

CASE STUDY D

Doug Wilson is a 55 year old single man whose wife passed away about 10 years ago. He has grown kids, a dog, and resides in **a nice 4 bedroom house in Montana**. Doug has been working for 30 years for an agricultural company. There are no real monthly financial problems, except that he **can't seem to set much savings aside and is not saving enough to retire**. He is a committed Christian and is very dedicated to his church.

He has been **contributing 4% of his income to his company's 401k retirement plan (they match his contribution to a maximum of 4%)**. His employer does not provide a pension or medical benefits in retirement. **He receives income tax refunds each year, but that money just seems to disappear soon after he gets it**. Medical insurance is provided by Doug's employer for a small monthly amount, and they provide disability insurance at no cost.

Develop a recommended new budget for Doug, with the goal of getting him better prepared for retirement. Complete the "% Spending Plan" tab, using appropriate percentages from the "Percentage Guide" tab. In the "Spending Plan" tab, complete the "new budget" column, explaining significant changes in the "old budget" column.

The questions below will be in the Test for Case Study D. They are listed here so you can be thinking about the forms in this spreadsheet.

1. List at least four questions you might ask to help Doug evaluate having enough money to retire? What would be the best question for each question?
2. How would you approach Doug's inability to save for retirement? What "low hanging fruit opportunities" would you suggest to help him?
3. Though Doug does not have sizable debt now, what advice would you give him about paying off his credit cards to avoid future indebtedness?
4. While referring to the Crown MoneyMap, what changes would you recommend for Doug to make in each of the first four destinations? List each destination followed by specific actions he should take in that destination to reach the next destination.
5. What steps can Doug take to leave a legacy for his children that will impact eternity, as well as earthly life?

Assets & Liabilities		Comments
Date:	March 2026	

ASSETS (Present Market Value)	Balance	
Cash On Hand (both husband and wife if married)	200.00	
Checking Accounts	850.00	
Savings Accounts	2,500.00	Following the Money Map guidelines \$1,000 attained; Next step is to build up to 3 months and then near 6 months savings; 3 month goal approx. \$21,000.
Investment Assets	1,385.00	Robin Hood stock brokerage
Cash Value of Life Insurance	20,000.00	
Valuable Collections (coins, stamps, etc.)		
Primary Home Value (look up value, e.g., zillow.com)	700,000.00	Doug has a 4 bedroom house and could consider to downsize to a smaller home. The value is enough to payoff the current mortgage and possibly buy a smaller home with the net proceeds.
Other Real Estate		
Mortgages/Notes Receivable		
Automobile 1 - 1 year-old Ford F-150	26,000.00	
Automobile 2 (look up value, e.g., kbb.com)		
Automobile 3 (look up value, e.g., kbb.com)		
Personal Property (Furniture, Jewelry, etc.)	10,000.00	
Retirement Savings (401k, 403b, IRAs, Pension, etc.)	250,000.00	Likely, Doug will need more than this to retire. He still has 10 years until age 65. Money Map step 4 indicates Doug should be saving for retirement.
Other Assets		
Total Assets	1,010,935.00	

LIABILITIES / DEBT LIST					
CREDIT CARDS (only list cards for which you do not pay the full statement balance each month)					
Credit Card Issuer	What Was Purchased	Minimum Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Months Past Due	Balance Due
Citibank	Various	0.00	22.0%		0.00
Total Credit Cards		0.00			0.00

Why - Money Map step 2 indicates the credit card debt should be paid off. How - Doug should prepare a debt snowball analysis and consider how additional payments can be made. Also, he may want to consider contacting Citibank to lower the high interest rate.

AUTO LOANS					
Loan Company	Year, Make, Model	Minimum Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Months Past Due	Balance Due
Ford Financing	Ford F-150	619.00	6.0%		26,352.00
Total Auto Loans		619.00			26,352.00

Why - Money Map step 3 indicates the auto should be paid off How - Doug should include the auto into his debt snowball analysis and consider how additional payments can be made.

HOME MORTGAGES (includes home equity loans or lines of credit)					
Mortgage Service Company	Property Address	Minimum Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Months Past Due	Balance Due
Nationwide	123 Hummingbird Lane	1,700.00	6.0%		275,000.00
Total Home Mortgages		1,700.00			275,000.00

After progress has been made in building up the 3-6 months savings and paying off the credit card, Doug can focus on his mortgage debt. Since he wants to plan for retirement, Money Map steps 4 and 5 regarding mortgage debt should be a focus.

