



# ***CRYPTOCURRENCY & BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY***

*Capital protected strategy  
in digital assets*



*Crypto & Blockchain Leaders*

**JUNE 2025**

DISCLAIMER: WHOLESAL, PROFESSIONAL OR SOPHISTICATED INVESTORS ONLY

### STRATEGY FEATURES

**Term**  
24 Months

**Upside Capture**  
**4.40x upside**  
from +22.7%

**Maximum Return**

**Max Downside**  
-22.7%

**Ideal for Investors seeking to participate in potential market rallies without exposing themselves to unlimited downside risk, especially those concerned about volatility and sharp market corrections.**

#### Strategy Overview

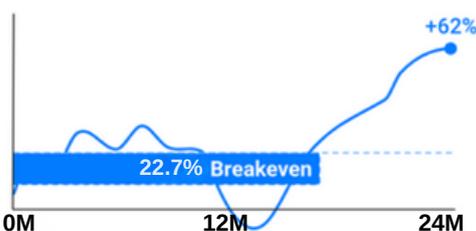
This investment structure is designed for investors who are concerned about the risk and market volatility involved with Cryptocurrencies and Blockchain technology investments, but still want the opportunity to benefit from strong performance. It offers a capped downside—**meaning your maximum loss is limited to your initial investment**—while providing leveraged exposure to the upside if the reference asset performs well.

#### Why Consider This Investment?

- Risk Mitigation: You know your maximum possible loss up front, which helps manage anxiety about market downturns.
- Enhanced Upside: In strong markets, you capture much larger gains than a traditional investment of the same size, thanks to the leveraged exposure.
- Simplicity: No need to manage margin or worry about additional capital calls. Your risk is fully defined at the outset.

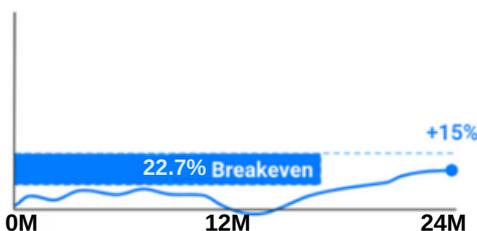
#### Scenarios: Examples of a \$22,700.00 Investment (\$100k notional exposure)

**Scenario 1: Strong Performance**  
The reference asset is up 62% at maturity  
**+173.12% ROI**



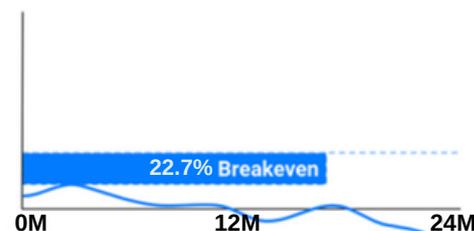
- \$22.7k cash outlay provides \$100k of notional exposure
- Worst of basket is up 62% at maturity
- Investor receives = **\$62.00K**  
(\$100k x 62.00%)

**Scenario 2: Weak Performance**  
The reference asset is up 15% at maturity  
**-33.92% ROI**



- \$22.7k cash outlay provides \$100k of notional exposure
- Worst of basket is up 15% at maturity
- Investor receives = **\$15.00K**  
(\$100k x 15.00%)

**Scenario 3: Negative Performance**  
The reference asset is down 10% at maturity  
**-100.00% ROI**



- \$22.7k cash outlay provides \$100k of notional exposure
- Worst of basket is up 15% at maturity
- Investor receives = **\$0**  
(\$100k x 0%)

#### Key Features

- Maximum Downside is Capped: The worst-case scenario is that you lose your initial investment (in this case, \$22,700). No matter how poorly the reference asset performs, you cannot lose more than this amount. This is a crucial feature for risk-averse investors.
- Leveraged Upside Potential: Your \$22,700 investment gives you \$100,000 of notional exposure to the reference asset. This means that if the asset performs well, your returns are amplified compared to a direct investment of the same amount.

