

The Split Annuity Checklist

Once you decide that a split annuity is right for you, there are a number of factors you should consider in evaluating the specific annuities you will purchase. These include:

Fees and Expenses	The annuity fees and expenses an insurance company charges can include: Premium charges deducted when premiums are paid; An annual maintenance fee (e.g., \$30); Mortality or insurance charges for death benefit features; and/or Surrender charges assessed if the annuity is surrendered or Carefully evaluate fees and expenses, since they will impact the annuity income you receive from the immediate annuity and the amount of money that ultimately accumulates in the deferred annuity.
Insurance Company Ratings	Since an annuity is an insurance contract, you need to be able to count on the financial strength and claims-paying ability of the insurance company from which you purchase an annuity. Ask for company rating information from respected sources, such as A.M. Best, Moody's or Standard & Poor's, before purchasing an annuity.
Annuity Features	Make sure you understand the terms and limitations of each annuity contract before making a purchase, including: The immediate annuity income amount and frequency guaranteed by the contract; any right to terminate the immediate annuity within a specific time period and receive the value of the undistributed annuity the deferred annuity withdrawal and surrender options; how the death benefit is determined and paid; the income payout options available in the deferred

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