Funding and Financing for Startups

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1. **Bootstrapping**
    - Self-funding a business using personal savings or revenue generated by the business itself, retaining full ownership and control.
2. **Friends and Family**
    - Often an early source of funding, though it carries the risk of straining personal relationships if the venture fails.
3. **Angel Investors**
    - Wealthy individuals who invest their own money in early-stage startups, often in exchange for equity, and may also provide mentorship.
4. **Venture Capital (VC)**
    - Professional investment firms that fund high-growth-potential startups in exchange for equity, typically at later stages than angels.
5. **Debt Financing**
    - Bank loans or microfinance, which must be repaid with interest regardless of business performance, without diluting ownership.
6. **Grants and Crowdfunding**
    - Non-repayable grants (often for social ventures) and crowdfunding platforms that raise small amounts from many backers.
7. **Choosing the Right Source**
    - Depends on the stage of the business, growth ambitions, willingness to give up equity/control, and ability to service debt.