



Financial Strategies for the Festive Season

November Pay Day Pointer

Holiday Hangover?

You may not have heard of the American term "holiday hangover", but you've probably experienced what it refers to: the silly season overspending and debt that weighs down your finances well into the New Year. Use these festive season financial strategies to ensure you take nothing but great memories of this festive season into 2011.

Five Festive Financial Strategies

1. Stay in control

Set or revise your future financial goals – focusing on a long-term vision makes it easier to resist the impulse to spend recklessly for short-term gratification.

Then take a reality check by drawing up your monthly budget for next year, making provision for annual increases and those additional New Year's expenses such as school fees and uniforms.

Similarly, draw up a budget for December, so you know exactly what you can spend during the holiday after all your expenses have been paid.



2. Great gifting

The best gifts are seldom bought - be creative and give of yourself. Spend an hour planting flowers in someone's garden, bake cookies and wrap them beautifully or give "backrub" or "time together" vouchers, redeemable during 2011. If you must buy gifts, make a list and set a monetary limit. Avoid impulse spending by window shopping first, but don't wait until the last minute when everything is more expensive!



3. Fun things to do

Make a list of things you would really like to do this holiday. Prioritise these activities, allocate a budget for each one and stick to it! But remember, having fun and spending time together doesn't have to cost a fortune – a picnic in the park or a marathon movie night in your lounge could be more fun than an expensive outing!

4. Avoid credit



Put away your credit cards and avoid any credit offer that postpones your repayments until 2011. You will pay dearly in interest in 2011 for the "buy now, pay later" option.

5. Do it together

Involve your family, so that you work together as a team to keep the "holiday hangover" at bay. Make it a family project to save up a little every month for a sizeable holiday 'splurge' fund for next year!

Need immediate financial assistance? Click [here](#) and we will contact you.

We wish you a happy and safe festive season filled with ample time to focus on what's really important to you!

Yours in financial health,
The Interface Team

Contact us:



011-326-0060(JHB)
086-148-3223(PTA)
086-148-3223(DBN)
086-148-3223(CPT)