

Money Tips for Teens



Saving money can be hard to do... There are so many things to spend it on, and only limited funds to pay for them all! If you're ready to give up trying before you've even started, don't! We have some really great tips for your savings success, so read on!

Fun on the cheap

Enjoying life is what it's all about, and you can still have fun without busting your budget...

- Learn a skill for free. Talk about fun with a purpose – learning something new, like a language, will ensure you don't get bored, while building knowledge that can help you in the future.
- Volunteer – do good while you have fun, and maybe even meet some great new friends.
- Go camping, if you don't want to spend money driving somewhere, camp in your backyard.
- Play 'tourist' in your home town.
- Check out free local happenings, like street fairs or concerts in the park.
- Have a scavenger hunt with your friends or family.
- Have an old-fashioned picnic in the park.

Get stuff for less

Don't worry, you can afford nice things without breaking the bank....

- Always check online promotional sites for coupon codes. For online shopping you'll just need the promo code, but for in-store shopping, the "print coupon" option is best.
- Don't miss yard sales and second-hand stores. You might be surprised at the cool stuff you can find, sometimes even brand new.
- Try outlet malls, they are a great place to find brand names for less.
- See if the store your shopping at provides a student discount.

Getting your hands on some extra cash

If it still seems like there are activities or stuff for which you need a little green throughout the year, here are some ideas to score and store up some cash. Check out some ways you can walk away with a profit during your free time, with just a little work and some entrepreneurial spirit. Of course you'll want to talk to your parents before you do any of these.....

- Start a summer business – to make it fun, do something you enjoy. For example, if you like teaching others, you could do tutoring, or if you love animals, try dog-walking. Maybe you could mow lawns or babysit on weekends.
- Sell things you no longer need. Chances are, you have a lot of stuff stashed away that you're no longer using. Something may not be useful to you, but someone will probably pay something for it. Online apps like [Mercari](#) offer an opportunity to connect to buyers near and far, but you can also set up a garage sale right in your driveway.
- Get a part time job at a neighborhood business, once you're old enough and have a reliable way to get there. It's a good way to earn some extra cash, while meeting new people and getting valuable experience for your future.

Making a little extra money to put aside or spend on fun stuff will help you learn better financial skills and fill you with a sense of accomplishment.