### CRYPTO AND BLOCKCHAIN AS AN ASSET CLASS

#### The Emergence of Crypto and Blockchain as an Asset Class

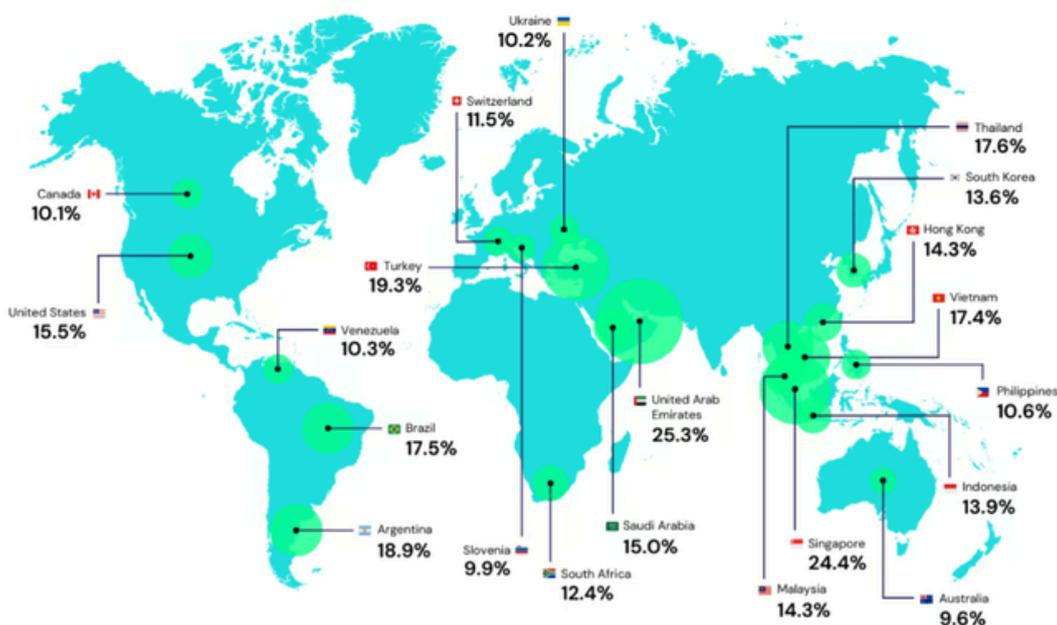
In the past fifteen years, cryptocurrency—led by Bitcoin—and blockchain technology have transformed the global financial landscape. What began as speculative experiments are now recognized as credible, disruptive forces in mainstream markets. For new investors, understanding these innovations is crucial to making informed decisions in this dynamic sector.

Bitcoin, the first cryptocurrency, has matured from a digital curiosity into a recognized asset class. Its fixed supply, resistance to inflation, and independence from central authorities have earned it the reputation of “digital gold.” Unlike traditional assets, Bitcoin is not tied to any government, making it a potential hedge against monetary instability and a valuable diversification tool. Its low correlation with stocks and bonds means that including Bitcoin in a portfolio can enhance risk-adjusted returns, though its volatility and evolving regulations require careful risk management.

The legitimacy of cryptocurrencies has been strengthened by regulated investment vehicles like Bitcoin ETFs and growing institutional participation. These developments have increased accessibility and acceptance, moving digital assets into the financial mainstream.

Alongside cryptocurrencies, blockchain technology—the decentralized ledger behind digital assets—has emerged as a transformative force in finance. Blockchain’s secure, transparent, and efficient transaction recording is revolutionizing payments, settlements, and asset management. Its benefits include enhanced security, lower operational costs, and improved transparency, prompting widespread adoption by major financial institutions.

Global Distribution of Cryptocurrency Ownership, 2024



“Do you believe in the long-term value of crypto/digital assets based on the recent market activity this past year?”

