

Your monthly budget planner

Compiling a simple list of your income and outgoings is a relatively quick and easy way of ensuring that you are living within your means. It may even reveal potential future problems that you can tackle, to avoid falling into financial difficulties.

Complete the sections with your monthly totals: To change a weekly amount to monthly x52 and ÷12

1

Income

Wages	£
Partner's wages	£
Universal Credit	£
Child Benefit	£
DLA/PIP	£
All other benefits	£
Savings/child maintenance	£
Other income	£
MONTHLY TOTAL	£

2

Essential Costs

Rent	£
Council Tax	£
TV licence	£
Water rates	£
Maintenance/child support	£
MONTHLY TOTAL	£

There are some costs we simply can't avoid, and must be paid each month.

Other costs are equally essential, but we can control how much we pay and when we pay, by shopping around for a better deal.

3

Controllable costs

Electricity	£
Gas	£
Home contents insurance	£
Home phone	£
Mobile phones	£
Broadband	£
Furniture/appliances	£
Other home costs	£
Car payments	£
Car insurance	£
Petrol/diesel	£
MOT/car repairs	£
Road tax	£
Parking charges	£
Public transport	£
Other travel costs	£
Childcare costs	£
Nappies/baby items	£
Life insurance	£
Health insurance	£
Doctor/dentist	£
Medicine/prescriptions	£
Pet costs	£
Loan repayments	£
Credit card payments	£
Arrears	£
Other debts	£
MONTHLY TOTAL	£

4

Day to day costs

Food shop	£
Toiletries	£
Clothing	£
School uniform	£
Laundry/dry cleaning	£
Hair cut	£
Pension/savings	£
Memberships	£
Charity payments	£
Religious donations	£
Other costs	£
MONTHLY TOTAL	£

Other spending, such as food and clothing, is essential, but we have a lot of control over what we spend and when we spend it.

5

Nice to haves

Meals out	£
Takeaways	£
Cinema/concert/theatre	£
Satellite/digital TV	£
DVDs/books/games	£
Newspapers/magazines	£
Cigarettes/tobacco	£
Alcohol	£
Birthdays/celebrations	£
Sports	£
Days out	£
Holidays	£
Other	£
MONTHLY TOTAL	£

We all deserve a treat from time to time. This list is for those things that we like to have, but can avoid when money is tight.

What's left?

Total monthly income (box 1)	£
Total monthly expenses (box 2-5)	£
REMAINING BALANCE	£
(income - expenses)	

Do the figures add up?

Do you have more going out than you have coming in?

Do not ignore the problem; take action and seek help. Call on **0800 013 8555** to speak to Your Money Matters Co-ordinator for help and advice.