



NEXT MONEY MOVES GUIDE

By helping prioritize your next money moves, this guide answers the question “what should I do next?”

Your financial success is largely determined by how you apply “extra” money. This includes 1) Surplus Funds from your budget 2) Current Assets 3) Money Windfalls (*which are things like tax refunds, large gifts, work bonuses, inheritances, etc.*). For maximum results, simply apply any “extra” money toward your next level.

❑ LEVEL 1:

Implement Budget with Spending Plan (*including adequate insurances*)

Document income + expenses, along with having action plan to ensure the math happens. Protect with proper insurance.

❑ LEVEL 2:

Save \$2,000 for Emergencies

This “Emergency Fund” is used only for emergencies such as job loss, family health issues, etc. It’s your “shock absorber”.

❑ LEVEL 3:

Pay Off All Credit Card Debt

Get rid of all balances using the “[Debt Snowball](#)” approach.

❑ LEVEL 4:

Increase Emergency Fund to Three-to-Six Month’s Survival Expenses

Save more if your income is unstable, or if you only have one wage-earner in your household.

❑ LEVEL 5:

Pay Off All Consumer Debt

Say bye to auto loans/leases, student loans, personal loans, furniture/appliance loans, etc. Everything but home loans.

❑ LEVEL 6:

Start Funding All Surplus Categories

Budget for items like “Car & Home Repair/Maintenance”, “Replacement Car”, “Health Expenses”, etc.

❑ LEVEL 7:

Designate 10% to Retirement

Contribute 10% of your income to 401k’s, IRA’s, etc. Start with company-matching 401k’s, then look at IRA’s.

❑ LEVEL 8:

Target Next Major Goals

Save for a home down payment, college fund for your children, starting a new business (don’t go into debt here!), etc.

❑ LEVEL 9:

Pay Off Home Loans

Don’t start pre-paying home loans until Levels 1-8 are completed and still in place.

❑ LEVEL 10:

Enjoy Your Financial Freedom

Remember those “Ultimate Investments” in life! Now’s when you have the most time to pursue these!