Scale	I do not	Yes, crypto but think blockchain is limited	Yes, blockchain technology only	Yes, blockchain and crypto/digital assets
All respondents	6%	8%	29%	57%
Asset owners	11%	12%	35%	42%
Family offices/RIAs/ wealth managers	4%	8%	29%	59%
Traditional hedge funds	12%	9%	22%	57%
Institutional asset managers	4%	5%	26%	65%

## HISTORY - BITCOIN AS A STORE OF VALUE

### Bitcoin's Evolution: From Experiment to Asset Class

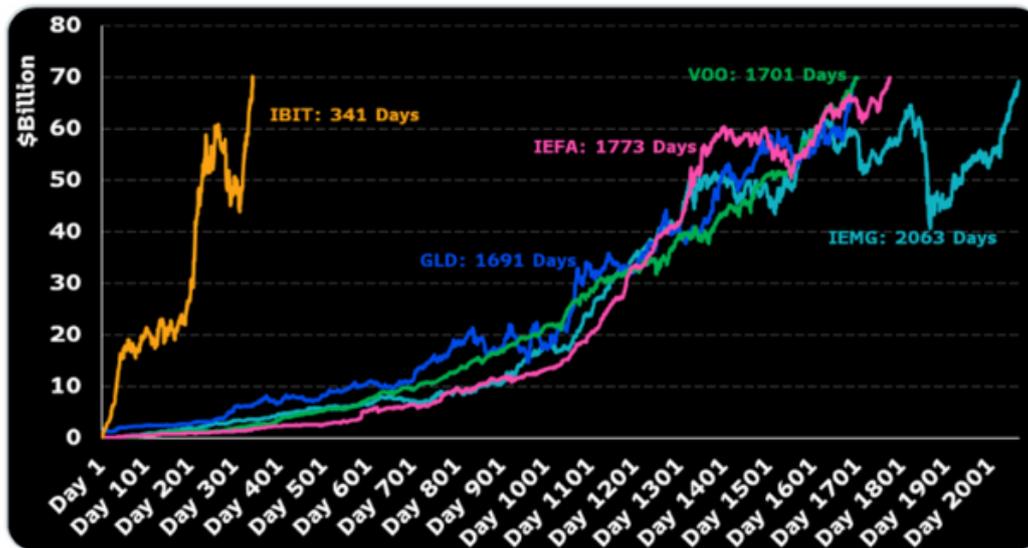
Bitcoin, launched in 2009 by Satoshi Nakamoto, has matured from a niche digital currency experiment into a globally recognized asset class. Its survival through cycles of hype and skepticism, and its adoption by both retail and institutional investors, have driven this transformation.

### Mainstream Recognition and Institutional Adoption

Initially tied to online black markets and early adopters, Bitcoin's reputation shifted as regulatory frameworks emerged and investment products like Bitcoin futures and spot ETFs gained approval. These milestones enabled institutional investment, with corporations allocating treasury reserves to Bitcoin and asset managers recommending it for diversification.

### Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies qualify as a new asset class due to several unique traits:

- **Store of Value:** Bitcoin's capped supply, inflation resistance, and independence from governments have earned it the moniker "digital gold," making it attractive as a hedge, similar to precious metals<sup>1</sup>.
- **Decentralization:** The network's global, peer-to-peer architecture resists censorship and centralized control.
- **Low Correlation:** Bitcoin's price movements are generally uncorrelated with traditional assets like stocks, bonds, and real estate, offering portfolio diversification<sup>2</sup>.
- **Liquidity and Accessibility:** Regulated investment vehicles and global adoption have improved Bitcoin's liquidity and accessibility for a broad range of investors.



*The world's largest fund manager Blackrock launched a Bitcoin ETF which has had the quickest rise to record inflows in history*

### Adoption and Regulatory Progress

The approval of spot Bitcoin ETFs and growing regulatory clarity have made Bitcoin more accessible to mainstream investors. Some countries have adopted Bitcoin as legal tender, and more corporations now accept it for payments, further integrating it into the global financial system.

