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# This Is What Jeff Bezos' Portfolio Looks Like

#### By J.B. MAVERICK | Updated Jun 27, 2019

When talking about billionaires such as Amazon.com Inc. (AMZN) founder and CEO Jeff Bezos, who is now <u>the world's richest man</u> ever with a net worth of more than \$154 billion as of June 2019, people often pose the question of what one could possibly find to do with that much money.<sup>[1]</sup> Jeff Bezos has literally dozens of ideas that span a broad range of investments, all the way from real estate to the retrieval of rocket ship engines from the ocean floor.







Bezos even has a website, <u>BezosExpeditions.com</u>, that provides a rundown of 30 or so of his major investments and charitable donations. The name "expeditions" is appropriate since Bezos' investments are not concentrated in just one or two industries or even market sectors; rather, they represent a far-flung exploration of many different business areas and ideas, including <u>virtual reality</u>, media, <u>cloud computing</u>, and homespun arts and crafts.<sup>[2]</sup>

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#### The Way-Out-There

Two of Bezos' investments off-the-wall are the 10,000 clock project is an effort to Texas, a clock that literally chime generator that gene 10,000 x 365 different chin need for the clock by sayir nat are considered a bit roject. The 10,000-year nablo mountain range in ock is planned to have a y. Just coming up with e. Bezos explained the term thinking."<sup>[3]</sup>

The F-1 engine retrieval project was an effort to salvage the engines that powered the Apollo 11 flight to the moon from the ocean floor. Parts were salvaged to create two complete F-1 engine displays that are on display at The Museum of Flight in Seattle, Washington.<sup>[4] [5]</sup>

## Media, High Tech, Glass, and Travel

Bezos has an affinity for the technology sector, for media and communication services that facilitate connecting people, and also for just what he considers to be potentially profitable investments. In the media and communications sector, Bezos has invested in Twitter, Inc. and purchased a 3% stake in the popular business news website Business Insider.<sup>[2][6]</sup> He acquired The Washington Post in 2013 for \$250 million.<sup>[7]</sup> ZocDoc, Inc. and Nextdoor are platforms for connecting people in which Bezos has invested.<sup>[2]</sup> Bezos Expeditions has also

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In the travel sector, Bezos has invested \$112 million and \$37 million, respectively, in Airbnb and transportation service Uber.<sup>[9][10]</sup> Bezos is a big believer in the cloud, as evidenced by Amazon's major push into providing cloud computing services. However, his investment interest does not end with his own company. One of his notable investment successes is <u>Workday, Inc.</u>, a company that provides human resource services in the cloud.<sup>[2]</sup> Shortly after Bezos' venture capital investment in the company, it went public in an <u>initial public</u> <u>offering</u> (IPO) that garnered \$684 million.<sup>[11]</sup> In the sphere of a more traditional retail business, Bezos has also invested in Glassybaby, a company that makes glass-blown holders for votive candles.<sup>[2]</sup>

## **Real Estate**

Bezos also has substantial holdings in more traditional investments such as real estate. His 165,000-acre Corn Ranch in Texas was acquired as the base of operations for his aerospace company, Blue Origin, and serves as the test site for the vertical-landing manned suborbital New Shepard rocket.<sup>[12][13]</sup>

His personal <u>real estate</u> includes holdings on both the east and west coasts. Bezos has two multi-million dollar homes in Beverly Hills and a 10,000-square-foot apartment in the Century Tower in Manhattan that cost him just under \$8 million. Bezos' New York presence is reported to have boosted Century Tower property values even higher, with space selling for \$2,000 to \$3,000 per square foot. He also has a lakeside property in Washington State, on which he spent \$28 million to increase the living space to almost 30,000 square feet.<sup>[1]</sup>

In 2012, Amazon bought its own South Lake Union headquarters building in Seattle for \$1.15 billion, instantly making the company one of the city's largest commercial property owners. Amazon took possession of nearly a dozen buildings, almost 2 million square feet of office space and approximately 100,000 square feet of retail space. Also in 2012, the company spent about \$200 million to purchase a three-block area in downtown Seattle that is being developed as office tower space. In 2014, Amazon spent another \$50 million to pick up one more square block.<sup>[1]</sup> In August 2017, the Seattle Times <u>reported</u> that Amazon had just as much office space as Seattle's next 40 largest employers combined.<sup>[14]</sup>

## **Charitable Donations**

<u>Bezos</u> has also invested very sizable sums in giving back through charitable donations. In addition to the Bezos Family Foundation that funds several education projects, Bezos has made individual multimillion-dollar charitable contributions to the Seattle Museum of History and Industry, as well as to his alma mater, Princeton University.<sup>[15]</sup>



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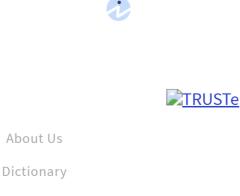
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