



Managing bills

If you've just moved out of home for the first time, getting a handle on paying your bills can be a challenge. However, they can easily be managed following these useful tips.

Track your spending

- Download ASIC's MoneySmart TrackMySpend app.
 - Use our budget planner on Money Insights Central.
 - Avoid using a credit card. When you do use it, pay the balance off in full each month.
 - Maintain a good credit rating.
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Manage utility bills

- Try to use appliances during off peak times.
 - See if your provider rewards you for paying on time or for receiving your bill online.
 - Minimise heat loss in winter and heat entering your home in summer.
 - Embrace a three minute shower.
 - Use the economy cycle on appliances.
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Get the right phone plan

- Decide how much data you need and how many calls and texts you'll make.
 - Shop around for the best deal.
 - Check the fine print – what does the plan include or exclude.
 - Save your data. Adjust the data used by apps by going into your settings and use free wi-fi where possible.
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Check your insurance

- The larger your excess, the cheaper the premium – but ensure you can cover the excess with your savings.
 - Check you have the best deal, visit www.canstar.com.au to compare.
 - Make sure you know what is and isn't include in your health insurance.
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Other tips

- Utilise streaming services that make you pay in advance.
 - Put money aside each pay for your annual car costs.
 - Set up automatic direct debits for all of your bills.
 - Keep an emergency or rainy day fund for unexpected expenses.
 - Prioritise your spending and see where you can use a cheaper option, such as exercising outside instead of getting a gym membership.
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For more information, speak to your financial adviser or speak to our **Client Services Team** on **1800 333 500**.