

# Budgeting and priorities



## How much money can I spend in a month?

To find out how much you can spend from your monthly allowance, subtract the amount of money you save from your monthly allowance. If you get a weekly allowance, multiply it by 4 weeks to calculate your monthly allowance.

$$\text{Your monthly allowance} - \text{Your monthly savings} = \text{Amount of money you can spend}$$

If you haven't been saving money, now is a good time to start. Saving money lets you take care of yourself in the future.

## How much are my monthly expenses?

Fill the blanks in with the amount you usually spend for each category. Then, add them to calculate how much money you spend in a month.

School supplies \_\_\_\_\_

Food + \_\_\_\_\_

Philanthropy + \_\_\_\_\_

Gifts + \_\_\_\_\_

Entertainment + \_\_\_\_\_

Other + \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly expenses = \_\_\_\_\_

### Tips and tricks

- Always save a portion of your monthly allowance before spending it
- Track your spending over the course of the month to see if you're actually sticking to your budget
- Eat homemade meals to cut back spending on food
- Give homemade gifts instead buying them from a gift shop

## How much money do I have left?

Now, subtract your monthly expenses from the amount amount of money you can spend.

$$\text{Amount of money you can spend after savings} - \text{Your monthly expenses} = \text{Money you're left with}$$

If you're left with more than \$0 SGD, that's awesome! You can put this money towards the savings you set aside in the beginning of every month. If it's less than RM0, that's okay! Don't let that demotivate you.



## How can I improve my spending habits?

What expenses are fixed or can't be changed?

What are the categories in which you can cut back spending?

(Hint: Never cut back on your savings. Instead, cut back on your monthly expenditures.)