

Budget Planner

Understanding how you spend your money is the first step to making more efficient use of your funds. Just fill in your income and expenses in dollars under 'Amount', then enter 'weekly', 'fortnightly', 'monthly' or 'yearly' under 'Frequency' for each. Calculate the totals to see what you have left over each month.

INCOME	AMOUNT	FREQUENCY	ANNUAL TOTAL
Salary after tax			
Interest from savings, investments (property, bonds, shares etc)			
TOTAL INCOME			

EXPENSES	AMOUNT	FREQUENCY	ANNUAL TOTAL
Mortgage/Loan Repayments/Rent			
HECS or HELP repayments			
Other loan repayments			
Credit cards and store cards			
Health insurance, personal (life, trauma, income protection)			
House and contents insurance			
Motor vehicle, car expenses (rego, ongoing maintenance)			
Food Groceries			
Hair care/cosmetics			
Clothing/footwear/dry cleaning			
Petrol/public transport			
Subscriptions (magazines, online news services, etc.)			
Council and water rates/Utilities (electricity/gas/water)			
Telephone/mobile			
Internet/Foxtel			
House maintenance and repairs			
Children's school fees/books			
Children's clothing, shoes, accessories (pram, nappies, toys)			
Childcare/babysitting			
Doctor, dentist, specialist, etc			
Pharmaceutical			
Vet/pet accessories			
Holidays			
Entertainment (dining out/take away, movies, events, etc.)			
Hobbies/sport/gym			
Birthday/Christmas gifts			
Accounting fees and business expenses			
Other			
TOTAL EXPENSES			

Once you've completed your budget planner

- 1 Identify how much money you have left over after expenses.
- 2 Think about your financial goals. How much do you need to meet these goals?
- 3 Think about how long it would take to meet your financial goals with your current savings, and consider how you could cut down on some of your expenses to meet your goals faster.