***Bitcoin's Role in Modern Portfolios is one of a store-of-value appeal, diversification benefits, and growing integration into traditional finance solidify its role in contemporary investment strategies. As regulation and adoption continue to advance, Bitcoin's status as an asset class is set to become even more established.***

## BITCOIN AS A STORE OF VALUE

### Central Bank Money Printing and burgeoning debt - Why Bitcoin Is “Digital Gold” and a Store of Value

Bitcoin has earned the moniker “digital gold” because it mirrors—and in some ways improves upon—the core attributes that have made gold a trusted store of value for centuries. This reputation is especially relevant in an era when central banks are aggressively increasing the M2 money supply, a process often referred to as “printing money.”

### Scarcity in a World of Expanding Money Supply

Unlike fiat currencies, which can be created in unlimited quantities by central banks, **Bitcoin's total supply is capped at 21 million coins.** This built-in scarcity is fundamental to its value proposition. When central banks expand the M2 money supply—which includes cash, checking, savings, and other near-money assets—they increase the amount of money chasing the same pool of goods and services, leading to inflation and a reduction in the purchasing power of each unit of currency.

Gold has long served as a hedge against inflation because its supply grows only slowly and cannot be manipulated by governments. Bitcoin takes this a step further: its supply is strictly limited and enforced by a decentralized blockchain protocol, making it immune to the inflationary pressures that erode fiat currencies when central banks print money.



### Empirical Evidence: Bitcoin's Performance During M2 Expansions

Periods of rapid M2 growth have often coincided with surges in Bitcoin's price. For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, a massive expansion of M2 was accompanied by a dramatic rise in Bitcoin's value, as investors sought protection from anticipated inflation and currency devaluation. Many analysts have observed that increases in M2 tend to precede Bitcoin price rallies, reinforcing the perception of Bitcoin as a hedge against fiat debasement.

### Decentralization and Independence from Central Banks

Bitcoin operates on a decentralized network, meaning no central authority—government or central bank—can alter its supply or monetary policy. This stands in stark contrast to fiat currencies, whose value and supply are subject to political and economic decisions. As central banks engage in quantitative easing or stimulus, expanding M2 to spur economic growth or respond to crises, the risk of currency debasement grows. Bitcoin's independence from these systems makes it attractive to investors seeking a safe haven from policy-driven inflation.

### BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

#### Blockchain's Rise: Transforming the Financial System

Blockchain technology has moved beyond its origins in cryptocurrencies to become a crucial part of modern finance. Over the last decade, its practical applications have gained traction, with major institutions and regulators adopting blockchain to improve efficiency, transparency, and innovation in banking, asset management, and payments.

#### Core Benefits: Efficiency, Security, and Transparency

Blockchain is a decentralized, tamper-resistant ledger that records transactions across a distributed network. This structure provides several key benefits for finance:

- **Enhanced security:** Immutable records and cryptography make data tampering and fraud more difficult.
- **Operational efficiency:** Automated processes and reduced reliance on intermediaries streamline payments and compliance, cutting costs and settlement times.
- **Transparency:** Every transaction is visible to authorized users, creating an auditable trail for oversight.

