Today we are going to run you through how to use Exchange Traded Funds, or ETFs, within your HSBC Invest portfolio.

They are a simple way to invest in global markets and also an easy way to diversify your Australian investment portfolio.

ETFs provide access to key investment themes such as income stocks or asset classes such as property, international shares, and bonds.

So, let's have a look at how to invest in ETFs on your HSBC Invest Platform. Once logged into your account, go to the 'quotes and news' tab then click on "Exchange Traded Funds' which lists the asset classes covering commodity/energy, equities, fixed interest, Hedge, Mixed Asset, Money Market and property.

With ETFs, there are three main ways to construct your investment portfolio.

The first way is to access a particular part of the market. Let's say you want exposure to emerging market companies.

Using the ETF Filter, under Asset Class, click on equity, then under sector, click emerging markets. Then you may consider VGE.

VGE tracks the return of the FTSE Emerging Markets All Cap China A Inclusion Index. This ETF provides exposure to companies listed on up to 27 emerging markets, including China, Taiwan and India, allowing investors to participate in the long-term growth potential typical of these economies.

Or let's say you want to build a global portfolio.

To build exposure to an international stock portfolio using the ETF Filter, under Asset Class click on equity, then under sector, click equity North America, and you might consider IVV.

IVV tracks one of the most well-known indexes - the S&P 500.

The S&P 500 tracks the largest 500 stocks on the New York stock exchange.

Using the ETF Filter again, under Asset Class click on equity, then under sector, click global, and you might consider VEU.

VEU tracks a basket of stocks from developed and emerging market economies outside of the US. Those two ETFs alone invest across 2,700 shares and 50 countries.

And lastly, you can use ETFs to build an entire investment portfolio across the major asset classes.

Using the ETF Filter, select mixed asset under Asset Class, then look at how you may want to invest.

Alternatively, using the ETF Filter, under Sector, select Mixed Asset – Aggressive, Balanced, Flexible, Growth or Moderate to examine the respective investment options.

However you want to invest, the ETF filter makes it as easy as buying or selling a share on the ASX.

Head to the 'quotes and news' tab, then click 'Exchange Traded Funds'. Then compare all the ETFs on the market based on asset classes, sectors performance and price.

If you have a preferred issuer or manager simply select the manager under Product Issuer to view their entire list of products offered. Or if you know the ETF you're after, simply type in the name for it to appear.

With HVST, you can now see the ASX code, price, percentage change, performance chart and fact sheet.

By clicking on chart, you can now compare how the ETF is performing across different time periods and see how the ETF is performing against all the other ETFs in the same sector.

Finally, if you want to start a new search simply click on 'clear' and start your search again.

As you can see, with ETFs you can easily diversify your portfolio and gain exposure to international shares, asset classes, industries, currencies, commodities, indices, themes, and more.

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