

FINANCIAL SUPPORT INVENTORY:

NEEDS/WANTS BUDGET

For the Four Gifts of Love® Class
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This budget is designed to help clarify the need for financial support. The spouse with the need is to complete this questionnaire.

Please create three budgets in the spaces provided under the three columns. Under the Needs Budget column, indicate the monthly cost of meeting the necessities of your life, items you would be uncomfortable without. In the Income section, only your spouse's income should appear in the column.

Under the Wants Budget column, indicate the cost of meeting your needs and your wants—reasonable desires that would be more costly than necessities. These desires should be as realistic as possible. They should not include a new house, a new car, or luxuries unless you have been wanting these items for some time. Both your income and your spouse's income should appear in this column.

The Affordable Budget column should include all the Needs amounts and only the Wants amounts that can be covered by you and your spouse's income. In other words, your income should equal your expenses, and the Income Minus Expenses item at the end of the Affordable Budget should be zero. This Affordable Budget should be used to guide your household finances if both you and spouse have agreed to the amounts listed.

Payments from the past few months (or year if possible) will help you arrive at correct estimates. Use monthly averages for items that are not paid monthly, such as repairs, vacations, and gifts. Some items, such as your mortgage payment or rent, will be the same amount for both your Needs and Wants budgets. Other items, such as vacation expense, will be much more a Want than a Need.

It is highly recommended that you include in your Needs Budget an emergency expense item that is 10 percent of your total budget. In months with no emergency expenses, it should be saved for the future. Most households suffer needless financial stress when they fail to budget for inevitable emergencies. If you can think of other significant expenses, include these in the blank spaces provided.

If your spouse's income is equal to or greater than the total expense in the Needs Budget column, it's sufficient to pay for your Needs, and it's meeting your need for financial support. It may actually be covering some of your Wants as well. That may not have been obvious, since you have not been dividing your bills into Needs and Wants. Your need for financial support is still being met when *your* income is used to pay for Wants that are not covered by your spouse's income.

However, if your spouse's income is insufficient to pay for your Needs, either you must reduce your household expenses without sacrificing your basic needs, or s/he must increase the income with a pay raise, a new job, or a new career to meet these needs.

Household Expenses and Income (monthly average)	Needs Budget	Wants Budget	Affordable Budget
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EXPENSES

Home

Rent/Mortgage payment (total)	_____	_____	_____
Fuel (gas/electric)	_____	_____	_____
Phone (cell, home, long-distance)	_____	_____	_____
Garbage removal	_____	_____	_____
Home maintenance/repair	_____	_____	_____
Home cleaning supplies	_____	_____	_____
Water	_____	_____	_____
Furniture/Appliances	_____	_____	_____
Other:_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Transportation

Car payment	_____	_____	_____
Fuel	_____	_____	_____
Car maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Bus/other transportation	_____	_____	_____
Other:_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Food and Entertainment

Groceries	_____	_____	_____
Dining out	_____	_____	_____
Vacation	_____	_____	_____
Photography	_____	_____	_____
Magazines/Newspaper	_____	_____	_____
Cable TV	_____	_____	_____
Other:_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Household Expenses and Income (monthly average)	Needs Budget	Wants Budget	Affordable Budget
Taxes	_____	_____	_____
Income tax	_____	_____	_____
Property tax	_____	_____	_____
Other taxes	_____	_____	_____
Interest			
Mortgage interest	_____	_____	_____
Credit card interest	_____	_____	_____
Automobile loan interest	_____	_____	_____
Other interest	_____	_____	_____
Insurance			
Homeowner's insurance	_____	_____	_____
Life insurance	_____	_____	_____
Liability insurance	_____	_____	_____
Auto insurance	_____	_____	_____
Medical and dental insurance	_____	_____	_____
Other insurance	_____	_____	_____
Home Expenses			
Home repair	_____	_____	_____
Home remodeling	_____	_____	_____
Home security	_____	_____	_____
Yard maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Fuel (gas and electricity)	_____	_____	_____
Telephone	_____	_____	_____
Garbage removal	_____	_____	_____
Other home expenses	_____	_____	_____
Furniture and Appliances			
Furniture purchase	_____	_____	_____
Appliance purchase	_____	_____	_____
Furniture and appliance repair	_____	_____	_____

Household Expenses and Income (monthly average)	Needs Budget	Wants Budget	Affordable Budget
Automobiles			
Husband's auto depreciation	_____	_____	_____
Husband's auto fuel	_____	_____	_____
Husband's auto maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Wife's auto depreciation	_____	_____	_____
Wife's auto fuel	_____	_____	_____
Wife's auto maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Other auto expenses	_____	_____	_____
Food and Entertainment			
Groceries	_____	_____	_____
Dining out	_____	_____	_____
Vacation	_____	_____	_____
Photography	_____	_____	_____
Magazines and newspapers	_____	_____	_____
Cable TV	_____	_____	_____
Other food and entertainment	_____	_____	_____
Health			
Medical (over Insurance)	_____	_____	_____
Dental (over Insurance)	_____	_____	_____
Nonprescription drugs	_____	_____	_____
Exercise expense	_____	_____	_____
Special diet expense	_____	_____	_____
Other health expenses	_____	_____	_____
Clothing			
Husband's clothing purchases	_____	_____	_____
Wife's clothing purchases	_____	_____	_____
Children's clothing purchases	_____	_____	_____
Dry cleaning	_____	_____	_____
Alterations and repairs	_____	_____	_____
Other clothing expenses	_____	_____	_____

Household Expenses and Income (monthly average)	Needs Budget	Wants Budget	Affordable Budget
Personal			
Husband's allowance	_____	_____	_____
Wife's allowance	_____	_____	_____
Children's allowance	_____	_____	_____
Gifts			
Religious contributions	_____	_____	_____
Nonreligious contribution	_____	_____	_____
Gifts for special events (immediate family)	_____	_____	_____
Gifts for special events (other)	_____	_____	_____
Pets			
Food	_____	_____	_____
Veterinarian	_____	_____	_____
Other pet expenses	_____	_____	_____
Savings			
Savings for children's education	_____	_____	_____
Savings for retirement	_____	_____	_____
Savings for other	_____	_____	_____
Education			
Tuition	_____	_____	_____
Supplies/Uniform	_____	_____	_____
Extracurricular activity (lessons, equipment)	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____
Other Household Expenses			
Emergency fund (10% of total Expense)	_____	_____	_____
Banking fees	_____	_____	_____
Legal	_____	_____	_____
Accounting and tax preparation	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____
<u>TOTAL HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES</u>	_____	_____	_____

Household Expenses and Income (monthly average)	Needs Budget	Wants Budget	Affordable Budget
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<i>INCOME</i>			
Take home husband's salary	_____	_____	_____
Husband's other income	_____	_____	_____
Take home wife's salary	_____	_____	_____
Wife's other income	_____	_____	_____
Investment income	_____	_____	_____
Interest income	_____	_____	_____
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>INCOME MINUS EXPENSES</u>	_____	_____	_____