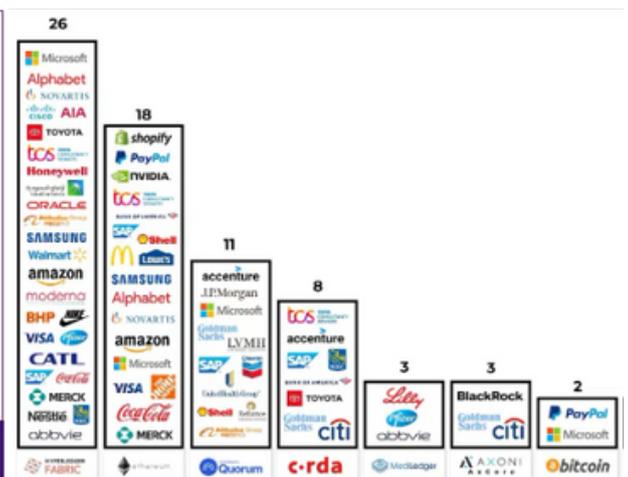
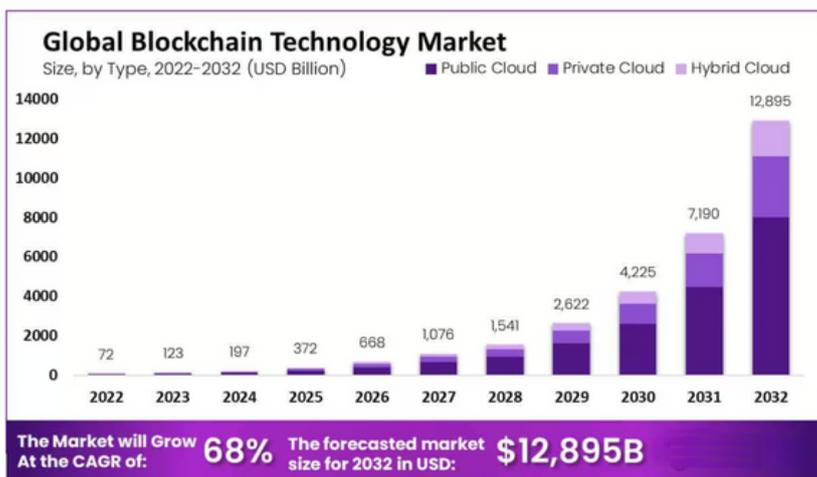
Financial institutions are actively testing and deploying blockchain for cross-border payments, trade finance, and compliance.

#### Tokenization and Smart Contracts

Blockchain allows real-world assets like bonds, equities, and real estate to be digitally represented and traded, making them more accessible and reducing costs. Smart contracts—self-executing agreements on the blockchain—enable automated financial transactions, minimizing manual work and errors.

#### Institutional Adoption

Institutional use of blockchain is accelerating, with major players launching projects for payments, asset management, and settlement. Improved infrastructure and clearer regulatory frameworks are supporting broader integration.



#### The Path Forward

Realizing blockchain's potential will require ongoing investment, collaboration, and engagement with regulators. Financial institutions are partnering with technology firms to pilot new solutions, while regulators work to balance innovation and consumer protection.

#### Conclusion

Blockchain is becoming a foundational technology for finance, enhancing security, reducing costs, and enabling new products. While challenges persist, its role as a core infrastructure for the global financial system is growing, promising continued innovation and efficiency.

### BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

Blockchain technology is fundamentally transforming industries by introducing new levels of transparency, security, and efficiency, as depicted in the graphic. In the legal sector, smart contracts stored on blockchains automate the tracking of contract parties, terms, and ownership, enabling the delivery of goods or services without the need for legal intervention. Supply chains benefit from distributed ledgers that provide real-time transparency into shipment tracking and deliveries, even when trust between suppliers is limited. Governments are leveraging blockchain to securely store and manage sensitive data such as personal identities, criminal backgrounds, and e-citizenship, often authorized by biometrics, which enhances both privacy and security.



## WHY BTC/ETH/SOL?

### Investment Case: Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Solana as a Strategic Crypto Basket

A diversified allocation to Bitcoin (BTC), Ethereum (ETH), and Solana (SOL) offers exposure to the core value propositions of the digital asset space: robust store of value, foundational blockchain infrastructure, and next-generation scalability. Here's why this trio forms a compelling investment basket:

#### Bitcoin (BTC): Digital Gold and Store of Value

- Bitcoin is widely regarded as “digital gold” due to its fixed supply (21 million coins), decentralized architecture, and growing global adoption.
- Its scarcity, durability, portability, and verifiability make it an attractive hedge against inflation and fiat currency debasement, similar to gold but with the added benefits of digital transferability and security.
- Bitcoin's market dominance, institutional adoption, and increasing use as a reserve asset by both companies and nations reinforce its status as the crypto sector's premier store of value and a “safe haven” asset within the digital economy.

