolios.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Annette Thau is a former municipal bond analyst for the Chase Manhattan Bank and a visiting scholar at the Columbia University Graduate School of Business. She has written many articles for the AAI Journal and lectured to groups nationwide. In November 2009, she was a featured speaker at the national meeting of the American Association of Individual Investors.

I bought this book because I was interested in buying municipal bonds. I expected this book to push aggressively bonds over stocks, but instead it very concisely explains when and when NOT to buy bonds - I got a lot more than I bargained for, in a good way. After you read this book you will know: What each kind of bond is and how to evaluate them How to allocate your portfolio based on your varying time horizons You don't even need to read the whole book to benefit - she points out clearly which sections are necessary, and which are optional Highly recommended

This book covers a wide range of introductory topics to bonds and does a decent job explaining how to select bonds in their respective categories. However, I found the more important concepts to be lacking, especially when math is involved. Thau seems to avoid incorporating formulas in this book,

which makes it harder for me to grasp the intuition between how bonds are priced, their relation to interest rates, and other concepts such as zero coupon bonds. For example, Thau completely skips the math behind Yield to Maturity and just incorporates the qualitative factors behind it. By talking only about the effects of the math and not the math itself, Thau forces you to memorize the relationships between various aspects of the bonds, which can become convoluted. However, for the non-math oriented investors, this book is very helpful and offers a great deal of insight into bond selection.

The book clearly illustrated everything you need to know about almost all kinds of bonds. Perfect for me as a business students and as a supplement for my bond classes. The good thing is, this book not only contains technical parts such as some calculations and equations, but it also has some "street knowledge" about buying and selling a bond, like how the dealer will charge you a higher price and how you can avoid being charged extra by being informed. The only thing I think it can improve is, the book kind of goes over some concepts fast, so if you don't have any finance class before you will need some extra search online or ask someone if you want to keep 100% pace with this book. But so long as you have some preliminary finance class you won't have any problem reading. Enjoyable read.

yes... this is the most thorough explanation of everything you need to know to buy bonds. bond-buyers need this information.

Full of useful information that will save you money! Explains the bond universe in easy-to-understand language. Don't pass this up!

Very useful, clear. Great to have a full understanding of the bond market bottoms up. I am a beginner and wanted a comprehensive guide. I have the 2010 edition, and a few things have evolved since then, especially the availability of online data of the bond market. But in essence all the content in the book is valid and helped me to make informed decisions about how to keep and grow my savings, understand the risk, know more about the reasons for the changes in the market, etc.

While bond investing is not an "edge of the seat" topic, this book has been a very valuable addition to my Kindle library. It is far more than a general overview into the bond market, plus gives you

great direction to other resources. After reading it cover to cover, I now find myself constantly referring back to it. There is so much misinformation in the media lately regarding the bond market - the content in this book will give you the firm foundation you need to weed through it all. This book has prevented me from making some big mistakes - and I have to echo all the strong recommendations. If you need to buy one book on the bond market - buy this one. The book is surprisingly readable and is very well organized for later use as a reference.

Now that I'm in my 60s, I'm looking at using bonds to conserve capital. Although I've invested in equities for over 40 years, my REAL knowledge of bonds was limited to remembering how to calculate YTM from a college accounting class. Thau demystifies bonds and provides a working knowledge of how to select and deploy all types of fixed income securities including munis, treasuries, agencies, and corporates. She provides the knowledge brokers don't like to disseminate. Five star job!

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