

2. Let's talk budget.

Once you've decided how to manage your money together, you can choose from a combination of tools or methods to help you stick the budget you've built together.

Find the budgeting tool that works best for you.

I'd like to keep my expenses in check.

I'm comfortable with what I'm spending.

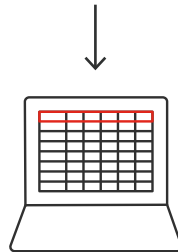
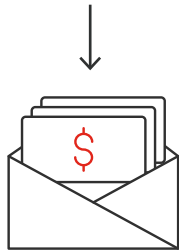
Change your spending habits.

Automate your budget.

Where would you like to cut back?

One expense category
(i.e., dining out)

Many expense categories
(i.e., dining out, groceries, transportation, etc.)

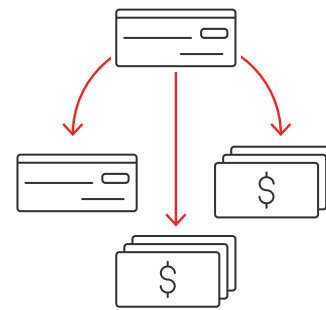


Cash/Envelopes

Spreadsheets

- Set your spending limit for an expense category.
- Withdraw a fixed amount every week, starting on Monday.
- + Forces you to stick to budget
- Need to maintain on ongoing basis
- Tedious to take money out

- Put your monthly budget into a spreadsheet to closely monitor many different expenses.
- Save it to a cloud service to access it anywhere.
- + Helps with calculation of expenses
- + Easy to adjust
- + Ability to spot trends
- Need to maintain on ongoing basis
- Can be time-consuming



Automatic Transfers + Multiple Accounts

- Create bank accounts for each savings goal (i.e., vacation, emergency fund, etc.)
- Automatically deposit part of your paycheck into each account.
- + Ability to separate goals
- + Ability to separate spending categories
- + Less monitoring
- More accounts to manage
- Potential fees
- Need to remember to revise when budget changes