

Financial Planning (Presentation #10)

Special Topics (CS3001)

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A Brief Introduction

I have always had a problem with being financially responsible. As I am about to graduate, and will have exponentially more bills, I want a way to be able to handle all of them reasonably. So, I decided I needed a budget.

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I knew I would need a tool to help budget; after some search, I settled on EmPower. I also knew I needed something to invest money into, so I settled on Acorns.

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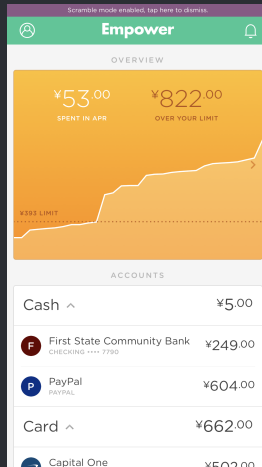


Figure: Empower (With Scramble Mode On, So All Data Is Randomize)

A Brief Introduction



Figure: Acorns

Prior Knowledge

- I've had mediocre money management skills in the past.
- I would basically ballpark expenses and such.
- Although this would suffice in college, it would not last me in the real world long.

Goals

- To keep a reliable budget for the entirety of the semester.
- To be able to update my budget when I graduate easily.

Resources

- All of the learning (besides a couple of articles online) came from experimenting.

Goal Accomplishment

- I successfully created a budget within EmPower.
 - It handles all my weekly expenses (i.e., grocery shopping), monthly expenses (i.e., utilities or internet), and other miscellaneous expenses (entertainment).
- I also was able to save a considerable amount into Acorns.
- The EmPower/Acorns system will be very useful when I graduate and move onto full time.

Goal Not Accomplishment (Yet)


- Sticking to my budget was very hard. Some months I would hit the price point, other times I would miss it by orders of magnitude.
- I would sometimes pull money out of my savings account a little prematurely.


Lessons Learned


The lesson I learned that was most valuable to me was to check my budget everyday. If I don't check it daily, I won't know how much I can or cannot spend. This could be for better or worse.


In Closing

All question, comments, and insults can be directed towards me:

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