#### Ethereum (ETH): The Leading Smart Contract Blockchain

- Ethereum is the most established smart contract platform, serving as the backbone for decentralized finance (DeFi), NFTs, and a wide range of blockchain-based application.
- The network's ongoing upgrades (such as the 2025 Pectra upgrade) have improved scalability and staking flexibility, supporting its long-term resilience and relevance.
- Ethereum's ecosystem is unmatched in developer activity, total value locked, and institutional interest (including the approval of spot ETFs), making it a foundational asset for those seeking exposure to the growth of blockchain technology and decentralized applications.

#### Solana (SOL): High-Performance Blockchain for the Next Wave of Adoption

- Solana is engineered for speed and low transaction costs, handling thousands of transactions per second with negligible fees—ideal for consumer-facing apps, DeFi, and gaming.
- Its robust economic model, thriving developer ecosystem, and technological innovations (such as the Firedancer implementation) position Solana as a leader in scalable blockchain infrastructure.
- Solana's resilience during periods of high network activity, growing institutional interest, and higher staking yields (compared to Ethereum) make it a high-beta play on blockchain adoption and an attractive complement to Ethereum in a diversified portfolio.

Asset	Core Role	Strengths
Bitcoin	Store of Value	Scarcity, decentralization, inflation hedge, institutional adoption, “digital gold” status
Ethereum	Blockchain Infrastructure	Largest smart contract ecosystem, DeFi/NFTs, ongoing upgrades, institutional access (ETFs)
Solana	High-Performance Blockchain	Speed, low fees, developer growth, scalability, high staking yields, resilience under stress

### STRUCTURED INVESTMENT

#### ENHANCED GROWTH

An enhanced growth strategy in crypto & blockchain technology leverages the most upside with minimal risk



