

# bud·get<sup>1</sup>

S1 W2

/'bʌdʒᵻt/

noun [countable]

**1** SPEND MONEY the money that is available to an organization or person, or a plan of how it will be spent:

## budget of

*a welfare program with a budget of \$2 million*

## budget for

*The budget for photography has been cut.*

*We had a really **tight budget**.*

**on/within budget** (= not using more money than planned)

*The project was completed within budget.*

**under budget** (= using less money than planned)

*If you come in under budget, everyone will be very impressed.*

**over budget** (= using more money than planned)

*Feature movies always run over budget.*

## 2 on a budget

if you are on a budget, you do not have much money to spend:

*Travellers on a budget might prefer to camp.*

*a book which offers great ideas for decorating on a budget*

*families **on a tight budget***

**3** (*also* / **Budget**) (**BrE**) an official statement that a government makes about how much it intends to spend and what taxes will be necessary

## COLLOCATIONSense 1

### ADJECTIVES/NOUN + budget

an annual/monthly/weekly budget *The organization has an annual budget of \$24 million.*

the national/federal/state budget *He has a plan to balance the federal budget.*

the defence/education etc budget *We had to make cuts in the*

*defence budget.*

*the family/household budget Often the husband and wife contribute equally to the family budget.*

*a big/large budget The club does not have a large budget for new players.*

*a small/low/limited budget It was a project with a low budget.*

*a tight budget (= small and limited) Most young people have to live within a tight budget.*

*a fixed budget Our clients usually have a fixed budget.*

*a shoestring budget (= a very small budget) The film had been made on a shoestring budget.*

*a total budget The National Institute of Health had a total budget of \$11.3 billion.*

*an overall budget (= total) There has been an increase in the overall budget made available by the Government for training.*

## verbs

*have a budget Hospital caterers have a budget of about £20 per person per week.*

*overspend your budget The Metropolitan Police has overspent its budget by £70 million.*

*keep within a budget (= spend only the money that is available) Further cuts are needed in order to keep within the budget.*

*balance the budget (= spend only the money that is available) the importance of balancing the budget and cutting taxes*

## budget + NOUN

*a budget deficit (= when a government has spent more money than it has) The country has a budget deficit of over \$4 billion.*

*a budget surplus (= when a government has more money than it spends) A huge budget surplus of over £16 billion was recorded.*

*budget cuts (= reductions in the amount of money that is available) The department has suffered severe budget cuts.*

## Word origin

**Date:** 1400–1500

**Language:** Old French

**Origin:** *bougette* 'small leather bag', from *bouge* 'leather bag', from Latin *bulga*; from the idea of bringing your spending plan out of its bag

# budget<sup>2</sup>

verb

[intransitive and transitive]

**1** SPEND MONEY to carefully plan and control how much money you spend and what you will buy with it:

*We'll have to budget more carefully.*

*This scheme enables you to budget the cost through fixed monthly payments.*

**budget for**

*We've budgeted for a new car next year.*

**2** PLAN if you budget something such as time, you decide how much of it you will need

— **budgeting** noun [uncountable]

# budget<sup>3</sup>

adjective

[only before noun]

**1** CHEAP very low in price – often used in advertisements

**SYN** cheap

*budget flights*

**2 low-budget/big-budget**

used for saying how much money has been spent on doing something, especially making a film:

*low-budget movies*

*Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*

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