

Making Money Bit by Bit

By Adhikarla Shashank Vishwanath & Devansh Batra

"The only value of Cryptocurrencies today lies in the expectation that someone else will buy them. But the supply of bigger fools must run out someday" - The Guardian

Bitcoins have an enigmatic appeal these days for, well, not the best of reasons. You may have seen dozens of clickbait advertisements over the internet, unbelievable success stories, and of course the 'What If' puns. Some of your friends may already own a stake in the most popular cryptocurrency of the world and have encouraged you to invest as well. If you're curious whether you should invest in some cryptography-based-techy-stuff over conventional liquid assets backed by tangible assets of value, we will be happy to guide you through the booming bonanza we recognize as bitcoins.

Bitcoin, unlike other digital files, isn't a string of data shared on a peer to peer network but rather an entry on a global "ledger" called the Blockchain. The Blockchain records every Bitcoin transaction ever made. So sending Bitcoins is like announcing the exchange on the global ledger. Volunteers,

also called as miners, work to keep this ledger updated. As a lot of people are keeping track of the same transactions, the transactions are accurately updated. To add a block of transactions to the ledger (that's where it gets its name 'Blockchain'), miners have to solve the Hash function- SHA256, upon solving which, they generate new Bitcoins out of thin air which get added to their wallets.

In the words of Benjamin Franklin, "An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest". Now, we expect the aforementioned nitty gritty of cryptocurrency to go way over your heads unless you're the kind of *ghissu* who dreams in blockchains as well. As a humble piece of advice, ensure that you have a fairly good idea about liquidity, the factors affecting price fluctuations, the level of risk associated, and investments with comparable returns before you delve into cryptocurrency.

Alternative investments which won't give you nightmares:

- Certificate of Deposits (CD)
- Money Market Accounts.
- Short-Term Bond Funds and ETFs.
- Treasury Inflation Protected Securities.

A Risky Affair

While all currency requires a certain level of user trust, Bitcoin is particularly vulnerable to dips in confidence. At present, it survives because enough people believe it is worth investing. However, there's a risk that a large scale cyber-attack, a software bug or, perhaps most deadly of all, a government banning the currency (a very real prospect in India and US) could result in user trust collapsing beyond repair.

What Can You Buy With Bitcoin?

Unless you are interested in getting a local politician as-

sassinated, you will probably never use bitcoin for any practical payment purposes. Most global currencies fluctuate but are relatively stable, permitting vendors to price their goods in any of the major currencies and be confident about the amount they will get paid. Bitcoin's value, however, has an uncanny hobby of jumping all around the park whole day long, making it, well, not the best medium to trade in.

A Rich Man's Plaything?

About 40% of all bitcoins are owned by less than a thousand people. To put it into perspective, the current value of bitcoins is over a hundred billion US dollars. These people with deep pockets, termed speculators, take a higher than average risk in hunt for bigger profits. Their continued interest in turn drives the bitcoin price. However, independent private investors, without enough corporate backing, cannot hope to withstand a bubble burst.

What affects the bitcoin price?

Bitcoin prices are affected by various factors. Some key ones are government regulations, media influence, the stability of the bitcoin network, supply and demand, wider mainstream acceptance and a bunch of other stuff. Keep a lookout for events that might impact any of the above factors and you may get yourself an amazing deal. Nervousness about the national referendum for Britain to leave the European Union (Brexit) on June 23 2016 led to an increase in the price of Bitcoin alongside a decrease in the value of the British pound.



Before Big Bang!



Pre-Historic



Centuries Ago



Latest and Greatest



Can Bitcoin Be The Future?

A particularly tricky question with a very complicated answer.

During Early 17th century, tulip bulbs were traded on the stock exchanges of numerous Dutch towns and cities, encouraging all members of society to speculate in the markets. Like all bubbles, it burst in 1637, culminating in panic selling and leaving many people in financial ruin.

A similar frenzy accompanied the dot-com boom of the late '90s. Silicon Valley venture capitalists and New York City bankers proclaimed it the foundation of a new economy — and promised riches to anyone with a long-term investment outlook. It's a very different story today. The highly anticipated Facebook IPO launch was a historic event. The initial confidence subsided soon and it took several years for the over-priced share to regain its initial value

Undoubtedly like the tulip bulb and dot-com phenomenon, the bitcoin bubble will burst one day, but how far is that day? Bitcoin isn't something you should invest for a very long term.

You still have to be careful in the short term however, as lust for quick profits often proves to be fatal. At the time of writing this article, the bitcoin has recovered its value to the 14000 USD mark. A

day ago, it had fallen down to the 11000 USD mark, previously flirting with the 20000 USD mark. It's entirely up to you to decide if you are up for this bumpy and unforgettable ride. We encourage

you to get well-acquainted with the subject before you decide to invest.