#### Risk profile - Where do structured Investments fit in a portfolio?

##### Protection

**Help Reduce Risk**

Reposition a portion of equity exposure

- Reduce downside risk
- Maintain a level of equity upside

##### Growth

**Help Increase Returns**

Reposition a portion of a balanced portfolio

- Maintain upside potential
- Establish downside protection

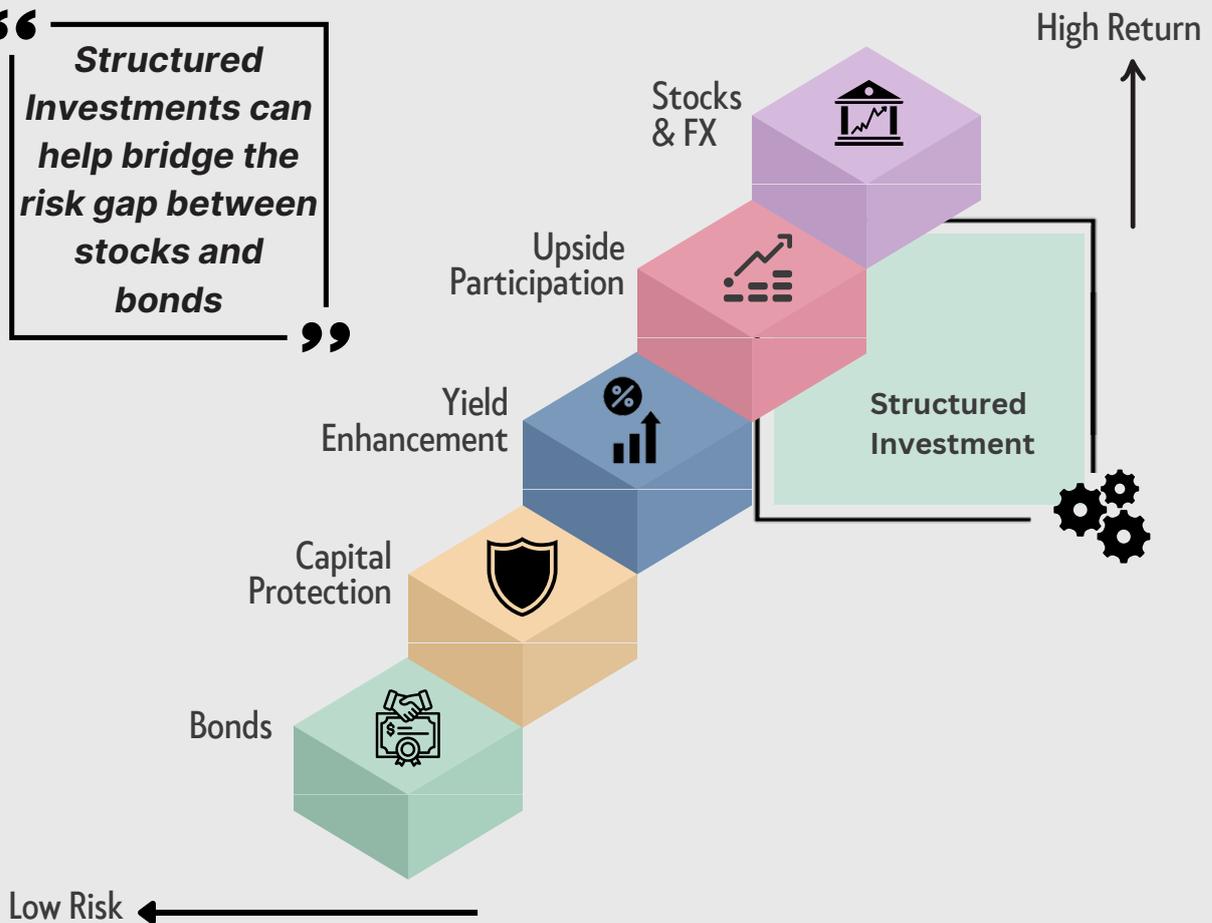
##### Income

**Shift out of cash**

Reposition a portion of cash off the sidelines

- Increase yield
- Preserve risk targets

“  
**Structured Investments can help bridge the risk gap between stocks and bonds**  
 ”



# About Structured Investments

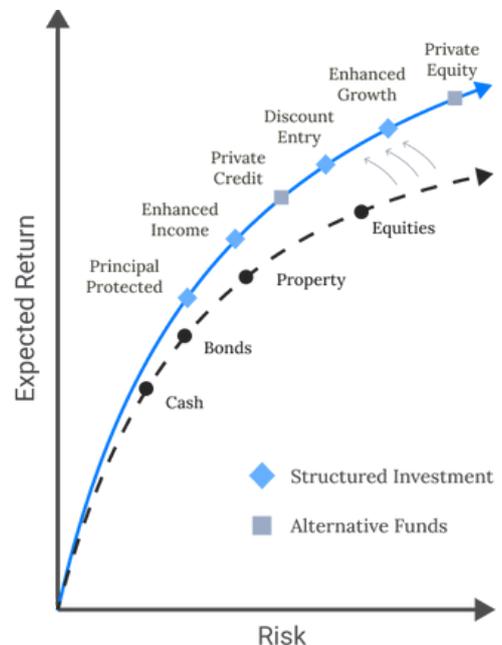
## What are Structured Investments?

Structured investments represent a fusion of financial derivatives and traditional assets. These investments are issued by most major banks, including Goldman Sachs, Morgan Stanley, BNP Paribas and Citi, amongst others.

Clients utilise structured investments to meet specific investment objectives, whether it be capital protection, enhancing income or capitalise on a growth view. The strategies can be linked to the performance of various underlying assets, including equities, commodities, bonds, funds and ETFs - and can be designed in any major currency.

The ability to tailor a structured investment around an investor's objective and asset class, can achieve better risk adjusted returns.

