



Pay Yourself First

Are you looking out for #1? Do you have a plan B, a nest egg, a safety net for tomorrow? The money in your shoe box, under your mattress, or even in your savings account won't help you if you're only adding the birthday money you get from grandma. While we do love grandma, you need to first think about your future self when it comes to paying the bills. That is, unless you owe her money!

Using the "pay yourself first" concept you include a fixed amount that must be applied to your savings when you are adding up your monthly bills.

the "me" fund	\$20
what I owe grandma	\$15
phone bill	\$60
car insurance bill	\$80
Total bills	\$175

my monthly pay	\$300
Total bills	-\$175
	\$125

Money left over for
gas, food, & fun!

Saving money can be difficult sometimes, but by using the "pay yourself first" system you force yourself to save. The amount you set aside for saving in your "me" fund does not have to be a lot, as long as you make a commitment to yourself to consistently add to it. When you "budget in" your savings you ensure that the money will be there for you when you really need it.