



Thinking ahead: How to be ready for extra costs

Some months, we need to spend more money than we thought we would. Maybe something you need breaks and you have to replace it. Or, you might want to take a trip to visit a friend.

Spending extra money can be stressful. You don't always know when extra costs will come up. It can help to plan ahead for extra money you'll need to spend in the future. Here are some things you can do ahead of time to make sure you're ready for extra costs:



Save some money

When you have extra money, it's a good idea to save some for a time when you'll have extra costs.



Watch for things that are broken

Think about the things you use every day. Maybe you have a favourite backpack or pair of headphones. Most of the things we own won't last forever. One day we'll have to replace them. Pay attention when things you need start to look worn out or don't work as well as they used to. If you know something is about to break, you can start saving for a new one ahead of time. You can also plan ahead to buy the new thing when it's on sale.



Think about the future

Each year has the same 4 seasons: winter, spring, summer, and fall. Thinking about what changes in each season can help you plan your spending. Maybe you want to buy tickets to a basketball game in the fall. Or you want to get a gift for your sister's birthday in the summer. Many people have to spend more money to heat their homes in winter. Thinking about each season of the year can help you plan for what's ahead. Then when those seasons come the extra costs won't be a surprise.