From Dumb to Dope

By Trishla Verma & Mayank Saxena

We belong to an era where the ultimate point of praise for most is being labelled as 'cool'. But what exactly is cool and what isn't? Regardless of the matter's subjective nature, society has played a pivotal role in the hyped classification of 'cool' and 'uncool'. While a few dare to step out of these confines and form new definitions for themselves, the bulk of the population is caught within the limited realms of what society preaches. Humans live in a constant need for validation, approval and desirability. Thus, they alter their own unique behaviours and aspects to fit into the bubble deemed as cool. The contents of the bubble have changed over time. In the 1990's, being cool was owning a colour television and a full comic book series which later shifted to having an adorned Facebook profile. We now exhibit to you the analysis of the present-day cool lads!

"Which one do you prefer - H&M or Zara?"

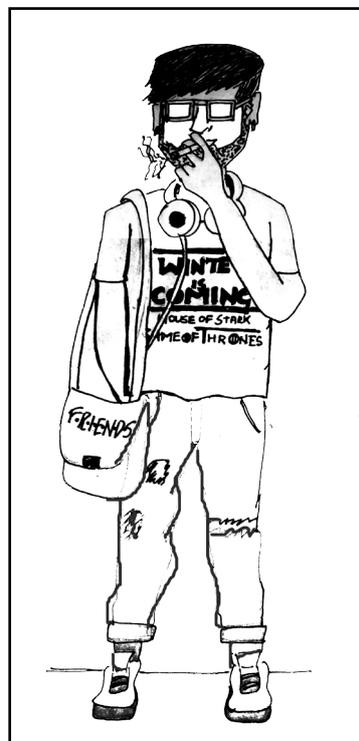
Messy hair? Check. Over-

sized headphones around the neck? Check. Branded clothes and shoes? Check. Since any kind of attraction, no matter how much you deny it, is rooted at how you look, it is imperative for a 'cool' person to at least fit the bill as far as their semblance is concerned. While it definitely shouldn't look like they just shabbily got out of the bed, it also mustn't appear as if they spent the entire morning in front of the mirror. Their apparel and accessories belong to the elitist brands and their wardrobe is refreshed regularly.

"Bhai, wahan ke lit scenes hai, BT mat diyo bas.."

The way a person talks speaks a great deal about his disposition. And when a person struggles to be "cool", he changes his lingo to an extent, so much so that it becomes indecipherable to an average joe. Emulating characters from Hollywood, coming up with neoteric ideas to dazzle girls and trying (albeit failing) to speak in a sophisticated British accent are few of the many facets, that con-

tribute towards the making of a cool fella. Slangs such as 'BT', 'lit scenes', 'sorted' and F-Bombs are a few recurrent



catch phrases used by them because speaking in Hindi is a little too old school for this species.

"Bro, how do you think this 'fake' candid will look like on my Insta?"

In the world where smartphones have replaced most of the physical interaction, it is only a must to have an active presence on social media. Your Facebook feed must be full of memes, and the notification box full of tags. While this vacuous activity is unquestionably entertaining, it is sadly on the way of transforming into a popularity contest of sorts. Instagram has become a photography hub for those who just bought new DSLRs and the biography box a place to add words such as 'Wanderlust' and 'Sapiosexual' without even fully comprehending their meanings. Hourly activities are recorded on Snapchat, which often consist of raucous music on the car stereo or an overly filtered picture. Hence, being someone preferring a solitary lifestyle is one giant step towards being labelled as uncool.

"Dude, have you seen the latest episode of Stranger Things?"

Boasting trivia about contemporary Netflix shows is



evidently way groovy than being up-to-date with the news bulletin. Nowadays, one can't have a gabfest with these cool folk or be their compeers if one isn't acquainted with these mainstream shows. Watching Hindi TV serials and soap operas won't do you any good if you want to join their coterie. If truth be told, zealots of these shows are chastised and shunned by the GOT and FRIENDS Fan Club.

"Pass hogaye? Chill point chalte hai! Back lag gayi? Sector 12 chalte hai!"

Plausibly one of the most detrimental effects of trying to fit into the image of cool is taking up activities such

as chugging down alcohol, smoking and consuming drugs. What starts as an 'I'll just try it once' and 'I am just doing it to socialise' doesn't take much time to translate into an addictive and perilous behaviour which becomes extremely hard to quit. Peer pressure is often blamed but ultimately it is the individual's own will to obtain the coveted tag of social desirability that leads to daily visits to the nearby smoking joints.

"Dekh, fest mei kaam karega, lit si hoodie milegi, CV mei cool dikhega!"

NSIT fosters a plethora of societies and clubs, and aspiring to join a number of them

portrays your dexterity. The more societies you are part of, the cooler you seem to be. Bunking classes to "labour" in such fests under the incentive of dope after-parties is the latest fad among freshmen which stays with them until the denouement of their college days. Augmenting this, are the isshtud seniors who paint a hoity-toity picture for the accolade of "Executive Committee Member", an honour which bears no gravity at all (sophomores crying in a corner).

The characteristic idiosyncrasies that would help understand the nitty-gritties of the life of a cool guy are regular night-outs, parties

in HKV, a knack for upbeat tunes and being that "mutual friend" in the friend-list of innumerable girls. And, so it would appear that a cool person breathes the most phenomenal life encircled by a large clique, adored by many, and under the glances of even more. Be that as it may, this modus vivendi ain't so easy-breezy. One is under the persistent scrutiny of the crowd and gets less and less time for himself as he is trying to preserve his "cool" stature in the society. Isn't it preferable to stay an average joe instead, where your life would be a little less demanding? It's time you figure out why it's cool to stay uncool.

