

## \$ 2024 Budgeting Prep Worksheet \$

To Complete:

Details:



Two Month Self Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Go back and track every \$ spent for any 2 months in 2023 to gauge your spending habits               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Debit Cards</li> <li>Credit Cards</li> <li>Personal loans, Etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Organize them into categories of spending               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Groceries, Eating Out, Delivery</li> <li>Rent, Utilities</li> <li>Subscriptions, Memberships</li> <li>Pets (food, insurance, vet)</li> <li>Car (gas, insurance, repairs)</li> <li>Fun (trips, concerts, drinks)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
Open High-Yield Savings Account	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SoFi (4.60% APY) / OR</li> <li>Ally (4.25% APY - allows buckets for organizing)</li> </ul>	
Subscription / Fee Cleanse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cancel any unused subscriptions from your audit</li> <li>Dispute any fees</li> <li>Join a friends subscription</li> <li>Make all returns / sell items</li> </ul>	
Bill Negotiation	<p>Lower your bills through negotiating or switching carriers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phone Bill (Mint Mobile)</li> <li>Car Insurance</li> <li>Wifi</li> <li>Memberships (gym, storage unit, etc)</li> </ul>	
Organize Debts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note your interest rate for each debt</li> <li>Track all fees charged in 2023</li> <li>Compile final year statements for each card</li> </ul>	
Decide on Budget Template & Format	<p>Build a budgeting tool that works for you :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Digital template</li> <li>Paper journaling</li> <li>Cash stuffing</li> </ul>	
Follow Content Creators For Motivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">The Money Guys</a> (Highly Technical)</li> <li><a href="#">Zoe Prichard</a> (Comfort)</li> <li><a href="#">Caleb Hammer</a> (You are not alone!)</li> </ul>	

To Contemplate:

Details:



2024 Savings Goals	By categories & numbers : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emergency Savings</li><li>• Sinking Funds (travel, medical, etc.)</li><li>• Big purchases (car, move)</li><li>• Retirement</li><li>• Investing</li></ul>	
2024 Debt Payoff Goals	Decide your payoff method : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Snowball (smallest to largest debt \$)</li><li>• Avalanche (highest to lowest interest rate %)</li></ul>	
Self Assessment - Debt	Ask yourself : <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Do I trust myself to maintain credit cards once I pay them off?</li><li>• Cutting Buy Now Pay Later (Klarna, Affirm, etc.)</li><li>• Can I manage a car payment or does it need to be paid in cash?</li><li>• Is my income enough to support my goals or do I need to generate more?</li></ul>	
Address Your Mental Health	I highly encourage you to bring this journey into your therapy sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Address your relationship with money</li><li>• Avoidance Behaviors</li><li>• Scarcity Mindset</li></ul>	
Shift Your Money Mindset	Using affirmations to transform your mindset around money <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abundance, not scarcity</li><li>• Everything always works out for me</li><li>• I am in control of my money</li><li>• Every \$1 is valuable to me</li></ul>	
Build Your Dream Budget	Creating a monthly “dream” budget using your same budgeting template <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dream 2024 budget / income</li><li>• Dream 2025 budget / income</li><li>• 5 year plan (if you prefer)</li></ul>	
Build Your Support System	Who can you <i>trust</i> to hold you accountable with this journey?	

Here are a few blogs I have written that might help you along the way :

- [5 Steps Towards Financial Freedom \(That Don't Include Making A Budget\)](#)
- [5 Financial Mistakes I Wish I Avoided Before 25](#)
- [America Runs On Credit](#)