

Investing In Bonds, Especially High Yield Bonds

By Bernard E. Scoville, October 17, 2013. Revised April 20, 2016.

On finra's home page (<http://www.finra.org/>),

1. I click on Investors.
2. Mouse over "Tools and Calculators".
3. Click on "Market Data".
4. Then under Market Data, I click on "Bonds".
5. Then I select "Search".
6. Then I select "Corporate".
7. Then I select "Show report as bonds".
8. I don't bother with irrelevant criteria, I use Quick Search, I next click on "SHOW RESULTS".
9. To sort my results, I click on yield twice. Then it points down. Highest yields come first.
10. Then I browse, today 2078 bonds, 40 bonds to a page. 52 pages of bonds sorted by yield
11. The first page today has bonds yielding 16,280.810 to 270.721. Too much for me.
12. There are page numbers on the bottom to aid navigation. I look and navigate pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
13. There are page numbers on the bottom to aid navigation. I select Next until I find bonds I like on page 10.
14. To investigate a bond, I right click on its "Symbol" to open it in another tab, not disturbing my yield sorting.
15. From the newly opened tab, I copy symbol information to Yahoo Finance. I like to check profile, insider purchases, current ratio, earnings,
16. The 10 page today has bonds yielding 14.329 to 12.986. Some of these interest me. So I print page 10.
17. I keep the selected bond pages up. Sometimes CUSIPS are not available on the original printed lists, and you have to select bond detail to get the CUSIP you may need for discussing with a broker and ordering..
18. I add bonds of interest to my Watchlist. They will be tracked by finra. I can see them anytime.
19. Bond investing provides MANY options. I like high returns from companies that survive and pay.

Having selected and printed some pages of bonds, I can do more eclectic and in depth research, using:

1. Simple observation. Do I like the company? Do I like the company. Is the yield adequate?
2. Yahoo Finance (<http://finance.yahoo.com/>), Yahoo Finance gives me all kinds of information including insider transactions. I love companies with insider buying. This has worked well for me.
3. Better Investing's (<http://www.betterinvesting.org/public/default.htm>) Toolkit software.
4. The company's website and its investment relations department.
5. Liquidity and solvency ratios.