ATM : According to Money

By Kritika Anuragi & Priya Chugh

Does a store awaken a lust in you for things you never even knew you needed? Does the word 'sale' get you high and 'buy one, get two' zone you out? Do you treat yourself at

Taco Bell with 6 tacos every Wednesday and get a refill till you have a food-baby? Do you believe that your favorite author will be offended if you don't buy his book as

soon as it hits the store (preferably hardcover)?

If you nodded your head in agreement to any of the above questions, you unde-

niably match the symptoms of a tightwad. Read this help-book that decodes the secret to master the art of being broke and takes you from Riches to Rags in no time!

A

An 'Apple' a day, keeps Gandhi at bay.

Samsung is too mainstream and Redmi is so-not-me. Apart from manufacturing warranty, Apple guarantees the 'hipster' tag - something not too short of a nobel prize!

B

Bros before hoes

Take pride in your singlehood. You won't ever have to risk your kidney for a Kohinoor. Trust me, not having a bond is still better than being a vagabond!

C

Cut the crap

Star Wars posters are inevitable, using anything less than Logitech G403 to counter those terrorists is a sin and the Body Shop's lavender mist is a must. Dare I betray Gandhi by buying anything short of a first copy.

D

Ditch Dominos and Dunkin'

Error executing file: illegible, indelible, impossible.

E

Earn with trade

Buy gold at the equator and sell it at the pole! (That's how we survived the trauma of science.)

F

Fake it, till you make it

Maybe Guucci, Adidos and Chanell are not as bad as they sound.

G

Go shopping?

Nay. I'd prefer shoplifting.

H

Hide and Seek

Hide your pennies behind the clock or freeze your credit cards. You'll never regret meeting these passer-bys and casually flirting with them!

I

Ignorance is bliss

Turn a deaf ear next time someone shows-off their Jimmy Choos. Unfriend. Block. Report as spam. Register a case of mental harassment.

J

Just chill, let Jio pay the bill.

Heartfelt condolences for all Airtel and Vodafone users. Time to get au courant guys!

K

Keep the change

If you are one of those who leaves a hefty tip for the waiter, I fear you are planning to be one!

L

Legal Loot

Wear saffron and follow no shave November. Claim to be 'pure' and deceive people into believing that you are a 'Messenger of God'. Loot them in the name of offerings. That's how you make bucks with your 'legal sin'.

**Make things happen****M**

Choke someone you despise or strangle him or her to death, then surrender yourself. You'll be bestowed with the pleasure of Indian jails equipped with luxuries like Wifi, TV and a cozy bed. Just kill and chill!

Negotiate**N**

Next time someone blurts out an exorbitant price, put your bargaining skills to use and quote half the price. Follow up with a puppy face and bag the deal!

Oh My God**O**

One stock market that never goes out of stock. God is surely giving me best friend goals!

Pocket Money**P**

What if my pants don't have pockets? Do I still deserve the money?

Quit Smoking**Q**

Warning: Cigarette smoking causes 'deficiency' disease. A hole in your lungs can be fixed with money, but sadly the vice-versa is not true.

Run on the rails**R**

A colossal sum awaits you with each step of your chase. Just steer clear of the bulky bogies. You may get knocked down but you'll die ultra rich. Don't believe me? Have a chat with the makers of Subway Surfers.

Swipe right**S**

For every doppelganger of Bill Gates or Zuckerberg. Own the owner. That's the easiest way to get featured in Time's cover-story 'Rags to Riches'.

T**Try your luck!**

What happened in Vegas can happen to you. Just another try for Triple Jackpot.

U**Use, Reuse, Recycle**

Start wearing your old shirt as a night dress, and later use it as your Holi outfit. Finally, it can attain salvation as the pochha kapda!

V**Vacation to the clinic**

The doctor will write you a dozen tests, only to hide the fact that your disease was left as optional by him for the exams. That's how you perfectly disbalance your account balance!

W**Wedding wells**

Gather all your lifelong savings. Set them ablaze. Take exactly saat phere. Just tramped-out.

X**XMas Merry**

Put your wishlist in a stocking, go to sleep and wake up with all expensive gifts and cash that you so innocently asked from Santa this Christmas. All I want for Christmas is EVERYTHING!

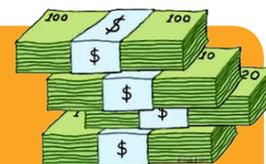
Y**Young, dumb, broke**

The first two are just normie. However, it takes something exceptional to be the latter.

Z**Zodiac alert**

Gemini: Stand facing east on one leg exactly at 5:17 AM with a white rat in your left pocket on Tuesday. (That's what got Richie Rich rich!)

NSITictionary



Chindi - Mukesh Ambani's nephew who bargains for merchandise at PUMA and still ends up wearing POOMA

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