

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR BUDGET

Income:

- **Salary/Wages:** Your main source of income from your job.
- **Bonus/Commission:** Any added income earned through bonuses or commissions.
- **Side Hustle Income:** Money earned from part-time jobs, freelance work, or side businesses.
- **Investment Income:** Interest, dividends, or capital gains from investments such as stocks, bonds, or real estate.
- **Rental Income:** Rental income from properties you own.
- **Government Benefits:** Social Security, disability payments, unemployment benefits, or other government aid.

Expenses:

- **Housing:** Rent or mortgage payments, property taxes, homeowners' insurance, and maintenance fees.
- **Utilities:** Electricity, gas, water, sewage, garbage/recycling, and internet/cable bills.
- **Transportation:** Car payments, auto insurance, fuel, public transportation passes, or ride-sharing expenses.
- **Insurance:** Health insurance premiums, life insurance premiums, and other insurance policies.
- **Debt Payments:** Monthly payments for student loans, car loans, credit card debt, or personal loans.
- **Taxes:** Property taxes, income taxes (if not deducted from your paycheck), and any other taxes owed.
- **Childcare/Education:** Daycare costs, school tuition, supplies, and extracurricular activities for children.
- **Food:** Groceries, dining out, deliveries, and snacks.
- **Personal Care:** Toiletries, haircuts, cosmetics, and grooming supplies.
- **Entertainment:** Movies, concerts, hobbies, subscriptions (e.g., streaming services), and recreation.

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- **Health care:** Doctor's visits, prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, and health-related supplies.
- **Clothing:** Apparel, shoes, accessories, and dry cleaning expenses.
- **Gifts/Donations:** Presents for birthdays, holidays, and charitable contributions.
- **Miscellaneous:** Any other discretionary expenses not covered in the above categories.

Savings and Investments:

- **Emergency Fund:** Regular contributions to build and keep an emergency savings fund.
- **Retirement Savings:** Contributions to retirement accounts such as 401(k), IRA, or Roth IRA.
- **Investments:** Contributions to brokerage accounts, mutual funds, or other investment vehicles.
- **Education Savings:** Contributions to college savings plans (e.g., 529 plans) for yourself or your children.

IDENTIFYING A FINANCIAL SCAM

Fill in the Blank: Fill in the blank with the correct words from the word bank.

1. If someone asks for your personal information like your Social Security number or bank account details, it is best to be ____.
2. Always be cautious of emails or messages that ask you to click on suspicious ____.
3. A common red flag of a financial scam is a promise of ____ with little to no risk.
4. It's important to carefully read and understand the terms and conditions before signing any ____.
5. If something sounds too good to be true, it's likely a ____.

Word bank: profits, scam, links, cautious, contracts

Multiple Choice Questions: Choose the correct answer.

1. Which of the following is a common tactic used in financial scams?
A) Transparency
B) High returns with low risk
C) Verified credentials
D) Public awareness
2. What should you do if you suspect you are being targeted by a financial scam?
A) Ignore the situation
B) Report it to the authorities
C) Trust the individual involved
D) Share personal information
3. Why is it important to be cautious with unfamiliar emails requesting personal information?
A) To win a prize
B) To prevent identity theft
C) To increase profits
D) To build trust
4. Which of the following is a red flag indicating a possible financial scam?
A) Clear and straightforward information
B) Low-pressure tactics
C) High profits with guaranteed returns
D) Secure payment methods

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5. How can reading the terms and conditions help in avoiding financial scams?
 - A) It saves time
 - B) It provides legal protection
 - C) It guarantees profits
 - D) It's unnecessary

Open-Ended Questions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. What are some steps you can take to protect yourself from falling victim to a financial scam?
2. Why is it important to seek advice from a trusted adult or financial advisor if you are unsure about a financial opportunity?
3. Describe a situation where you should immediately be suspicious of a financial offer or opportunity.

Answer Key:

Fill in the blank:

1. cautious
2. links
3. profits
4. contracts
5. scam

Multiple Choice Questions:

1. **B)** High returns with low risk
2. **B)** Report it to the authorities
3. **B)** To prevent identity theft
4. **C)** High profits with guaranteed returns
5. **B)** It provides legal protection

Open-Ended Questions:

1. Answers may vary but could include: not sharing personal information, verifying the legitimacy of offers, researching before investing, etc.
2. Answers may vary but could include: to avoid making hasty decisions, to gain a second opinion, to protect oneself from scams, etc.
3. Answers may vary but could include: being promised unrealistic returns, feeling pressured to act quickly, getting requests for immediate payment without proper information, etc.