

## “SIMPLE” COMPOUND INTEREST

### Comparing Simple Interest to Compound Interest

**The SIMPLE way to calculate COMPOUND INTEREST**

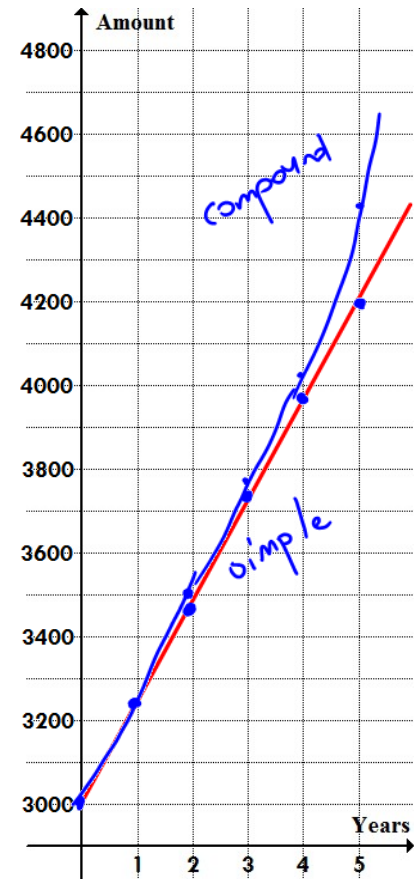
- **Compound Interest** is interest paid on the Principal **AND** it's accumulated interest.
- The interest is calculated at regular compounding periods and then added to the principal for the next compounding period.
- **Compounding Period:** The length of time for which interest is calculated before being accumulated.

**EXAMPLE**

Calculate the **amount** of a \$3 000 investment **after each year** for 5 years at 8% **simple interest**. Graph your results on the grid shown.

SIMPLE

| Year | Principal | Interest            | Total Amount |
|------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1    | 3000      | $3000(0.08)(1)=240$ | 3240         |
| 2    | 3000      | $3000(0.08)(1)=240$ | 3480         |
| 3    | 3000      | 240                 | 3720         |
| 4    | 3000      | 240                 | 3960         |
| 5    | 3000      | 240                 | 4200         |



**Using Simple Interest to Calculate Compound Interest**

Next, to calculate the **amount** of a \$3 000 investment **after 5 years** at 8% **compounded** annually, use the simple interest formula each year on the **principal AND previously accumulated interest**. Graph your results on the same grid as above.

| Year | Principal | Interest                  | Total Amount |
|------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 1    | 3000      | $3000(0.08)(1)=240$       | 3240         |
| 2    | 3240      | $3240(0.08)(1)=259.20$    | 3499.20      |
| 3    | 3499.20   | $3499.20(0.08)(1)=279.94$ | 3779.14      |
| 4    | 3779.14   | $3779.14(0.08)(1)=302.33$ | 4081.47      |
| 5    | 4081.47   | $4081.47(0.08)(1)=326.52$ | 4407.99      |

How much more is the compounding investment, compared to the simple interest investment?

$$4407.99 - 4200 = \$207.99$$

Which type of interest has linear growth? Which type of interest has exponential growth?

- **Simple Interest** has linear growth because
- **Compound Interest** has exponential growth because

**SUMMARY**

At the end of each time interval, the simple interest formula is used to calculate the interest, which is then added to the principal or previous amount.

**EXAMPLE 1**

a) \$500 is invested at 2.4% interest **compounded annually** for 3 years. Use the simple interest formula to calculate the total amount after 3 years.

| Year | Principal | Interest                   | Total Amount |
|------|-----------|----------------------------|--------------|
| 1    | 500       | $500(0.024)(1) = 12$       | 512          |
| 2    | 512       | $512(0.024)(1) = 12.29$    | 524.29       |
| 3    | 524.29    | $524.29(0.024)(1) = 12.58$ | 536.87       |

b) If the interest was not compounded, how would the final amount be different?

$$I = Prt$$

$$= 500(0.024)(3)$$

$$= 36$$

|                |                     |  |
|----------------|---------------------|--|
| Simple<br>\$36 | Compound<br>\$36.87 | ∴ \$0.87 more with the compound interest |
|----------------|---------------------|--|

**EXAMPLE 2**

a) Carlene wants to borrow \$7 000 for five years. Compare the growth of this loan at 7% per year, simple interest, to the same loan at 7% per year, compounded annually.

Simple Interest:

$$I = Prt$$

$$= 7000(0.07)(5)$$

$$= 2450$$

$$A = P + I$$

$$= 7000 + 2450$$

$$= 9450$$

Compound Interest:

| Year | Principal | Interest                    | Total Amount |
|------|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| 1    | 7000      | $7000(0.07)(1) = 490$       | 7490         |
| 2    | 7490      | $7490(0.07)(1) = 524.30$    | 8014.30      |
| 3    | 8014.30   | $8014.30(0.07)(1) = 561.00$ | 8575.30      |
| 4    | 8575.30   | $8575.30(0.07)(1) = 600.27$ | 9175.57      |
| 5    | 9175.57   | $9175.57(0.07)(1) = 642.29$ | 9817.86      |