



# BUDGET TIPS

## **MONEY SAVING TIPS**

Small changes can make a big difference to your bank balance. Change one thing you do regularly and you could save money. Some examples are: give up drinking coffee or cut down on alcohol, cancel your gym membership and walk instead, make your lunch at home, reduce your bank fees, borrow books and DVDs from the library, check your bank statements, set a limit for birthday and Christmas presents or give homemade gifts, share gardening tools and equipment, use cash or an App so you know how much you spend.

## **AVOID DEBT**

Accumulating debt (and interest payments) will mean you are paying money but receiving nothing. Don't use credit cards unless you are capable of paying the whole balance before the interest is applied. Switch to a 'interest free' card to pay an old one off. Never do 'pay day loans' the interest skyrockets. Avoid 'buy now, pay later' deals. Save now and buy later.

## **SAVE FOR A RAINY DAY**

Prioritise your savings. If you don't choose to save your expenses will likely rule you. Be prepared for annual expenses and put money aside. Keep your savings in an account that you don't access daily. Choose a high interest fund.

## **MAXIMISE INCOME**

Check your award or entitlements to make sure you are receiving what you should. Rent a room or downsize. Sell unwanted things online. Register with air tasker, uber etc if you need to earn extra dollars in a pinch.

## **KNOW YOUR EXPENSES**

Home – mortgage, rent, insurance

Car – insurance, rego, maintenance, petrol

Personal & medical – clothing, haircuts

Transport – bus, train

Giving – charities, religious

Utilities – electricity, water, gas, mowing

Food – groceries, takeaway

Entertainment – restaurants, movies, activities

Children – school, uniforms, books, activities

Other – pets, gym,

If you need help with your budget download our budget online at [c3cares.com.au/budget](http://c3cares.com.au/budget) or get in touch with our team at [c3cares@myc3church.net](mailto:c3cares@myc3church.net) or (02) 9972 8688.

# [Name] Family Budget



[Month] | [Year]

## Monthly Income

	Expected	Actual	Difference
Your take home pay	4,000	4,000	0
Your partners take home pay	2,000	2,300	300
Income from Savings/Investments	15	20	5
Centrelink	1,400	1,500	100
Child Support	0	0	0
Other income (lodgers, bonuses etc)	300	300	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,715</b>	<b>8,120</b>	<b>405</b>

## Monthly Expenses

	Expected	Actual	Difference
Housing	1,500	1,500	0
Groceries	250	280	-30
Telephone	38	38	0
Electric / Gas	65	78	-13
Water / Sewer / Trash	25	21	4
Cable TV	75	83	-8
Internet	60	60	0
Maintenance / Repairs	0	60	-60
Childcare	180	150	30
Tuition	250	250	0
Pets	75	80	-5
Transportation	280	260	20
Personal Care	75	65	10
Insurance	255	255	0
Credit Cards	100	100	0
Loans	0	0	0
Taxes	0	0	0
Gifts / Charity	150	150	0
Savings	225	225	0
Other	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,603</b>	<b>3,655</b>	<b>-52</b>

## Cash Flow

	Expected	Actual	Difference
Total Income	7,715	8,120	405
Total Expense	3,603	3,655	-52
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>4,112</b>	<b>4,465</b>	<b>353</b>

Note: Cash flow table is automatically calculated based on your entries in the Monthly Income and Monthly Expense tables above