**User Documentation for Spending Tracker**

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**Introduction**

* Brief description of the Spending Tracker.
* Purpose: Helps users track their expenses, visualize spending by category, set savings goals, and monitor progress.

**Requirements**

* Python installed on your computer.
* Basic knowledge of running Python scripts.
* A CSV file named spending.csv in the same directory as the script (if it doesn't exist, the script will create one).

**Getting Started**

* Running the Script: Guide on how to run the Python script.
  + Open a terminal or command prompt.
  + Navigate to the directory containing the script.
  + Run the script using python <script\_name>.py.
* Setting a Savings Goal:
  + When prompted, enter your savings goal amount.
* Entering Expenses:
  + Input each expense amount when prompted.
  + After entering the amount, specify the category of the expense.
  + To end the session, enter 0 as the expense amount.

**Features**

* Loading Previous Spending Data:
  + The script automatically loads past spending data from spending.csv.
* Tracking Expenses:
  + Users can add expenses under different categories.
  + The script updates both the current session and overall spending data.
* Visualizing Spending:
  + Spending is visualized in a bar chart, showing amounts spent in each category.
  + Categories with no spending are excluded from the visualization.
* Setting and Checking Savings Goals:
  + Set a financial savings goal.
  + Check progress towards the goal at the end of the session.
* Saving Data:
  + All entered data is saved in user\_data.csv.
  + The script appends new data to spending.csv for long-term tracking.

**Troubleshooting**

* Common Issues and Solutions: Include any known issues and their solutions.
* Data Entry Errors: Instructions on correcting input errors (e.g., incorrect expense amount or category).

**FAQs**

* A section with answers to frequently asked questions.

**Support**

* Contact information or instructions on how to get help.

**Updates**

* Information on how to check for and install updates to the script.

**Load Spending Data <a name="load-spending-data"></a>**

Description: Loads previous spending data from the 'spending.csv' file. This is for seeing how much money the user spent

Usage: load\_spending\_data()

Return: Returns a dictionary containing spending categories and their corresponding amounts.

**Save Spending Data <a name="save-spending-data"></a>**

Description: Saves spending data to the 'spending.csv' file. This saves how much money the user spent

Usage: save\_spending\_data(categories)

Parameters:

categories: A dictionary containing spending categories and their corresponding amounts.

**Visualize Spending <a name="visualize-spending"></a>**

Description: Generates a bar chart to visualize spending by category. This is for showing the user different categories for spending like for groceries, electricity, laundry cost if needed, and the saving goals that the user wants to reach

Usage: visualize\_spending(categories, savings\_goal)

Parameters:

categories: A dictionary containing spending categories and their corresponding amounts.

savings\_goal: The user's savings goal.

**Save User Data <a name="save-user-data"></a>**

Description: Saves user data to the 'user\_data.csv' file. This is for saving the users data

Usage: save\_user\_data(categories)

Parameters:

categories: A dictionary containing spending categories and their corresponding amounts.

**Set Savings Goal <a name="set-savings-goal"></a>**

Description: Prompts the user to enter a savings goal.

Usage: set\_savings\_goal()

Return: Returns the user's savings goal as a float.

**Check Savings Progress <a name="check-savings-progress"></a>**

Description: Checks and displays the user's savings progress.

Usage: check\_savings\_progress(goal, total\_expenses)

Parameters:

goal: The user's savings goal.

total\_expenses: The total expenses incurred during the current session.

This documentation provides users with a clear understanding of how to use the Spending Tracker, what to expect from it, and how to troubleshoot common issues. Make sure to update it as the project evolves or as new features are added.