

MONTHLY BUDGETING FOR TEENS

DETERMINE HOW MUCH YOU EARN IN A MONTH.

If you are a pre-teen or teen, your regular income could be checks received for work done or money you earned for doing chores or as a birthday or Christmas present. Add up everything you receive in a month: that's your total monthly income.



DETERMINE HOW MUCH YOU SPEND IN A MONTH.

Required expenses are necessary costs that you must pay on a regular basis; are the essentials. For a middle or high school student, this could be a monthly cell phone bill or car or gas payment if you already have one. Add these costs over a month to determine all expenses.

DETERMINE THE DIFFERENCE

Subtract your total expenses from the total income. Do you have enough to make the monthly payments? If there is a difference, then you should think carefully about what you are going to do with that money. You have different options: Deposit it in a savings account, open a stock account so that your money grows or use it to buy something or for entertainment.

ALWAYS REMEMBER:

1. Money is limited, you must be responsible in managing it.
2. If you want to buy some sneakers, go to a concert, or give a good gift, you should set a goal and save until you reach it.
3. Ideally, your expenses should not exceed your income.
4. If you want or need to increase your income, consider jobs such as: "babysitting", walking dogs or taking care of pets and washing cars.



FOLLOWING THESE STEPS WILL HELP YOU CREATE AN EFFECTIVE MONTHLY INCOME AND EXPENSE BUDGET THAT WILL HELP YOU REACH YOUR FINANCIAL GOALS.