

The 7-Point Dividend Safety Checklist

Run any dividend stock through these checks before you buy. Three or more misses? Look elsewhere.

[]	Check	Pass if
[]	Payout ratio	Under 60% of earnings (utilities under 75%; REITs: AFFO under 85%)
[]	Free-cash-flow payout	Under 70% of free cash flow
[]	Growth streak	Dividend raised 10+ years in a row
[]	Dividend growth	5-year average growth above 5% a year
[]	Debt	Net debt / EBITDA under about 3x
[]	Yield sanity	Yield near its 5-year average, and not in double digits
[]	Business trend	Earnings flat or growing over 5 years

Your quick math: how big a portfolio covers a bill? $\text{Monthly bill} \times 12 \div \text{yield}$. A \$80 phone bill at a 4% yield needs \$24,000 invested.

Want this done for you?

The **Dividend Paycheck Planner** gives every holding an automatic dividend Safety Score, shows your dividend income for each month of the year, and tells you which bills your dividends already pay, from your phone bill to your mortgage. Works in Excel and Google Sheets.

Get the Planner: oscarkiki.com/dividend-paycheck-planner

This guide is general education, not personalized investment, tax or legal advice. Tickers are examples, not recommendations. Yields, dividends and tax rules change; verify current figures with your broker and consult a qualified professional for your situation. Past dividends do not guarantee future dividends.