Calculate a foundation price with your current plan

Now, let's lay out the foundation we'll work from when considering pre-order options. In my experience, the most important thing to keep in mind is the cost of your monthly cellphone plan since, in most cases, the amount you pay for the smartphone won't change significantly. Moreover, if you buy a phone from a carrier, most require you also to get specific plans, sometimes that cost way more than what you already pay.

The monthly cost of your phone plan will fluctuate depending on your needs and your carrier. Therefore, I recommend starting your search for a cheap Pixel by looking at your current plan and considering whether it covers your needs. If it doesn't, you might want to consider changing your plan (which you can probably do alongside getting a new Pixel). If your plan offers more than what you currently need, it might be worth investigating cheaper options — start by looking at the bring-your-own-phone (BYOP) plans offered by various wireless providers in your region and pick the one that works best for you.