OTHER DEBT (education, medical, personal, business, legal, IRS, etc.)					
Who	Type of Debt (medical, education, etc.)	Minimum Monthly Payment	Interest Rate	Months Past Due	Balance Due
Total Other Debt		0.00			0.00

Total Liabilities/Debts	301,352.00
NET WORTH (Total Assets minus Total Liabilities/Debts)	709,583.00

Instructions

1. Find the family situation that most closely represents your family (i.e. Married with 4 children, Single with roommate, etc.).
2. Find the gross income level that most closely represents your family (i.e. \$25,000 to \$125,000).
3. Taxes include all current actual monthly Federal, Social Security, Medicare, State, and Local Income Tax Taxes.

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Family Income

(Married with 4 Children)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					

Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%

3. Housing	38%	38%	34%	33%	32%	32%
4. Food	15%	15%	14%	14%	14%	14%
5. Transportation	14%	14%	12%	12%	11%	11%
6. Insurance	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
9. Clothing	5%	5%	6%	6%	7%	7%
10. Savings	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%
11. Health & Wellness	8%	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%
12. Miscellaneous	3%	3%	5%	5%	5%	5%
13. Investments	0%	0%	3%	3%	4%	4%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

14. School/Child Care no guideline percentages

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Family Income

(Married with 2 Children)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					
Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%						
3. Housing	39%	36%	32%	30%	30%	29%
4. Food	15%	12%	13%	12%	11%	11%
5. Transportation	15%	12%	13%	14%	13%	13%
6. Insurance	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	3%	5%	5%	7%	7%	8%
9. Clothing	4%	5%	5%	6%	7%	7%
10. Savings	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
11. Health & Wellness	5%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%
12. Miscellaneous	4%	4%	6%	6%	7%	7%
13. Investments	0%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14. School/Child Care	no guideline percentages					

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Family Income

(Married with No Children)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					
Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%						
3. Housing	40%	36%	34%	32%	31%	30%
4. Food	15%	14%	13%	12%	11%	11%
5. Transportation	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%	13%
6. Insurance	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	3%	4%	4%	5%	7%	7%
9. Clothing	4%	4%	5%	6%	6%	7%
10. Savings	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
11. Health & Wellness	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%
12. Miscellaneous	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	7%
13. Investments	0%	4%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

14. School/Child Care no guideline percentages

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Individual Income

(Single with 1 Child)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					
Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%						
3. Housing	40%	39%	39%	36%	34%	30%
4. Food	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%	12%
5. Transportation	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%	12%
6. Insurance	3%	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	3%	4%	4%	6%	6%	6%
9. Clothing	5%	5%	5%	6%	7%	7%
10. Savings	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
11. Health & Wellness	6%	7%	6%	6%	6%	6%
12. Miscellaneous	3%	4%	4%	6%	6%	6%
13. Investments	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	6%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14. School/Child Care	no guideline percentages					

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Individual Income

(Single with No Children / Living Alone)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					
Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%						
3. Housing	40%	38%	36%	34%	32%	30%
4. Food	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%	7%
5. Transportation	15%	15%	14%	14%	13%	13%
6. Insurance	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	6%	6%	7%	7%	8%	9%
9. Clothing	5%	6%	6%	7%	8%	8%
10. Savings	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
11. Health & Wellness	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%	4%
12. Miscellaneous	5%	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%
13. Investments	3%	4%	5%	5%	6%	7%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14. School/Child Care	no guideline percentages					

Suggested Percentage Guidelines For Individual Income

(Single with No Children / Living with Roommate)

GROSS HOUSEHOLD INCOME:	25,000	35,000	45,000	55,000	85,000	125,000
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
2. Total Taxes	Use Current Monthly Taxes					
Net Spendable Income:(Gross Income - Tithe/Giving - Total Taxes) percentages below add to 100%						
3. Housing	25%	24%	23%	22%	21%	20%
4. Food	6%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%
5. Transportation	20%	19%	18%	16%	15%	13%
6. Insurance	4%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%
7. Debts	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
8. Entertainment/Recreation	9%	9%	9%	9%	10%	10%
9. Clothing	7%	7%	7%	7%	7%	8%
10. Savings	8%	8%	9%	10%	10%	10%
11. Health & Wellness	6%	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%
12. Miscellaneous	5%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%
13. Investments	5%	6%	7%	7%	8%	10%
Total Net Spendable Income:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
14. School/Child Care	no guideline percentages					

