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*Personal Finance Writing Sample*  
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# How to Get Rich: Three Historically-Proven Ways

Wondering how to get rich? If you think the only way is to win the lottery, think again. And if you think the only other way is to scam people, I've got news for you: you're wrong.

There are three basic ways to get rich, proven throughout history. Hundreds of thousands of people have built wealth in these arenas and have created family legacies.

In this article, let's look at these three main areas of wealth creation. Within these three areas are an infinite variety of ways to get rich and build wealth. You'll have no problem finding something interesting that matches your personality.

Important point: get educated on anything you're reading about here. It's your responsibility to know what your precious time, attention, and money are getting into.

Don't take blind risks. Take calculated risks based on education and risk tolerance.

And don't try to get clever. There's no need to reinvent the wheel. Follow the success of others and do what they did.

Here they are in no particular order:

## 1. Investing

Pretty much all real wealth creation comes down to investing of some sort. Investing in yourself and others, investing in real estate, investing in your business...

What I'm talking about here though, is investing in the financial markets. This can include putting money into stocks, bonds, funds, ETFs, currencies, commodities, etc.



Say the word “investing” however, and most people first think of the stock market. It’s the easiest way to get started investing. And in [Money: Master the Game](#), author Tony Robbins states that the stock market has been the best long-term investment over the past 100 years.<sup>1</sup>

You can get started in stock investing through your employer’s 401(k) plan. Don’t have access to a 401(k)? Open your own retirement account through an online broker like [TD Ameritrade](#) or [Vanguard](#).

And, ahem, you probably won’t get rich by staying an employee. Just sayin’...

Famous investors include Carl Icahn, William O’Neil (founder of Investor’s Business Daily) and the most famous of all, Warren Buffett.

## 2. Real Estate

Real Estate investing is the buying, owning, managing, renting, and/or selling of real estate for profit and wealth building. It can be land, homes, apartment buildings, or commercial buildings among other assets.



Some popular methods of real estate investing are:

- Rental Properties (to collect rental cash flow or to build assets by paying off mortgages with the rent payments)
- “Flipping” (buying homes, fixing them up, and quickly selling them for a profit)
- REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts, a type of real estate fund that trades on the stock market. You can collect rental payments in the form of dividends, and you don’t have to fix toilets in the middle of the night!)

Many find real estate investing attractive because of the various tax advantages and the ability to use [leverage](#).

Famous real estate moguls include Donald Trump, Robert Kiyosaki, Gary Keller (Founder of Keller Williams Realty), and McDonald’s (yes, the golden arches).

### 3. Business

I find business the most fascinating of the three areas. There are soooo many interesting and inspiring stories of entrepreneurs, companies, and products.

You don't have to be the next Steve Jobs or Elon Musk to have a successful business, either.

Most businesses are small. You can even start with just a laptop and an internet connection. The only limitation is your imagination.



So do you have the itch to form your own business but aren't sure where to start?

*Solve a problem.*

Ask people about what frustrates them, what causes them pain, or what they dream about or desire. Then create a way to fill that need, to solve that problem. It can be a product, service, or information.

Bonus points: you'll get more fulfillment and joy if your business helps people you like in an area that you love.

Besides Steve and Elon, other famous entrepreneurs include Thomas Edison, Richard Branson, and Sara Blakely (inventor of Spanx undergarments).

## Conclusion

So there you have it: the three historically-proven ways to get rich and build long-lasting wealth. Absolutely no need to play the lottery or worse, scam people.

If you've been wondering how to get rich, pick one area above that's the most interesting and get started by learning and investing in yourself. Find mentors you can trust and follow their advice. Surround yourself with people that have done what you want to do. Then take action on your dreams.

Repeat until rich.

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<sup>1</sup> "Chapter 2.1: Myth 1: The \$13T Lie: 'Invest With Us. We'll Beat The Market!'" Money: Master The Game: 7 Simple Steps To Financial Freedom, by Anthony Robbins, Simon & Schuster, 2016, p. 93

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