



# Finance Tracker: User Manual

**Secure. Private. Simple.**

Thank you for choosing the **Finance Tracker: Apple Lime Edition**. This dashboard is designed to give you a professional-grade financial overview while keeping your data exactly where it belongs: **with you**.

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## Privacy & Security First

Unlike other finance apps, this tool is built on a **Zero-Data-Sharing** philosophy.

- **Local Storage Only:** Your financial data is stored directly in your browser's local cache. It is never uploaded to a cloud or shared with third parties.
- **No Account Needed:** You don't need to sign up or provide an email address to use the tool.
- **Offline Capable:** Once the files are on your computer, you can track your budget without an internet connection.

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## Getting Started

### How to Open Your Finance Tracker

To ensure the **Apple Lime** theme and charts load correctly, follow these exact steps after downloading:

#### Step 1: Extract the Files

**Do not double-click the `index.html` file while it is still inside the ZIP folder.** Browsers cannot load the styling or logic from a compressed file.

- **Windows:** Right-click the ZIP file and select "**Extract All...**", then click **Extract**.
- **Mac:** Simply double-click the ZIP file to create a regular folder.

#### Step 2: Open the New Folder

Once extracted, you will see a regular yellow folder named `Finance_Tracker`. Open it. You should see three main files:

1. `index.html` (The App)
2. `style.css` (The Design)
3. `script.js` (The Logic)

#### Step 3: Launch the App

Right-click `index.html` and select **"Open with"** and choose your favorite browser (Chrome, Edge, or Brave are recommended).

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## Understanding the Dashboard

Your dashboard uses **Subtractive Logic** to ensure you always know your true bottom line:

Metric	What it means
Total Balance	Your absolute net worth across all time in the selected currency.
Monthly Income	Total money added (Savings) within the currently selected month.
Net Savings	Your actual "Cash on Hand" (Total Income minus Total Expenses).
Visual Analytics	The doughnut chart automatically breaks down your spending by category so you can see where your money goes at a glance.

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## Managing History

- **Search:** Use the search bar to find specific transactions by name or category.
- **Filter:** View your history by "All Time" or specific months to track your progress.
- **Delete:** To remove an entry, click the **X** icon next to the transaction. A confirmation modal will appear to prevent accidental deletions.

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## Pro Tips for Users

- **Bookmark it:** Bookmark the local file in your browser for one-click access to your budget.
- **Browser Cache:** Since data is stored in your browser, clearing your "Cookies and Site Data" may reset your ledger. We recommend exporting your data or taking screenshots for long-term backups.
- **Responsive Design:** You can use this on your tablet or phone by hosting the files on a private server or using a local network share.