

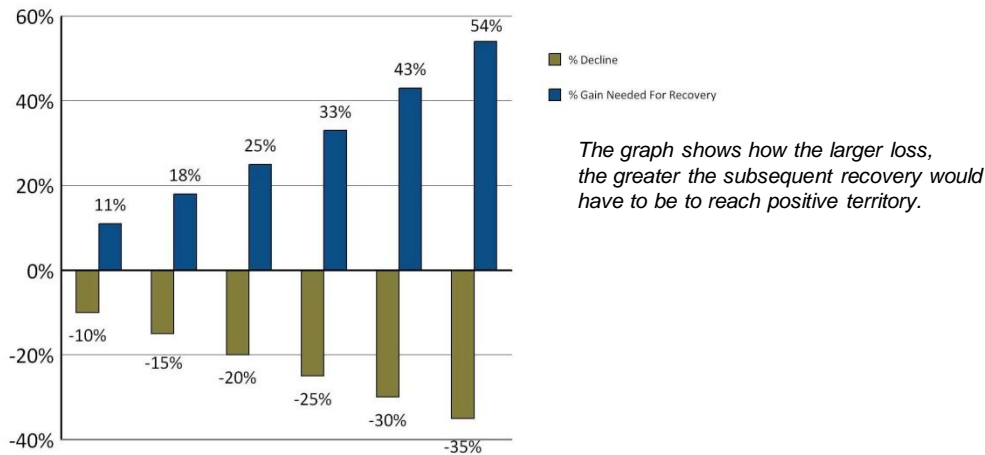
A Mathematical Catch-Up Game

Is it better to accumulate reasonable gains on a yearly basis or have years with exceptional returns combined with years of losses? While occasional large, positive returns may look attractive, ultimately it's consistency that may be the best approach. A closer look at the numbers demonstrates this concept:

If you initially invested \$100,000, and the investment went down 15%, the new value of your contract would be \$85,000. To fully recover from your loss, based on the new value of your account, you'd need to gain nearly 18% versus the 15% you were down.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \$85,000 \times .18 = \$15,300 \\
 + \$85,000 \\
 \hline
 \$100,300
 \end{array}$$

DECLINE & RECOVERIES



Or consider this:

A consistent approach to investing, which seeks to avoid negative returns, may prove to be more beneficial in the long run than by aiming for sporadic short-term gains.

INVESTMENT	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	TOTAL
Option A Returns	+30%	+30%	-30%	= \$118,300
Option B Returns	+7.5%	+7.5%	+7.5%	= \$124,230

This illustration is for illustrative purposes only. These are hypothetical numbers only and not based upon an actual client account. Past performance does not guarantee future results.