

Make a Plan. Start a Budget!

Is there something you want that requires money? Is it a new book, a bicycle, a Gameboy®, a vacation, or something else? Use the planner below to figure out how to budget your money and plan for the things that you want and need.

My Goal: _____

Step 1: Estimate Your Monthly Income

Do you receive an allowance or other money every week? If so, estimate how much money you receive in one week.

My weekly income: \$ _____

Multiply this income by 4: \$ _____

My total monthly income is: \$ _____

Step 2: Track Your Monthly Expenses

Ever wonder where your money went? If you write down your costs (how much you spend), you might be surprised to see where your money goes. Write down every purchase for one month. Place each purchase in one of the categories below. Use more paper if necessary:

Snacks & Candy	Fun Things	Clothes	Gifts	Other
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
				Total Expenses: \$ _____

Step 3: Figure Out Your Results

1. Monthly Income: \$ _____

Subtract Total Expenses: \$ _____

Total: \$ _____
2. If your expenses are less than or equal to your income, you are within your budget! If your expenses are greater than your budget, go back over your budget. Make choices to cut expenses. Or think about ways to increase your income.
3. Yes! I've reached my goal! I now have \$ _____ for _____.

No! I need to go back and rethink my spending and income.

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