

# 20's Financial Checklist

Track your progress by filling out this interactive checklist as you go

Your 20s are the time to start planning for your future and outlining your financial plan for the present and for down the road.

- Start A Budget**  
Developing budgeting skills early on will make it an easier & more consistent habit. A sustainable budget in your 20s can follow the 50/30/20 rule. 50% is allocated to needs (rent, food, etc.), 30% to wants (concerts, nights with friends, etc.), and 20% to savings and debt payments.
- Start Saving**  
Developing good savings habits now can set you up for the future. Some good habits to start with include automating savings, planning out purchases ahead of time, and getting rid of superfluous purchases.
- Develop A Plan To Pay Off Debt**  
Student loan & credit card debt worsens over time due to interest rates. Make sure you are prioritizing and planning for how you will pay off these types of high-interest debts.
- Get Your Credit Score Up**  
A good credit score provides numerous financial benefits. A good credit score means lower interest rates, more negotiating power, easier approval for home buying, and better interest rates.
- Take Advantage Of Benefits**  
Does your employer match 401k contributions? Are there other tax advantages such as FSAs? Other examples of non-retirement benefits include bonuses, insurance plans, free meals, pensions, stock options, commuter or gym benefits, among others.
- Develop A Six Month Emergency Fund**  
Avoid a financial headache, establish an emergency fund early on. An emergency fund can be of use for unforeseen road bumps like car repairs or medical bills.
- Get A Second Opinion**  
Don't be afraid to talk to your friends & relatives about their salary & financial situations.

**A financial advisor is your best asset to help you tackle each item on this checklist!**