

Reduce Your Monthly Expenses After 50

A Simple Checklist to Control Costs and Reduce Financial Stress

Audit Your Expenses

- ☐ Review last 2 months of bank statements
- ☐ Identify unused subscriptions
- ☐ Cancel duplicate services
- ☐ Remove unused memberships
- ☐ Track small repeat purchases

Lower Phone, Internet, and Cable Costs

- ☐ Call provider for “promotional pricing”
- ☐ Compare competitor plans
- ☐ Cancel cable or reduce streaming services
- ☐ Remove unnecessary add-ons
- ☐ Ask about senior or loyalty discounts

Cut Grocery Spending

- ☐ Make a weekly meal plan
- ☐ Shop store-brand alternatives
- ☐ Buy produce in season
- ☐ Use store loyalty programs
- ☐ Avoid impulse purchases
- ☐ Batch-cook weekly meals

Reduce Insurance Costs

- ☐ Compare auto and home insurance annually
- ☐ Ask about bundling discounts
- ☐ Check low-mileage policy options
- ☐ Ask about safe-driver discounts
- ☐ Review Medicare supplement options
- ☐ Remove unnecessary coverage

Lower Utility Bills

- ☐ Adjust thermostat by 2 degrees
- ☐ Replace old bulbs with LEDs
- ☐ Unplug electronics when not in use
- ☐ Seal window and door drafts
- ☐ Wash clothes in cold water
- ☐ Use a programmable thermostat

Manage Healthcare Costs

- ☐ Ask about generic medication alternatives
- ☐ Use prescription discount programs
- ☐ Compare pharmacy prices
- ☐ Review insurance during open enrollment
- ☐ Cancel unused wellness memberships
- ☐ Use telehealth when available

Simplify Daily Living

- ☐ Declutter and sell unused items
- ☐ Cook at home more often
- ☐ Combine errands to save fuel
- ☐ Use free community resources
- ☐ Reduce impulse spending
- ☐ Choose low-cost hobbies and activities