

## Create Your Budget

### Understanding Your Spending: Activity Sheet

FOR MONTH OF: \_\_\_\_\_

Finding extra money to save becomes easier when you know exactly what you're spending each month. Fidelity believes your essential expenses (things you need to have) should not exceed 50% of your take-home pay. See how you're doing by filling out your average monthly expenses and income below.

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MONTHLY HOUSEHOLD TAKE-HOME PAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### MONTHLY ESSENTIAL EXPENSES (THINGS YOU NEED TO HAVE)

**i** **Tip:** You may want to review bank and credit card statements.

Housing	
Mortgage	\$
Rent/Condo Fees	\$
Property Tax	\$
Homeowners Insurance	\$
Electricity	\$
Water/Sewer	\$
Oil/Gas	\$
Internet/Telephone	\$
Cell Phone	\$
Other	\$
<b>HOUSING SUBTOTAL</b>	\$
Groceries	
Food	\$
Other	\$
<b>FOOD SUBTOTAL</b>	\$
Healthcare	
Insurance Paid Out-Of-Pocket	\$

Prescriptions	\$
Co-payments, Deductibles, Etc.	\$
Other	\$
<b>HEALTHCARE SUBTOTAL</b>	\$
<b>i</b> <b>TIP:</b> If you only have annual costs for healthcare, that's OK. Simply add them up and divide by 12 to get your monthly figure.	
Transportation	
Auto Loan or Lease Payment	\$
Auto Insurance	\$
Excise Tax/Registration	\$
Routine Maintenance	\$
Gasoline	\$
Other Commuting Expenses	\$
Other	\$
<b>TRANSPORTATION SUBTOTAL</b>	\$
Debt & Monthly Obligations	
Credit Card Debt (recurring payment plan)	\$
Student Loans	\$
Loans, Taxes, Borrowing	\$

Alimony & Other Obligations	\$
Other	\$
<b>DEBT &amp; MONTHLY OBLIGATIONS SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

### Child & Dependent Care

Support for Children (including daycare)	\$
Support for Parent(s)	\$
Other Obligations	\$
<b>CHILD &amp; DEPENDENT CARE SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

<b>TOTAL MONTHLY ESSENTIAL EXPENSES</b>	\$
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**TIP:** Fidelity believes your essential expenses should not exceed 50% of your take-home pay.



### MONTHLY DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES (THINGS YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE)

### Personal Care

Health and Beauty Aides	\$
Clothing	\$
Dry Cleaning	\$
Other	\$
<b>PERSONAL CARE SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

### Gifts

Gifts (non-tax-deductible such as birthdays, holidays etc.)	\$
Charitable Donations (tax-deductible)	\$
Other	\$
<b>GIFTS SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

### Recreational

Travel and Vacations	\$
Club Memberships	\$
Hobbies	\$
Other	\$
<b>RECREATIONAL SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

### Entertainment

Movies/Theater/Sports Events	\$
Dining Out	\$
Other	\$
<b>ENTERTAINMENT SUBTOTAL</b>	\$

<b>TOTAL MONTHLY DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES</b>	\$
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**TIP:** Since discretionary expenses are nice-to-haves, tough choices here could benefit your bottom line.

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<b>TOTAL MONTHLY ESSENTIAL EXPENSES</b>	+	<b>TOTAL MONTHLY DISCRETIONARY EXPENSES</b>	=	<b>TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>	