Revised Oct 29, 2022

Percentage Spending Plan					
Gross Monthly Income		<i>from Current Spending Plan:</i>		10,000	120,000
	Input appropriate % from "Percentage Guide"				Annual Income
Income Deductions	Percentage	x	Gross Monthly Income	=	Guideline Amount
1. Tithe/Giving	10%	x	10,000	=	1,000
2. Total Taxes	<i>no guideline</i>		<i>actual from Current Spending Plan:</i>		3,865
Net Spendable Income (NSI)					5,135
					61,620
					Annual NSI

Expense Category	Percentage	x	Net Spendable Income	=	Guideline Amount
3. Housing	30%	x	5,135	=	1,541
4. Food	7%	x	5,135	=	359
5. Transportation	13%	x	5,135	=	668
6. Insurance	5%	x	5,135	=	257
7. Debts	5%	x	5,135	=	257
8. Entertainment/Recreation	9%	x	5,135	=	462
9. Clothing	8%	x	5,135	=	411
10. Savings	5%	x	5,135	=	257
11. Health & Wellness	4%	x	5,135	=	205
12. Miscellaneous	7%	x	5,135	=	359
13. Investments	7%	x	5,135	=	359
14. School/Child Care	<i>no guideline</i>				
Total Percentages: (cannot exceed 100%)			100%		
Total Guideline Expenses: (cannot exceed Net Spendable Income)					5,135
					OK

Revised Oct 29, 2022

Spending Plan	Current	Guideline	New Budget	Comments
INCOME vs. EXPENSE SUMMARY (calculated)				
Net Spendable Income	5,135		6,800	
Less Total Expenses	5,636		6,800	
Surplus or Deficit	(501)		0	
Monthly Income				
<i>Gross Monthly Income</i>	10,000		10,000	
Monthly Salary	10,000		10,000	Why - Money Map step 2 indicates Doug should look for creative ways to increase his income. His large tax refund each year could be lowered with an adjustment to his payroll withholding tax form designation. That way less payroll is withheld, allowing his net spendable income to increase.
Interest Income				
Dividends				
Commissions				
Bonuses/Tips				
Retirement Income				
Net Business Income				
Other Income				
LESS				
Category 1 - Tithe/Giving (monthly)	1,000	1,000	1,000	
The Local Church	1,000		1,000	
The Poor				
Other Ministries				
Other Giving				
Category 2 - Taxes (monthly)	3,865	3,865	2,200	
Taxes (Fed, State, Medicare, Social Security)	3,865		2,200	See the comment above in the income section. It appears Doug has more than needed to be withheld for his taxes, causing a large refund. Estimate WH at 22% tax rate.
Other				
<i>do not include medical/dental premiums, retirement plans, HSA/FSA contributions, charity contributions that are taken out of the paycheck. Instead, include these deductions as expenses below</i>				
NET SPENDABLE INCOME (monthly)	5,135	5,135	6,800	
Monthly Expenses				
Category 3 - Housing (monthly)	2,942	1,541	2,650	
Mortgage(s) (from Debt List)	1,700		1,700	Why - After progress has been made in building up the 3-6 months savings and paying off the credit card, Doug can focus on his mortgage debt. He owns a 4 bedroom house and could consider to downsize to a smaller home. The value is enough to payoff the current mortgage and receive net proceeds of approx. \$265,000. This could be used for a downpayment on a smaller home, savings build-up, and investing for retirement. For example, the downpayment of \$75,000 would allow Doug to save and then invest for retirement an amount of \$190,000.
Extra Mortgage Payment				
Rent				
Insurance	250		250	

