

Budgeting 101

These are extraordinary times, and as things change we will evolve our approach to serve you better.

Budgeting is crucial to how well you manage your money. It allows you to create a spending plan that helps you track your expenses, protect and prepare for financial difficulties and positions you to save for whatever might come your way.

It's important to remember these easy steps when budgeting:

Step 1: Know the facts.

Understand your fixed and bare minimum expenses and then determine your monthly income.

Step 2: Compare your savings and expenses.

By comparing what you have saved with what you spend, you can then ask yourself "what are my money goals?" and start planning.

Step 3: Build your budget.

Calculate the difference between your monthly income and monthly expenses. Look at your largest expenses and determine how you can adjust your spending. Try the Government of Canada's budgeting tool [here](#).

Step 4: Manage your budget.

Living within your means gives you the ability to manage your debt and grow your savings. Your savings acts as a buffer for when you're hit with unexpected costs.

There's great benefit to creating a budget that is right for you.

For more information, please call your Alterna Financial Advisor or Contact Centre at 1.877.560.0100 for more details.

Remember, we're here to help.



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