

When you are starting from the beginning sometimes it is hard to think of all the things that will need to go on your lists. Here are a few ideas to get you going, but your best bet is to check out your bank statements and make a note throughout the month whenever you buy something.

Feel free to print this template out and list all of the elements involved in your own financial situation.

Please note: This is what has worked for me personally, and does not constitute financial advice.

Income:

Consider all of the areas you have money coming in from:

Wages inc. overtime, bonuses and tips.

Additional jobs, side hustles, and own small businesses, (i.e, not your main job, like Depop or eBay selling), babysitting, cutting the grass, taking in ironing, etc.

Benefits, grants and dividends.

Child benefit, Tax or Universal credits, PIP, student grants, scholarships, dividends from shares or savings. etc.

Gifts - Birthday, Easter, Christmas, whatever holidays you personally celebrate that involve being given money.

(Remember that gifts are NOT guaranteed, so never spend that cash, or plan with it until you HAVE it!)

Online surveys, competitions, the money you find, (every penny counts!*) Boot sales, online stores and apps to sell one-off items you no longer need.

* I'm talking about coins you may find in the street. If you find a wallet, or 'find' a fiver in your house, you know it belongs to someone else, so do the right thing!



Sadly, much like the tide, money that flows in soon flows back out again. Where that money flows though is another matter. Make lists of all of your outgoings, and investigate any that seem higher than they should be.

Monthly Savings

These are the things I currently save for each month, but I'm sure you can think of things that you need to put money away for.

Events: Birthdays, Christmas, Holidays, Special occasions.

Car fund: Money for MOT, future repairs, or to save for a new one.

Long term savings: Money you put into pensions/ Bonds/ Index-linked stocks etc.

Most of the advice I have read suggests you 'pay yourself first. Ideally, 10% of your monthly income should go straight into savings that you don't touch. While I appreciate that for some this is not possible, if you look at this payment as another bill and draw it out as soon as you are paid, you will get used to it. And, of course, you haven't lost the money. Should you desperately need it, it will be sat in your savings waiting for you.

Bills

Housing:

Rent/Mortgage/ Housekeeping to parents Contents insurance, buildings insurance, life insurance (to cover your mortgage - you've got some right!) Food and Housekeeping items.

Taxes:

Council tax, Car tax, Taxes relating to selfemployment, outstanding taxes, bank fees, TV Licence (it's basically a tax!)

Utilities:

Water, electricity, gas, landline & broadband, car insurance,

Other bills:

Phone bill, mobile, medical insurances, dentist fees, prescriptions, credit card repayments, loan repayments,

Expenses

Subscriptions:

Netflix, Disney plus, Spotify, Canva, Amazon Prime, Cable TV channels, Xbox live, Patreon, only fans...etc

Check your bank statement and be sure you know what is coming out..

Remember that some subs come out quarterly or annually, so remember those too.

Travel:

Bus fare, Rail passes, petrol etc

Lessons, tuition or club payments:
Take into account all payments - even
annual ones (I pay once a year for my
WI membership, and twice a year for
Toastmasters)

Any clubs for children - Brownies, Scouts, Youth clubs, after school clubs.



Savings	



Bills	
	



Expenses	
	
	



Print as many as required.

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	£		£
	£		£
	£		£
	£		£
Total income:	£		£
			£
List and add all savings			£
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Minus Total Savings:		Minus total outgoings:	£
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oui equ'for oui un expenses.	<u></u>	Total left for further saving or	
		treats:	£

If you have a lot more streams of income (congrats!) or a lot more outgoings, and this template doesn't work for you, you an adapt it.

Perhaps use Excel, or another spreadsheet system - it will do the maths for you!- and look at where you can make savings, or make positive changes to your finances.