

Marriage and Money

▼ Issue Twelve

**Putting It
All Together**

Resources

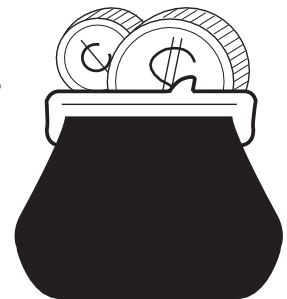
Wants

Research tells us that many marriages fail due to financial difficulty within the home.

This does not have to happen to you. The *marriage and money* newsletter series could not possibly provide you with everything you need to know about personal finance. However, I'm hoping it did provide you with a better understanding of the basic principles of money management.

With this final newsletter comes both "good news" and "bad news." Here's the good news. If you and your spouse read the information, completed the activities and began practicing what you learned, you are well on your way to financial success. The bad news is that you can't stop now. Continue to read, study, and learn because managing money is a skill that improves with knowledge and practice.

The NDSU Extension Service has a wealth of information on the topic of money management. Look inside to discover additional resources for continuing your financial education.



NDSU
Extension Service

North Dakota State University
Fargo, North Dakota 58105

NDSU Extension Service Resources

The Financial Security in Later Life Series

These materials are available online at www.ag.ndsu.edu/money/finsecurity.htm:

- Take the Road to Financial Security (Introduction to Series)
- Financial Values, Attitudes and Goals
- Communicating About Money and Money Issues
- North Dakota Saves
- Basics of Saving and Investing
- Basics of Bonds
- Welcome to Wall Street
- Mutual Fundamentals
- Starting an Investment Club
- Critical Conversations about Long-term Health Care
- Forecasting Retirement Income and Expenses
- North Dakotans Saving for Education

The following materials are available online at

www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/fammgmt.htm:

How Much Should We Spend (FE-440)

There is no right amount for any family to spend. Values, goals and stage of family life cycle interact constantly. This publication can help you develop guidelines for determining your own spending pattern.

Household Inventory (FE-223)

This form helps you inventory the contents of your home. Easy-to-use checklists allow you to complete your household inventory in record time.

What to do When Your Income Drops (HE-274)

Loss of income may be due to illness, loss of employment or other reasons beyond your control.

This publication shows you how to manage when money is tight and times are bad.

Family Account Book (HE-510)

This publication is a “must have” for every couple serious about making the most of their financial resources. This ledger allows you to track your income and expenses and has a place for you to record credit purchases.

Family Records: What to Keep, Where and For How Long (HE-445)

and

Inventory of Important Family Records (HE-446)

These publications enable you to keep track of your most important financial and personal documents. Complete the inventory and store in a safe place. This information would be invaluable to family members in the event something happened to you.

Order and Response Form

CLIP or PHOTOCOPY

Would you like to receive a copy of one or more of the educational materials described on the inside of this newsletter? Check the ones you want, respond to the survey questions, and return this page to the Extension Service in your county.

- Household Inventory Sheet (FE-223)*
- How Much Should We Spend? (FE-440)*
- Family Account Book (HE-510) \$2.00
- What to do When Your Income Drops (HE-274)*
- Family Money Manager (FE-222)*
- Family Records: What to Keep, Where and For How Long (HE-445)*
- Estate Planning: Getting Started (FE-551)*
- Estate Planning: Gift and Estate Taxes (FE-552)*
- Estate Planning: Wills and Probate (FE-553)*
- Estate Planning: Trusts (FE-554)*
- Estate Planning: Gifts, Life Insurance and Annuities (FE-555)*
- Saving and Investing Today For Tomorrow (FE-258)*
- Inventory of Important Family Records (HE-446)*

*Many of our publications are available on our Web site at www.ext.nodak.edu/extpubs/fammgmt.htm

Please complete and return this form even if not ordering.

1. How helpful were the *Marriage and Money* newsletters in improving your money management skills? *Circle your response.*

1	2	3	4
very helpful	quite helpful	somewhat helpful	of no help

2. Did the newsletter series help you acquire the skills needed to:

	Yes	Somewhat	No
a. Identify personal financial values	1	2	3
b. Set financial goals	1	2	3
c. Organize financial records	1	2	3
d. Communicate with your spouse about money	1	2	3
e. Develop a spending plan	1	2	3
f. Select insurance products	1	2	3
g. Select investments to match your goals	1	2	3
h. Comparison shop to save money	1	2	3
i. Purchase your first home	1	2	3
j. Manage credit	i	2	3

3. Please place a check in front of each money management practice you have started as a result of the newsletter series.
 - established a financial record keeping system
 - communicated with spouse about money
 - developed a spending plan
 - put financial goals in writing
 - established an emergency fund
 - reviewed insurance policies
 - wrote a will
 - prepared a home inventory
 - saved for a financial goal

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____

Mail to: your county Extension office *–or–*
NDSU Extension CDFS, 277 EML Hall, Fargo, ND 58105

Marriage and Money newsletter series

1. Marriage and Money
2. Important Family Records
3. Balancing Income and Expense
4. Making Savings a Habit
5. Managing Credit (Part 1)
6. Managing Credit (Part 2)
7. Stretching Your Dollars
8. Buying a House
9. Insurance
10. The Cost of Having Children
11. Investing Your Money
12. Putting It All Together

Adapted with permission from University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service.

Adapted from the Marriage and Money series by Joy Buffalo, Franklin county extension agent, family and consumer sciences, and Lynn R. Russell, Extension family resource management specialist.

Adapted by Sharon Kickert-Gerbig, Extension agent, Stark/Billings Counties, and Julie Hudson-Schenfisch, nutrition education agent, Family Nutrition Program.

Revised by Debra Pankow, family economics specialist, North Dakota State University Extension Service, November 2005.

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For more information on this and other topics, see: www.ag.ndsu.edu