

Every dollar counts so it is important to know what money you have coming in and where it is going....

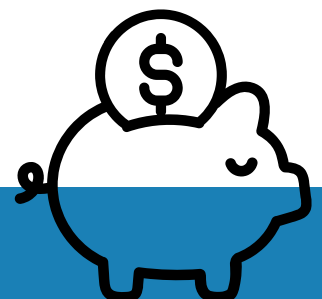
A budget can help you track your money and expenses and plan for the future (or that special thing you are saving up for)

## TIPS -

- When you are doing your budget think about things that you might only pay for once a year as well as things paid more regularly
- **Spread the cost** of bigger expenses and pay them in smaller, more regular payments
- **Identify your expenses** that are essential ie food or rent versus expenses that are not as important such as a streaming service – this will help you prioritise your spending
- Regularly **review and update** your budget so it is accurate
- Setting **financial goals** can help you be mindful about money
- **Be careful of using "Buy Now & Pay Later" options** - often these can have additional costs such as high interest rates where you will end up paying a lot more than the item!
- **Track your spending** so you know what you are actually spending. The small costs like a coffee or drink each day adds up. You can find spending tracker apps or check out your bank website
- **Check your bank statements!** You will be able to check what is being taken out of your account (and if it should be)

A great resource to check out:

[Moneysmart.gov.au](https://www.moneysmart.gov.au)



- 1 Record your income (how much money you have coming in)
- 2 Work out your expenses (everything you are paying for)
- 3 Set limits (what you want to spend on things that are not priorities)
- 4 Regularly check your bank statements- regularly review and update your budget

My Budget Template		
	+ (plus)	- (minus)
<b>Income:</b>		
<b>Mortgage or rent:</b>		
<b>Electricity:</b>		
<b>Gas:</b>		
<b>Water:</b>		
<b>Groceries:</b>		
<b>Medications / Medical:</b>		
<b>Car Loan:</b>		
<b>Petrol:</b>		
<b>Parking:</b>		
<b>Car Insurance / Registration:</b>		
<b>Internet:</b>		
<b>Streaming Services:</b>		
<b>Phone Bill:</b>		
<b>Gym Membership:</b>		
<b>Pet Care:</b>		
<b>Hobbies:</b>		
<b>Savings:</b>		
<b>Other:</b>		
<b>TOTAL</b>		