

Financial Checklist

Rank	✓	Activity
1		Read Managing Retirement Throughout Your Life &
		The Power of Compounding at Wymanfs.com
2		Create a plan by week or month for actions to take.
		Add to your calendar as reminders.
3		Invest in a retirement account
4		Automate investments from your paycheck or company distribution.
5		Set up a meeting with a financial advisor.
6		Consolidate high interest credit cards to a low interest credit card or loan to save on interest.
7		Create a budget, and pay yourself first (investments/savings); automatically.
8		Pay off debt. Balance the pay-off with creating an emergency fund. A rule of thumb is to split savings/debt 50/50 until a 3-6 month emergency fund is created. Then focus all on debt reduction.
9		Track expenses for one month then review for areas to cut back. Use a spreadsheet or financial app to help, or simply pull your bank and credit card statements and add up the various categories.
10		After basic expenses, allocate a fixed amount for entertainment, shopping, or hobbies. Ideally use only cash for those extras so you stay within budget.
11		Review investments for pre and post-tax retirement income. Have some tax-free retirement income to make your dollars go further.
12		On your birthday, check your investments balance and goal progression.
13		Cancel or downgrade streaming services, memberships, and subscriptions.
14		Eat at Home - Reduce dining out and plan meals to cut grocery waste.
15		Lower Utility Bills - Use energy-efficient appliances, adjust thermostat settings, and unplug devices when not in use.
16		Shop Smart - Compare prices, and take advantage of cashback or rewards programs.
17		When shopping, ask the question: Do I need it or do I just want it? If a want, skip and instead use that money to pay off debt or invest in retirement.
18		When shopping, whether in person or online, use the 24 hour method: Wait 24 hours and if it is still needed, go back and purchase. This reduces impulse buying and reduces spending.
19		Review insurance policies annually for savings and/or adjustments. Be careful to compare apples to apples. Some cut-rate insurance companies are difficult to work with if a claim is submitted. Do your homework on this one!
20		Refinance or Downsize - Consider refinancing loans or moving to a less expensive home to reduce costs. Make sure to use the difference to pay off debt, create an emergency fund, and invest in retirement.