## How *Structured Investments* fit in a portfolio <sup>1</sup>



## Key Benefits of Structured Investments: <sup>2</sup>

01

Ability to generate greater certainty of returns and navigate volatile market cycles.



02

Ability to highly curate a product around an investor's objective, asset class, currency and time horizon.



03

Potential for better risk-adjusted returns than a direct investment into an asset class.

## Insights on the global structured investment market

>\$7Tn <sup>3</sup>

Structured notes are more than an estimated \$7 trillion dollar market globally.

+68% <sup>4</sup>

Year on year growth in the U.S. in 2023, reaching an estimated \$130 billion.

>33% <sup>4</sup>

CAIS-Mercer (2023) survey, reveal one-third of advisers currently allocate to Structured notes

1. Stropo. For illustrative purposes only. This illustration does not take into consideration a client's specific investment objectives, risk tolerance, or financial situation.

2. Structured Investments have complex features and may not be suitable for all investors. Investments made available on the Stropo platform are only available to wholesale, sophisticated or professional investors and their financial advisers.

3. Bloomberg, 2019 <https://www.bloomberg.com/professional/insights/markets/sure-time-to-grasp-the-potential-of-structured-products/>

4. Mercer & CAIS (2023). The State of Alternative Investments in Wealth Management.

# Glossary



**Bitcoin (BTC):** The first and most recognized cryptocurrency, known as “digital gold.” Bitcoin is valued for its fixed supply (21 million coins), decentralization, and independence from governments. It is widely used as a store of value and a hedge against inflation and monetary instability.

**Blockchain:** A decentralized, tamper-resistant digital ledger that records transactions across a distributed network. Blockchain enhances security, transparency, and efficiency in financial systems and underpins all cryptocurrencies.

**Capital Protected Strategy:** An investment approach where the maximum possible loss is limited to the initial investment amount, while allowing for leveraged exposure to potential market gains. This strategy is designed for investors seeking upside participation in volatile assets like cryptocurrencies without risking more than their original outlay.

**Decentralization:** A structural feature of blockchain networks where control and validation are distributed across many participants, rather than being managed by a central authority. This increases resistance to censorship, manipulation, and single points of failure.

**Ethereum (ETH):**

A leading smart contract blockchain platform, serving as the foundation for decentralized finance (DeFi), NFTs, and other blockchain-based applications. Ethereum is known for its robust developer ecosystem and ongoing upgrades.

**Fiat Currency:** Traditional government-issued currency (such as USD, EUR, AUD) that is not backed by a physical commodity. Fiat currencies can be created in unlimited quantities by central banks, making them susceptible to inflation.

**M2 Money Supply:** A measure of the total money supply within an economy, including cash, checking, savings, and other near-money assets. Expansions in M2 are associated with inflation and can drive demand for scarce assets like Bitcoin.

**Notional Exposure:** The total value of assets to which an investor is exposed through a leveraged or derivative position, as opposed to the actual cash outlay. For example, a \$22,700 investment might provide \$100,000 of notional exposure to a crypto basket.

**Smart Contract:** A self-executing program stored on a blockchain that automatically enforces the terms of an agreement or transaction when predefined conditions are met. Smart contracts are central to Ethereum’s utility in DeFi and other applications.

**Solana (SOL):** A high-performance blockchain designed for speed and low transaction costs, supporting thousands of transactions per second. Solana is positioned as a scalable infrastructure for consumer-facing apps, DeFi, and gaming, and is noted for its resilience and developer ecosystem.

**Store of Value:** An asset that maintains its value over time and can be reliably saved, retrieved, and exchanged in the future. Bitcoin is considered a digital store of value due to its scarcity, durability, and resistance to inflation.

**Structured Investment:** A financial product combining traditional assets and derivatives, tailored to meet specific investment objectives such as capital protection, enhanced yield, or leveraged growth. Structured investments can be linked to various underlying assets, including cryptocurrencies, and are often used to manage risk and optimize returns.

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