Spending Plan	Current	Guideline	New Budget	Comments
Property Taxes	432		300	Why - To lower expenses, Doug could seek ways to lower property taxes by considering a different state to live in. Possibly a state where his kids live.
Electricity	170		110	Why - Focus on Money Map Step 1. While a priority, let Doug know that expense reduction will take time. How - Sign up for "budget billing" or "level billing" for electricity savings.
Gas	80		80	
Water	40		40	
Sanitation	30		30	
Telephone / Cell phone	80		40	Why - Money Map step 1 focus How - shop his cell phone provider.
Maintenance				
Internet / Cable Service	160		100	Why - Money Map step 1 focus How - Cancel cable TV and/or reduce service ... shop his internet providers.
Other				
Category 4 - Food (monthly)	600	359	450	
Grocery	600		450	Why - Money Map step 1 is a focus. ... How - Buy store brands and use coupons.
Other				
Category 5 - Transportation (monthly)	1,021	668	1,451	
Auto Payment(s) (from Debt List)	619		619	
Extra Auto Payment				Why - Money Map step 3 indicates the auto should be paid off. How - Doug should include the auto into his debt snowball analysis and consider how additional payments can be made to accelerate the payoff date.
Gas & Oil	200		200	
Auto Insurance	150		150	
Licenses & Taxes	12		12	
Maintenance	40		40	
Replacement			430	Also, Doug can consider setting up an auto savings fund to be used to purchase his next vehicle. Once a fund is adequately built, Doug could consider selling the new vehicle to pay off the 100% financed truck. Then, he could buy a used vehicle in cash by using the funds saved to avoid having any auto debt.
Other - Tolls/Parking/Transit Fares				
Category 6 - Insurance (monthly)	135	257	135	
Life (\$30,000 Whole Life)	60		60	
Health/Dental	75		75	
Disability				
Other				
Category 7 - Debts (monthly)	0	257	0	
Total Credit Cards (from Debt List)	0		0	
Total Other Debt (from Debt List)	0		0	
Extra Debt Payments				Why - Money Map step 2 indicates the credit card debt should be paid off How - Doug should prepare a debt snowball analysis and consider how additional payments can be made. Also, he may want to consider contacting Citibank to lower the high interest rate.
Category 8 - Entertainment & Recreation (monthly)	210	462	310	
Eating Out / Lunches	80		80	
Baby Sitters				

Spending Plan	Current	Guideline	New Budget	Comments
Activities / Trips	55		55	Overall the expenses appear light and Doug could budget more for this category.
Vacation	75		75	
Pets				
Hobbies and Sports				
Other			100	
Category 9 - Clothing (monthly)	50	411	250	
Clothing	50		250	Overall the expenses appear light and Doug could budget more for this category.
Other				
Category 10 - Savings (monthly)	25	257	500	
Savings Account	25		500	Why - Money Map step 2 indicates the savings should be built to 1 month of expenses. Then, Money Map step 3 is to increase savings to at least 3 months of expenses. How - Doug should use his expense control efforts to grow his savings make it a priority.
Credit Union				
Other				
Category 11 - Health & Wellness (monthly)	70	205	71	
Doctor	20		20	
Dentist	20		20	
Prescriptions	10		11	
Eye Glasses / Contacts	20		20	
Other				
Category 12 - Miscellaneous (monthly)	133	359	133	
Toiletries / Cosmetics				
Beauty / Barber	20		20	
Laundry / Cleaning				
Allowances				
Subscriptions	3		3	
Gifts (including Christmas)	40		40	
Cash	70		70	
Other				
Category 13 - Investments (monthly)	450	359	850	
Employer 401k/403b plans	400		800	Likely, Doug will need more spending to build up his retirement 401k .. he still has 10 years until age 65. He should look at doubling his 401k contribution to 8%. Then, he should max-out his contribution to the plan. The Money Map step 4 indicates Doug should start building for retirement, and steps 5 and 6 focus on the continual growth of the amount.
Retirement IRAs				
College Funds				
Non-Retirement Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds	50		50	
Investment Real Estate				
Other				
Category 14 - School/Child Care (monthly) (1)	0		0	
School Tuition				
School Books, Supplies, Materials, etc				

Spending Plan	Current	Guideline	New Budget	Comments
Transportation Day Care Tutoring, Lessons for Music, Dance, etc Other				
Total Expenses	5,636	5,135	6,800	

(1) This category does not have a guideline amount.

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