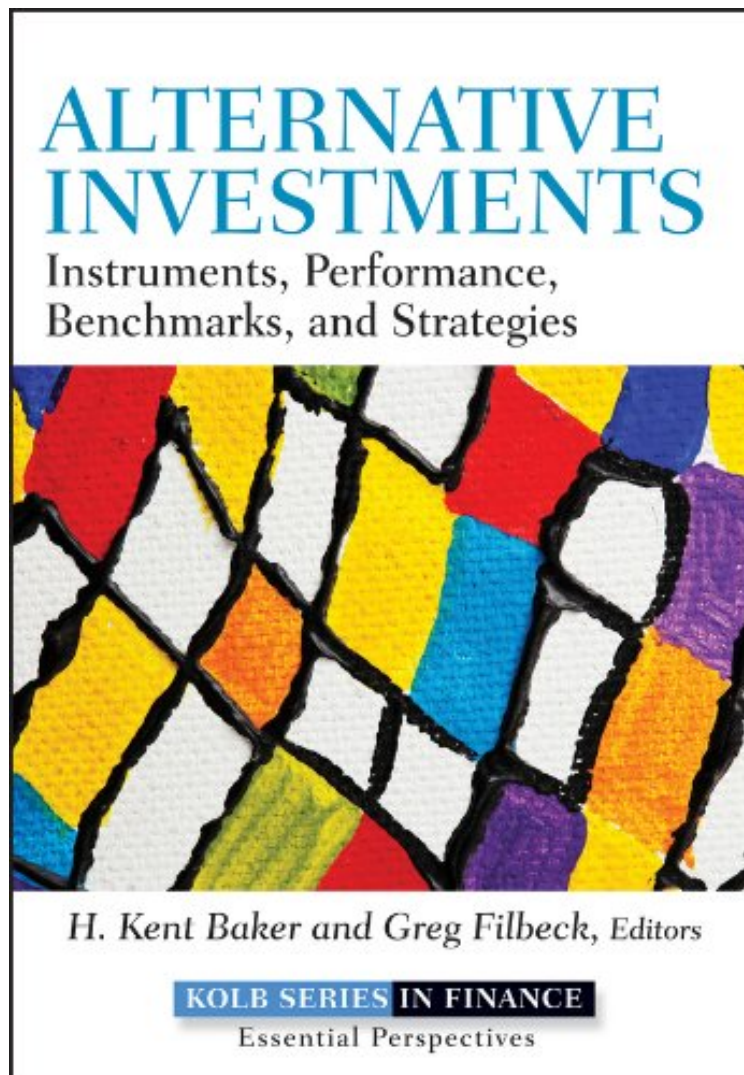


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## Alternative Investments: Instruments, Performance, Benchmarks and Strategies (Robert W. Kolb Series)

*H. Kent Baker, Greg Filbeck*  
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**H. Kent Baker, Greg Filbeck : Alternative Investments: Instruments, Performance, Benchmarks and Strategies (Robert W. Kolb Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Alternative Investments: Instruments, Performance, Benchmarks and Strategies (Robert W. Kolb Series):

A comprehensive guide to alternative investments that reveals today's latest research and strategies. Historically low interest rates and bear markets in world stock markets have generated intense interest in alternative investments. With

returns in traditional investment vehicles relatively low, many professional investors view alternative investments as a means of meeting their return objectives. *Alternative Investments: Instruments, Performance, Benchmarks, and Strategies*, can put you in a better position to achieve this difficult goal. Part of the Robert W. Kolb Series in Finance, *Alternative Investments* provides an in-depth discussion of the historic performance, benchmarks, and strategies of every major alternative investment market. With contributions from professionals and academics around the world, it offers valuable insights on the latest trends, research, and thinking in each major area. Empirical evidence about each type of alternative investment is featured, with research presented in a straightforward manner. Examines a variety of major alternative asset classes, from real estate, private equity, and commodities to managed futures, hedge funds, and distressed securities Provides detailed insights on the latest research and strategies, and offers a thorough explanation of historical performance, benchmarks, and other critical information Blends knowledge from the conceptual world of scholars with the pragmatic view of practitioners in this field Alternative investments provide a means of diversification, risk control, and return enhancement and, as such, are attractive to many professional investors. If you're looking for an effective way to hone your skills in this dynamic area of finance, look no further than this book.

