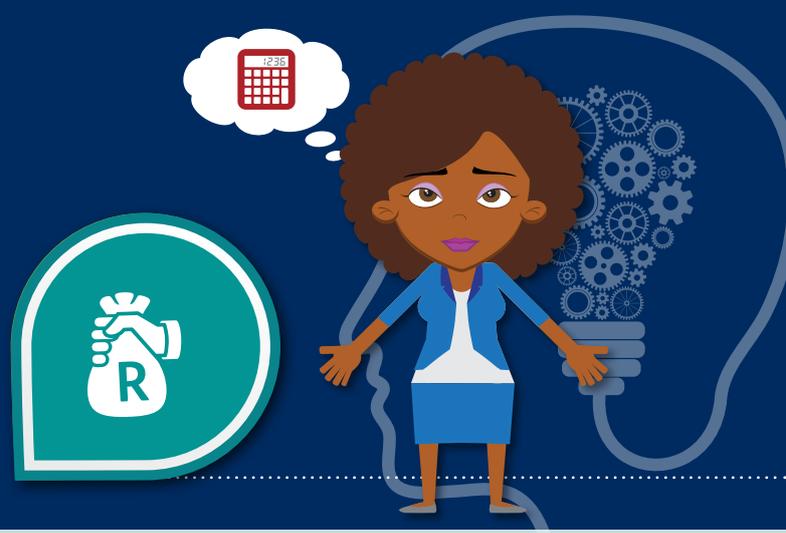


TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR MONEY



Follow the 5 point plan

- 1 Be Aware** of Your Money
- 2 Plan** Your Money
- 3 Have a Safety Net** Through Savings and Investments
- 4 Use Credit Wisely**
- 5 Control Your Money** and Payments.

African Bank shares 5 easy principals that can be applied to help you manage your finances and future, with a special focus on Savings and Investment.

1. MONEY AWARENESS

Financial health starts with understanding your own financial position, your behaviour towards money and your creditworthiness. Are you an entrepreneur, a big spender or a money master? It is important that you are fully aware of your own income and expenses as well as that of your household. Understanding your financial position will empower you to plan for short and long term goals in the future.

2. MONEY PLAN

The key to financial health is your ability to budget monthly. Your budget should make provision for the here and now, but also include room for your future goals like retirement or education. How you managed your money now will determine your future financial wellbeing. Simply, your expenditure should not exceed your income. Design a money plan that fits your spending. Do you have trouble staying out of the shops? Arrange debit orders on all the important to pay items, and set them to coincide with your payday. Know what you really need, and what you simply want. Use credit wisely!

3. MONEY SAFETY NET

Saving is vital. By saving regularly and having the discipline of not using your savings when you don't really need to will assist in providing you with financial security. So where to begin? You need to make the decision to set aside some money, whatever the amount, every month to save, and that you will only spend as much as you can afford.

Start with asking yourself these questions:

- What is my investment goal? Is it for retirement, a safety net or a purpose like a wedding or funeral?
- How much risk are you willing to take?
- Do you need a guaranteed return, do you want certainty that you will get your capital back, or are you willing to take a chance in order to gain higher returns?
- When will you need the money and how long are you willing to fix your investment term for?

Once you are clear about your savings goals, find products that will help you achieve your goals. If you are looking for a relatively secure investment over a short to medium term, fixed and notice deposits are a good option.

4. MONEY AS GOOD CREDIT

The average South African will find it hard to buy a home or a car in cash and the cost of education is escalating rapidly. Credit might just be the answer. Loans spent on growing assets or securing your future are often referred to as good credit. Avoid using debt on which you have to pay interest to buy products you consume. This is not an asset that can grow and add to your wealth.

No matter what credit you choose to service your needs, it is important to make sure that you can afford the credit and pay it off as quickly as possible. Start with paying off the more expensive debt but don't skip payment on other credit agreements and debt.

5. MONEY CONTROL

Take control of your money, or it will control you. This will help you maintain a good financial profile, keeping you credit active and financially fit. It is important that you are aware of your options and rights when the unforeseen happens in life. If you have trouble meeting your obligations, don't try to hide away. Contact your bank and arrange for alternative payments. Understand your contract – African Bank has found that clients get retrenched and are entitled to claim against their insurance but often just don't know that they can.