Target-Date Funds

Three gauges labeled Financial Needs, Risk Tolerance, and Priorities appear on the screen. The labels pulse larger and smaller. Narrator: "As an investor, your financial needs, risk tolerance, and priorities are likely to evolve over time. That means your portfolio strategy may need to change over the years as well -- even if only in small steps."

Different time periods stream across the screen, ranging from 10 years to 40 years, then the words Target-Date Funds appear. Narrator: "But how do you keep your portfolio on track and risk-appropriate throughout the years leading to retirement? One simple way is by investing in target-date funds. Here's how they work..."

Pie charts appear above different dates, ranging from 2030 to 2045. Each pie chart is divided differently. Narrator: "Simply choose a fund with a date in its name that matches the approximate date you plan to start withdrawing your money. Investment selection and rebalancing is done for you automatically."

The scene changes to a golf course. A golf ball rolls toward a flagged hole and goes in. Narrator: "Each fund follows what's known as a glidepath."

A golf ball rolls down an inclined ramp labeled Risk toward a flag labeled Retirement Date, passing labels that indicate 40, 30, 20, and 10 years to retirement. Narrator: "The glidepath determines the change in asset allocation over time, from a more aggressive allocation when you're young to a more conservative allocation as you approach retirement."

The golf ball transforms to a bar chart, with different colored bars moving up and down.

Narrator: "But target-date funds should not be seen as a set-it-and-forget-it solution. You'll still want to monitor fund holdings to make sure they accurately reflect your changing priorities and risk profile."

The scene changes to a person driving a golf cart. A box labeled Target-Date Fund 2040 drops into the back of the cart. The cart then passes a man pointing to a sign that says Investment Portfolio. Narrator: "Keep in mind that target-date funds are normally used as the primary -- or single -- holding in a retirement portfolio. So make sure to give careful thought when mixing a target-date fund with other investments."

The words of the narrator appear on the screen. Narrator: "Finally, remember that target-date funds are not guaranteed to reach any specific value by their target date, and may decline in value. Principal is not guaranteed at any time, including the target date."

The final screen appears, which reads, It's your future. Start planning today.

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