

Stock Options vs Salary (vsdiff.com)

Criteria	Stock Options	Salary
Definition	Rights to purchase company shares at a predetermined price	Regular compensation paid to an employee for their work
Risk Factor	High—dependent on the company's stock performance	Low—consistent income
Tax Treatment	Taxed upon exercise and sale	Taxed as regular income
Long-Term Value	Potentially high—can significantly increase in value	Stable—predictable income over time
Motivation	Aligns employee interests with company growth	Directly compensates for time and effort

Source: <https://vsdiff.com/stock-options-vs-salary/>