From the Inside Flap Historically low interest rates coupled with severe equity bear markets around the world have generated intense interest in alternative investments. With returns in traditional investment vehicles relatively low, many sophisticated investors view alternative investments as a means of meeting their return objectives. *Alternative Investments: Instruments, Performance, Benchmarks, and Strategies*—part of the Robert W. Kolb Series in Finance—can put you in a better position to achieve this difficult goal. Engaging and accessible, this reliable guide contains the latest insights about alternative investments based on contributions by practitioners and academics who are experts in this area. To reinforce the information covered, each self-contained chapter concludes with a summary and discussion questions of key lessons. Along the way, this book skillfully addresses essential topics associated with this field, including the market for alternative investments, benchmarks, and historical performance as well as specific investment strategies and issues concerning performance evaluation and reporting. Divided into five comprehensive parts, this book provides extensive coverage of alternative investments ranging from real estate and private equity to commodities, managed futures, and hedge funds. Chapter by chapter, it will help you: Determine the current market value of a particular alternative investment asset Develop your investment knowledge base with regard to real estate investment trusts (REITs), commercial real estate, mortgage-backed securities (MBS), and mezzanine loans and preferred equity investments Become familiar with the various investment activities and vehicles encompassing private equity, from distressed debt investing and buyout funds to venture and mezzanine capital Understand commodities as a financial asset as well as how commodity investing via managed futures can improve portfolio construction Discover the structure, history, performance, risks, and strategies of hedge funds, as well as a new nonlinear model of hedge fund returns that paves the way toward nonlinear replication Alternative investing is a complex topic. Yet, by using this book as a guide, you will not only gain a broad understanding of the topic but also discover how to effectively apply alternative investments in real-world situations. From the Back Cover The Robert W. Kolb Series in Finance is an unparalleled source of information dedicated to the most important issues in modern finance. Each book focuses on a specific topic in the field of finance and contains contributed chapters from both respected academics and experienced financial professionals. As part of the Robert W. Kolb Series in Finance, *Alternative Investments* aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the essential elements associated with this important area of finance. Filled with in-depth insights and practical advice, *Alternative Investments* provides a thorough look at the historical performance, benchmarks, and strategies associated with many of today's most effective alternative investments. It offers valuable insights on the latest trends, research, and thinking in each major area, and empirical evidence on each type of alternative investment is featured. Comprising five informative parts, this timely guide contains a detailed discussion of alternative investments, covering everything from real estate and private equity to commodities, managed futures, and hedge funds. Along the way, it will help you navigate through the key areas of alternative investments and show you how to balance their opportunities and risks. Alternative investments provide a means of diversification, risk control, and return enhancement and, as such, are attractive to many sophisticated investors. If you are looking for an effective way to hone your skills in this dynamic area of finance, look no further than this book. About the Author H. KENT BAKER, PhD, CFA, CMA, is University Professor of Finance at the Kogod School of Business, American University in Washington, D.C. As one of the most prolific finance academics, he is the author or editor of 18 books, and more than 150 refereed articles in such publications as the *Journal of Finance*, *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, *Financial Management*, *Financial Analysts Journal*, *Journal of Portfolio Management*, and *Harvard Business Review*. He has consulting and training experience with more than 100 organizations. Professor Baker received a BSBA from Georgetown University; MEd, MBA, and DBA degrees from the University of Maryland; and an MA, MS, and two PhDs from American University. He also holds CFA and CMA designations. GREG FILBECK holds the Samuel P. Black III Professor of Insurance and Risk Management at Penn State Erie, The Behrend School, and serves as Program Chair for Finance. He previously served as senior vice-president at Kaplan Schweser, and also held academic appointments at Miami University (Ohio) and the University of Toledo, where he served as the associate director of

the Center for Family and Privately-Held Business. Professor Filbeck is a coauthor of *Derivatives and Risk Management* and editor of *CFA Basics: The Schweser Study Guide to Getting Started*. He has published more than 70 refereed academic journal articles that have appeared in the *Financial Analysts Journal*, *Financial*, and *Journal of Business Finance and Accounting*. Professor Filbeck serves on the editorial board of the *Journal of Business and Economic Perspectives* and as a board member for the Southern Finance Association.