

EMPLOYEE FINANCIAL EDUCATION

# Festive Finances Navigating the Holiday Season on a Budget

Meaningful celebrations without breaking the bank.

As the holiday season approaches, it's easy to get swept up in the excitement and generosity that this time of year inspires. With a little creativity and planning, you can make this season not only affordable but also more meaningful. We've put together some practical tips to help you navigate your holiday spending.



Set up a  
holiday  
**budget**



Leverage  
**price check**  
apps



Try a white  
elephant **gift**  
**exchange**



Make a  
**shopping list**  
(and stick to it)



Buy **last year's**  
electronics



Host a  
**potluck**  
dinner



**Value** your  
**relationships**



**Rent** outfits  
for holiday  
parties



Sign up  
for **credit**  
**monitoring**

It's important to remember that the holiday season is about cherishing special moments and creating memories. The most meaningful gifts are the ones that come from the heart, not the wallet.

# Be Cautious with Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) Apps

BNPL apps have an undeniable appeal. They allow you to purchase what you want immediately but spread the cost over several weeks or months. This can significantly lessen the impact of a substantial purchase on your wallet, reducing the sting of buyer's remorse. And while these apps boast interest-free payments; that's only the case if all payments are made on time.

So, read the fine print, understand the fees and use these apps with a plan or you could be on the hook for late fees and interest rates higher than the average credit card.

	Interest rate*
Average Credit Card	20.68%
Klarna	up to 29.99%
Affirm	up to 36%
Afterpay	up to 35.99%

\* Interest rates subject to change  
Federal Reserve. "Consumer Credit." 10 Jul. 2023.  
Veling, Jackie. "What is Buy Now, Pay Later?" Nerdwallet. 12 Apr. 2023.

Finally, let's not forget about the greatest gift we can give ourselves: a secure future. No matter your holiday plans, remember to continue saving for you and your retirement. **After all, investing in your future is the greatest gift you can give yourself.**

Have any questions? Contact our team. **We can help you find answers to your financial questions.**



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