

# Intermittent Expenses



These expenses are ‘sometimes’ expenses; they occur at various times throughout the given year and tend to be expensive. Examples of these are car repairs, gift giving, and house maintenance. They are what we call ‘life’s little emergencies’; not preparing for them will surely break your budget. To determine how much money you need for these expenses, look at the annual cost and divide it by twelve months. By determining a consistent monthly amount for an intermittent expense you are transforming it into a fixed expense; making it much easier to plan a monthly budget (refer to the ‘**Monthly Budget**’ page).

## **For Example:**

Car repairs can easily cost \$1,000.00 a year. Most people do not have this money available when a big repair is necessary. You know repairs are inevitable. By saving \$ 83.00 per month ( $\$1,000.00$  divided by 12) a repair won’t be a financial emergency because you will have the money already saved.

It is very important to find a means of saving and tracking this money from month to month so you are sure to have it when you do need it! The ‘**Savings Worksheet**’ is an excellent way to define all of your intermittent expenses and make them a fixed monthly expense.

Using a series of labeled envelopes to save for your intermittent expenses is a good way to get organized. Refer to the ‘**Money Management Strategies**’ and read the ‘**Envelope Methods**’ section. Should you be uncomfortable keeping sums of money in the home, refer to the ‘**Bank Savings**’ page for a great alternative solution. You might even choose a combination of systems, for example; clothing money in an envelope, car repairs, vacation, and gift money in your savings account.

