



# MoneyReady Workbook

Ready – for a better financial plan

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## **The MoneyReady Workbook**

The MoneyReady workbook is a companion to the MoneyReady Program.

The videos in the Program provide essential background for each topic. Watch each video, read through the information in the corresponding Workbook topic and record your notes.

## **About the MoneyReady Program**

The MoneyReady Program will help you think through your financial needs for retirement.

Short videos give an overview of 5 key retirement topics, before you unpack what they mean for you financially. You'll also learn some important tips for creating a retirement you'll really enjoy. The Program is concise, and you can use the references at the end of each topic to find out more.

If you're seeing a financial planner, the MoneyReady Program will alert you to important issues you need to have thought about, so you're ready for tailored advice that's the best fit for you.

## **Disclaimer**

The information in this Workbook is provided as educational material, and is intended to be used as a guide only.

Any recommendations made are general in nature and do not take into account specific needs and circumstances. You should assess your own situation and may wish to seek professional advice before you make any changes to your financial or other arrangements.

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# GETTING THE TIMING RIGHT – WHEN TO RETIRE



## KEY IDEAS

There is no set retirement age in Australia, but there are set ages when you can withdraw your Super and claim the Age Pension. The average retirement age has increased by 2 years in the last decade, but many people still retire sooner than they expect.

*The average retirement age in the last 5 years was 62.1 years for women and 63.6 years for men\*.*

Many people think that they will retire when they are financially secure, but people also retire for reasons like\* –

- Being unable to find work
- Poor health
- To care for a loved one
- Being tired of the demands of work.

\*Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia, July 2016 to June 2017

Some people reduce their work hours as they approach retirement. This is called a **Transition To Retirement Strategy (TTR)**. This can help you cope with the demands of work, maintain your income while reducing your work hours or top up your Super.



## ISSUES TO CONSIDER

Consider the following as you think about when you might retire –

- ✓ **Your Health** – How is your health, and how are you finding the demands of work? Are there parts of your job that will get more difficult as you age? (including, for example, the commute to work)
- ✓ **Your Finances** – How much money do you need to have when you retire? How will you know when you are financially ready to retire?
- ✓ **Your Partner** – If you have a partner, when will they retire? How will this affect the timing of your retirement?

## QUESTIONS TO ASK

1. Would you like to set a date for your retirement and work towards the necessary financial goals?

2. Would you like to review your Super contributions and/or investments to see whether you may be able to retire sooner?

3. Do you plan to reduce your work hours in the lead up to retirement? Would you like to consider a Transition To Retirement Strategy?

4. Is there any advice or information you need to help you think through when you might retire?

## FIND OUT MORE

Find out more about when you can withdraw your Super at

[www.moneysmart.gov.au/superannuation-and-retirement/how-super-works/getting-your-super](http://www.moneysmart.gov.au/superannuation-and-retirement/how-super-works/getting-your-super)

Find out more about when you can access the Age Pension at

[www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/age-pension](http://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/age-pension)