# Strategies for DEBT REPAYMENT

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY** 



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# THE MOUNTAIN OF DEBT



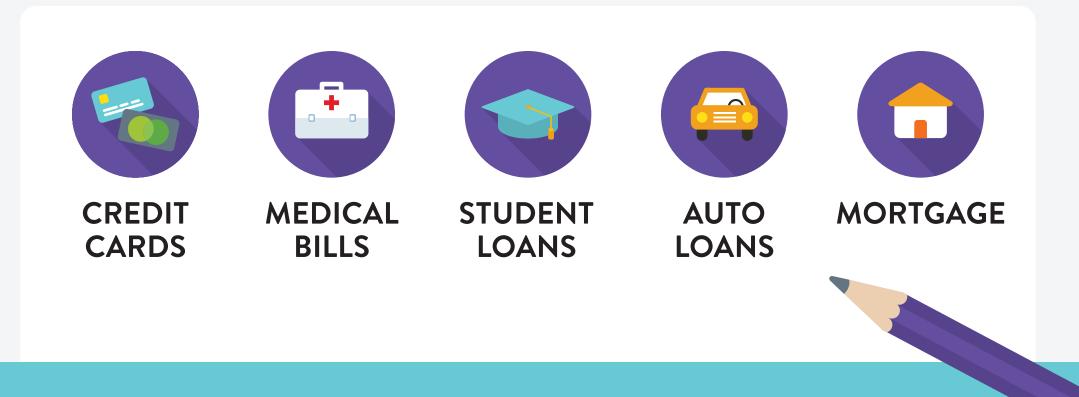
Debt is **stressful**, it's **expensive** and it **limits the amount of money** you can put toward your life goals

### **BUILD YOUR DEBT REPAYMENT PLAN**

- Get organized
- Choose a strategy
- Follow a monthly plan

# **GET ORGANIZED**

### Make a list of all of your debts



# **GET ORGANIZED**

### For each debt, write down:





# **GET ORGANIZED**

For example:

### DEBT: Gold Rewards Credit Card Debt



# Choose your STRATEGY

The strategy you choose will affect the order in which you pay off your debts

# THE SNOWBALL METHOD

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#### **HOW IT WORKS**

Debts are arranged and paid off from smallest balance to largest balance—small debts are quickly crossed off your list, which can give you a confidence boost

#### WHO IT'S FOR

This strategy is ideal for beginners or for those who rely on visible progress in order to feel motivated

# THE AVALANCHE METHOD

#### HOW IT WORKS

Debts are arranged and paid off from highest interest rate to lowest interest rate—this strategy eliminates your most expensive debt first

#### WHO IT'S FOR

Those who want to use the most mathematically powerful strategy; those who are determined (your most expensive debt may also have a large balance)

# CONSOLIDATION

#### HOW IT WORKS

A new loan is taken out and the borrowed money is used to pay off all your other debts, leaving you with only one loan to keep track of



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### WHO IT'S FOR

Those who are having trouble keeping track of all their various debts and repeatedly missing payment due dates as a result If you don't know which strategy is best for you, talk to your credit union about debt counseling or other resources



# Add 'em up

Add up all your minimum paymentsyou must have this total in your monthly budget in order to avoid additional fees

# Set a payment

Define an additional amount of money to put toward loan repayment every month—be generous and realistic



I. Credit Card \$30 (minimum) \$150 (additional) 2. Student Loan

3. Mortgage

### Start at the top

The first debt on your list (this will vary, based on the strategy you chose) will receive its minimum balance plus the additional funds you set aside for debt repayment

## Make the minimums

The rest of the debts on your list will receive their minimum payments

1. Credit Card **✓\$30** (minimum) ✓\$150 (additional) 2. Student Loan ✓\$80 (minimum) 3. Mortgage ✓\$1,028 (minimum)

2. Student Loan
✓ \$80 (minimum)
+ \$150 (additional)
+ \$30 (credit card minimum)

3. Mortgage ✓\$1,028 (minimum)

### Increase your payment

When you pay off a debt, cross it off the list and add its minimum payment to the next debt on the list (along with the additional debt repayment funds)

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Sources: Credit Counselling Society, Forbes, Investopedia.com, TheBalance.com, TheSimpleDollar.com - IT'S A -MONEY THING®