

Gradient Laddered Income Series

A diversified bond portfolio utilizing
the laddered strategy

The information herein is for informational purposes only and should not be used as the sole basis for making an investment decision. Investing involves risk including the potential loss of principal. Please consult your independent investment advisor before making any investment decisions.



UNDERSTANDING BOND LADDERS

A bond ladder is an investment strategy based on a simple concept

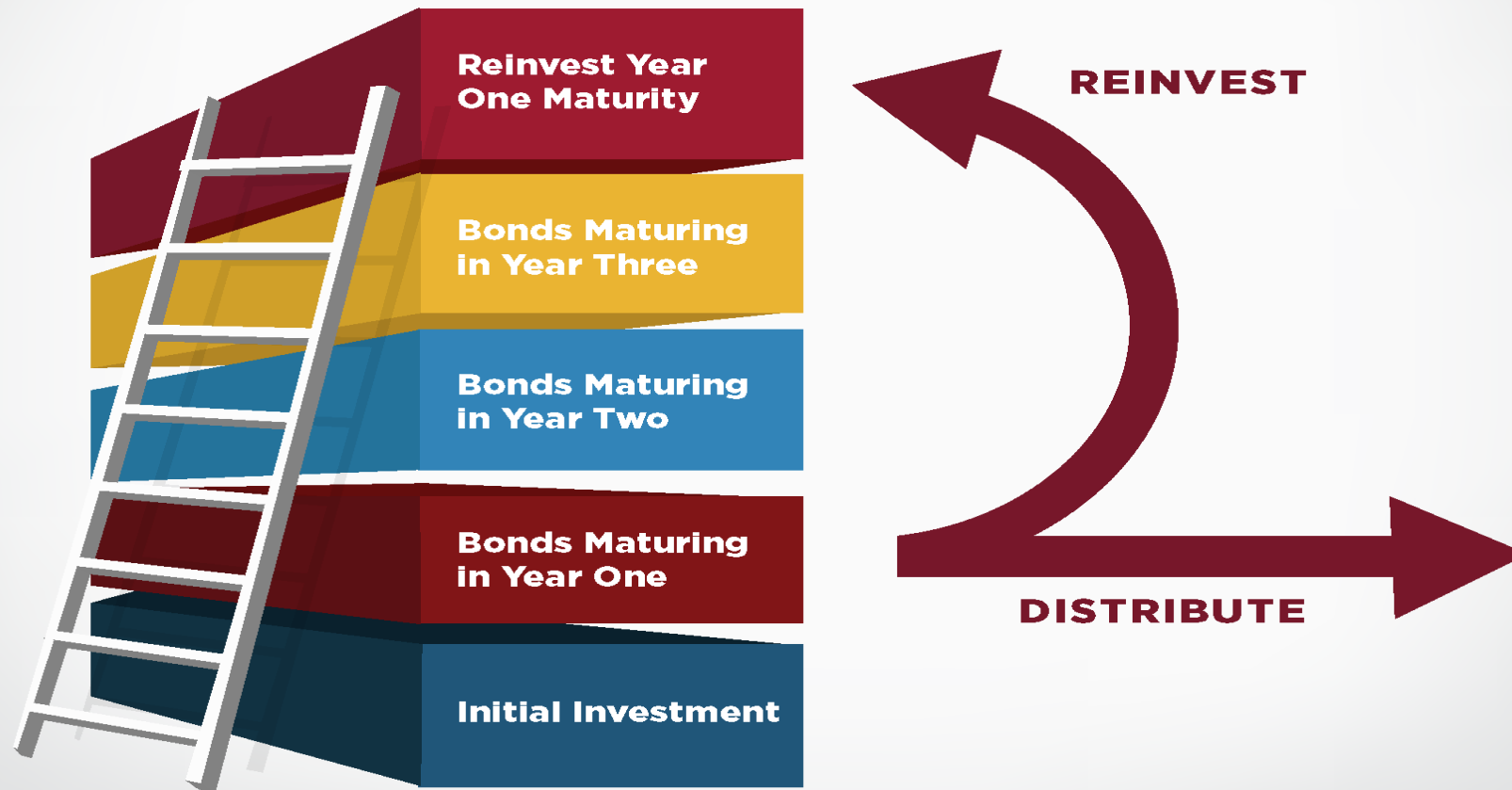
It spreads your bond investment holdings so they mature each year between one and thirty years from now

Think of the individual investments as steps on your maturity ladder

Reduces risk associated with the future movement in interest rates while creating recurring income

A LADDERED BOND PORTFOLIO

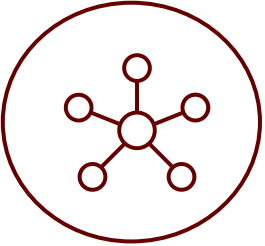
A PORTFOLIO EXAMPLE OF BOND MATURING EACH YEAR IN A 3 YEAR LADDER



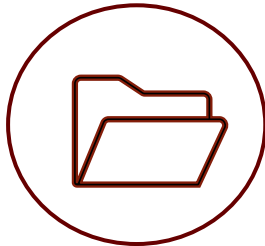
USING ETFs TO BUILD BOND LADDERS



Specified Asset Maturity



Enhanced Bond Diversification



Liquidity and Transparency



Professional Portfolio Management

STRATEGIC ATTRIBUTES

The Laddered Income strategy combines the best attributes of mutual funds, ETFs, and individual bonds

	Mitigate Interest Rate Risk	Credit Diversification	Exchange Traded Liquidity	Custom Strategy	Professional Portfolio Management
Gradient Laddered Income	X	X	X	X	X
Mutual Funds and ETFs		X	X		X
Individual Bonds	X			X	

LADDERED INCOME STRATEGY

COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2026

	YTD 2026	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year	10 Year	Annualized Return Since Inception*	Standard Deviation Since Inception*
Laddered Income 2 Year	1.89%	3.22%	4.27%	1.88%	N/A	2.30%	2.24%
Laddered Income 3 Year	1.57%	2.93%	4.26%	1.69%	2.24%	2.28%	2.76%

The Laddered Income “Total Return” is a composite return of all Gradient Investments’ Laddered Income accounts that meet the account minimum requirement. These numbers are representative of the Gradient Laddered Income Portfolio but are not meant to predict your individual results which could be better or worse. The portfolio’s inception is 1/1/2013. Returns are net of all transaction costs and net of Gradient’s annual advisory fee. Investing involves risk including the potential loss of principal and past performance is no guarantee of future returns. Investor’s net returns may vary based on advisory fee, account size, and householding.



SUMMARY

LADDERED INCOME STRATEGY

- **Goal is to generate reasonable income with low levels of volatility**
- **Available in 2, 3, 4, or 5 year time frames**
- **Cash flows can be:**
 - Reinvested for another year in the future
 - Distributed to meet expense needs

Account Minimum: \$500