

Nine ideas to help you save

No matter how big your goals, saving is the best way to achieve them. Here are some great ideas to help you save.

Saving is always a good idea, but with a specific goal in mind, it's even better. Whether you want to tour the vineyards of Italy, take a year off or purchase a second home, thoughtful consideration and planning is necessary. All of these goals—and many more—are achievable, as long as you establish a plan and work with a financial advisor. He/she can help you save and grow your capital by offering strategies and financial products tailored to your needs and your wallet, such as a high-interest savings account, TFSA or RRSP. All that's left is deciding what you want to accomplish!

You will see, in the following pages:

Four steps to start saving

- ▶ Define your goals
- ▶ Establish a budget
- ▶ Get in touch with an advisor
- ▶ Set up systematic savings

What you can achieve

- ▶ Short-term saving: take a trip; plan a wedding; pay off debts.
- ▶ Medium-term saving: save for a downpayment; renovate your home; take a year-long sabbatical.
- ▶ Long-term saving: save for education; plan your retirement; buy a second home.

No matter what goal you are trying to reach—planning a wedding, saving for a down payment on a home or travelling—here are several tips so you can save for your goals.

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Four steps to start saving



Define your goals

Make a list of specific and achievable goals, keeping your budget in mind. A vision of the short, medium and long term allows you to better manage your money and achieve your goals over time.



Get in touch with an advisor

A financial advisor can help you build and grow your capital. As every situation is unique, it's recommended that you consult an advisor who will propose the best saving strategy for your needs and help you stick with it.



Establish a budget

Once you've created a balance sheet outlining your income and expenses, it will be easier to accumulate a surplus. With the right analysis of your financial situation, you can prioritize your goals.



Set up systematic savings

Your financial adviser can also help you implement a strategy to put aside money, thanks to automatic transfers. This will keep you on track without cutting into your budget.

A value of \$5,000 in savings after a duration of 3, 8 and 15 years at an average annual interest rate of 0.90%, for example.

\$5,136

Short term
(after 3 years)

.....

\$5,372

Medium term
(after 8 years)

.....

\$5,719

Long term
(after 15 years)

.....

Short-term saving

WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE



Take a trip

Have you been dreaming of backpacking across Asia, touring the islands of Greece or taking a week off to relax in the south? By outlining your itinerary and the duration of your trip, you can calculate your travel expenses and plan how much you should save.



Plan a wedding

Depending on the vision you have for your wedding day, getting hitched can cost up to \$30,000. No matter what the size or type of ceremony you have in mind, start saving as soon as possible and take advantage of high-interest saving accounts.



Pay off debts

A line of credit, student loans, a car loan... debt can cause a lot of anxiety. Speaking with a financial advisor can help you plan your repayments, relieve your stress and allow you to save money for an important goal.

The right product for short-term saving: High-interest savings account

This account is ideal for quickly saving the amount you need to achieve a short-term goal, but can also help in the medium or long term. It's easy to use and allows you to access your money at any time, without any tax impact on withdrawals, and makes it possible to grow your savings more quickly. Keep in mind that a financial advisor will be beneficial to finding the best way to achieve your goal.



Tip

If you are able to, consider using your bike to get to work as soon as the warm season arrives –you could save around \$415 in public transportation fees. That's a substantial amount to put in your savings account and could be used to rent a car during your next trip, for example.

Medium-term saving

WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE



Save for a down payment

Becoming a homeowner is possible. Before you start visiting houses and envisioning your future home, calculate the amount you need to save for the down payment. Generally, this amount represents 5 to 20% of the property value, so the right financial plan is necessary.



Renovate your home

Dreaming of a bigger, better home? Before you start swinging the hammer, plan your budget accordingly. For a profitable investment, determine what type of work will increase the value of your home and how much you need to save.



Take a year-long sabbatical

Thinking of having an adventure or taking some time for yourself? Plan your time off three to four years in advance so you have enough time to alert your boss, save money and live comfortably as though you are still receiving a paycheck... no work required!

The right product for medium-term saving: TFSA

A tax-free savings account allows you to grow your capital to finance a medium-term goal. You can quickly access your money with no tax consequence upon withdrawal since the amount is not considered additional income.



Tip

By doing certain renovation projects yourself or getting help from your most skilled friends and family, you could save thousands of dollars, which could be used to purchase higher-quality materials, for example.

Long-term saving

WHAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE



Save for education

Investing in your children's success requires planning many years in advance, even right after their birth. Because of the potentially high cost of education—between \$2,500 and \$6,500 in annual fees for each child pursuing secondary studies—opt for high-yield investments.



Plan your retirement

If you dream of spending your retirement travelling or living peacefully in the countryside, meeting with a financial advisor is essential. You can calculate how much you need to save for the lifestyle you want.



Buy a second home

Spending your weekends at a lakeside chalet is a luxury you can afford, but to avoid the project falling apart or having to remortgage your house, it's best to put money aside to cover future costs.

The right products for long-term saving:

RESP

A Registered Education Savings Plan allows you to invest in your children's future and get a return on your investment of 20% to 40% per year, depending on the grants you are entitled to.

RRSP

Maximize your retirement fund by contributing to a Registered Retirement Savings Plan and letting time work its magic; it's the best way to grow your savings, tax-free.



Tip

By bringing your lunch to work every day instead of spending \$15 dollars per meal, you could save up to \$3,900 a year, which totals \$97,500 after 25 years, not including interest. That's enough to send your child to an American university!