Budget Calendar

his simple tool can help you visualize and keep track of your monthly income and expenses. Follow this example to gain better control over your finances and stretch your SNAP dollars today.



Build your budget calendar in 3 steps:



Look at the blank calendar and identify the day(s) you receive any payments. Write down the amount(s) on those days and circle them.

In the below example, you can see that this household has three sources of income each month: \$900 in SSDI benefits on the 1st; \$250 in SNAP benefits on the 5th; and \$1,600 in Social Security benefits on the 13th.

Their total monthly income is **\$2,750.**



Gather your monthly bills and write those amounts on the calendar on the days when you pay them.

Here, you can see that this household spends money on out-of-pocket medication costs; groceries; gas for the car; rent; utilities; and internet and cell phone service.

Their total monthly expenses equal **\$2,710.**



Subtract the difference.

See how much money you have left at the end of each month by subtracting your total expenses from your total income.

This household has **\$40** after paying their bills.

It's much easier to anticipate whether you can cover your expenses when you can see everything in one place. Make it a habit to complete a new calendar each month and put those leftover dollars to work for you.

Budget Calendar

MONTH:



Discover recipe ideas, ways to stretch your SNAP benefit dollars, and more at **ncoa.org**. Want to know whether you qualify for SNAP or other assistance? Visit **BenefitsCheckUp.org** to see if you're eligible and find resources near you.

FOTAL	

What expenses should I add to my monthly calendar?



Here are some examples:

1. Fixed expenses

(these are the same every month):

Housing (rent / mortgage) Supplemental health insurance Other insurance (personal property, car, etc.) Internet service Cell phone service

2. Flexible expenses (these happen most months, but the amounts can vary):

Groceries Household supplies Gas for car / transportation Water / sewer Electricity Heat

3. Discretionary expenses (here and there):

Haircut Dining out Entertainment Holiday gifts / cards Clothing



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MONTH:_____

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRi	SAT



TOTAL