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^{*}Program length based upon completion of approved program. Ask representative for details.

^{*24-48} month completion times are based upon individual program estimates and assume client meets all program requirements and makes all payments as agreed during their resolution plan. Not all clients complete their program - see rep for details.

Introduction

Life is unpredictable and seemingly always eager to throw you a curveball at a moment's notice, as the recent pandemic illustrated. Over six months, it can alter your physical, psychological, financial, and intellectual situation radically. What seemed financially feasible at the beginning of the year may not make sense anymore. There is nothing extraordinary about that.

Committing to periodic financial tune-ups can help you stay on track financially and make adjustments where needed. The middle of the year presents the perfect opportunity for a financial reality check.



To perform an effective financial tune-up, here is a list of essential items you should review and tweak to keep your financial plans and money management goals viable.



Review Your Insurance Coverage

It never hurts to review your insurance coverage as your lifestyle and circumstances change. Even if you find no obvious reason for a review, it pays to do it, as you may happen upon more affordable options and reduce your spending.

Like your life, the insurance landscape is constantly changing and evolving. Insurance companies create new products and come up with incentives to attract clients. Shopping around periodically for a better deal, therefore, always makes sense.

In addition to that, your life circumstances may change. You may get rid of a family vehicle. You may have new children, or if you are older, have grown-up children leaving the household.

You have to adjust your insurance coverage to the new circumstances to avoid overpaying on insurance and undermining your money management goals.

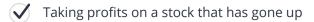
On a similar note, keep your will up to date. Make sure it reflects recent changes in your life. Also, ensure that your family members know where to find essential documents should something happen to you.



Pay Attention to Your Investments

Investments represent your best bet to build wealth. You can't throw your money at an attractive opportunity and assume it will always yield as much as it does now. Investments do not work well on autopilot. Checking in on the state of the stock market and the performance of your investments twice a year is insufficient.

Investments in various securities such as stocks and bonds require a review at least once a month. Don't shy away from making adjustments when you deem that the situation calls for them. Such adjustments may be:



Identifying stagnant investments and moving your money into more profitable ventures

 Reviewing your overall returns and establishing whether your current investment strategy yields the expected dividends

✓ Tweaking your investment strategy to accommodate new economic trends and situations. The recent Fed announcement about the planned hiking of the USD interest rates has already altered the exchange rates. Modifications of the interest rates create a risk for bond investors, leading to possible investment strategy tweaks.



Review the State of Your Emergency Fund

You may have set aside six months' worth of income at the beginning of the year as your <u>emergency fund</u>.

Since then, however, you may have tapped that fund to cover an emergency or worse, various smaller, non-emergency expenses. The purpose of your emergency fund is to tide you through difficulties without landing you in debt. If you have decimated it, make it your priority to rebuild it to its proper size.

Unlike those who cannot bear the thought of having savings they don't use, some people save up too much. If you find that your emergency fund has ballooned to an unreasonable size, take some money out of it and put it into a yield-generating investment.



Maintain your emergency fund at the optimal level.



Address Your Credit Card Debt

Debt trims your financial wings, holding your future hostage. Managing your debt is a long-term undertaking that also requires your periodic attention.

Are you on track to meeting your debt reduction goals? Have you addressed your most expensive debts first?

Credit card debt is the most damaging type of consumer debt due to its interest-rooted costs. If you have embarked on a <u>credit card debt relief</u> program, make sure you make the payments as needed and that you stay on track. Debt relief programs such as <u>debt settlement</u>, <u>credit counseling</u>, and <u>debt consolidation</u> are all long-term solutions that require consistency and perseverance on your part.

Has your debt continued to increase despite your efforts? You need to rethink your approach to <u>debt management</u>.

Contact a ClearOne Advantage Certified Debt Specialist at 866-481-1597 to learn what your <u>credit card relief</u> <u>options</u> are.



Trim the Fat from Your Spending

Knowing where your money goes is essential. Constantly pushing to reduce spending is also an important part of a healthy financial attitude.

Review the services and utilities you use and identify those that deliver little to no value. You may have several streaming services running. You may be paying a monthly charge for a data stick you haven't used for years. Weed out unjustified expenses and save more.





Keep an Eye on Your Credit Score

Having a good <u>credit score</u> now does not mean that it will stay that way forever. Request a free credit report periodically and check on your score. Credit reports tell you why your credit score changed, if it did, so you can take immediate action to remedy the situation.

The quicker you address problems affecting your credit score, the quicker you can reclaim your stellar credit rating.

Your credit report may contain errors, outdated information, and inaccuracies. If you spot such problems, report them to the credit bureaus. Have them correct your report and update your credit score accordingly. Your credit score is the top indicator of your financial health. You cannot afford to have it in anything less than top shape.



Review Your Budget Regularly

Your budget is the centerpiece of your financial life. Everything discussed thus far contributes to the health of your budget.

- Review your income and tweak your budget to reflect its increase/decrease.
- Update your expenditures. Utility costs may have gone up. You may pay more for gas as gas prices have been going up as well.
- ✓ Take another look at your debts. Make sure you handle them optimally.



Keep Track of Your Taxes

You don't want to overpay or underpay your taxes.

- ✓ Make sure your <u>tax refund</u> is not bigger or smaller than it should be.
- Keep track of the value of your property. If it has dropped, request the recalculation of your property taxes.
- Stay on top of any tax credits for which you may be eligible.

Get Credit Card Debt Relief Today

Make credit card debt relief your top priority. Credit card debt is <u>expensive and toxic</u>. It can derail your money management goals and negatively impact your financial future. For example, <u>paying only the minimum payment due on your credit cards each month</u> can keep you in debt for years, with no progress toward freedom from debt in sight.

Moreover, credit card debt can <u>impact your mental</u>, <u>physical</u>, <u>and emotional health</u>. Being in debt often leads to stress and anxiety, which, in turn, can lead to physical symptoms such as insomnia, headaches, and hypertension.

Getting out of debt, however, can have the opposite effect. By reducing stress and constant worry about financial matters, you may be able to reap big rewards in terms of health and wellbeing.

ClearOne Advantage's Certified Debt Specialists are standing by at **866-481-1597** to help you design a debt relief plan that fits your budget and your life. Contact us today to get a <u>free savings estimate</u> and we can build a plan that is right for you.

Get a free savings estimate online or Call a ClearOne Debt Specialist at 866-481-1597



Here are just a few reasons thousands of people trust us with their debt needs each year:

- 5,000+ high satisfaction ratings on Trustpilot
- Better Business Bureau accredited with an A+ rating
- Accredited member of the Consumer Debt relief Initiative (CDRI)
- Over 500 employees dedicated to your success
- A proven track record resolving over \$1 Billion in debt for our clients
- Our 100% limited satisfaction guarantee

Get a free savings estimate online

or to speak with a Certified Debt Specialist, call 866-481-1597.