

Compound Interest

Finite Math

15 February 2017

Quiz

If P dollars is invested in a savings account with an annual simple interest rate r , how much is in the account after t years?

$$A = ???$$

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- 5 Add the interest to the final day's balance as found in (1).

Now You Try It!

Example

A credit card has an annual interest rate of 19.99% and interest is calculated using the average daily balance method. If the starting balance of a 28-day billing cycle is \$696.21 and purchases of \$25.59, \$19.95, and \$97.26 are posted on days 6, 13, and 25, respectively, and a payment of \$140 is credited on day 8, what will be the balance on the card at the start of the next billing cycle?

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Solution

\$708.92

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Suppose \$5,000 is invested at 12%, compounded quarterly. How much is the investment worth after 1 year?

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Alternately, one can reinterpret this formula as a function of time as

$$A = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{m} \right)^{mt}$$

where A , P , r , and m have the same meanings as above and t is the time in years.

Compound Interest

Example

If \$1,000 is invested at 6% interest compounded (a) annually, (b) semiannually, (c) quarterly, (d) monthly, what is the value of the investment after 8 years? Round answers to the nearest cent.

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Example

If \$2,000 is invested at 7% compounded (a) annually, (b) quarterly, (c) monthly, what is the amount after 5 years? How much interest is accrued in each case? Round answers to the nearest cent.

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Solution

- (a) \$2805.10 with \$805.10 in interest.
- (b) \$2829.56 with \$829.56 in interest.
- (c) \$2835.25 with \$835.25 in interest.

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Compounding interest continuously gives the absolute largest amount of interest that can be accumulated in the time period t .