

# Getting out of trouble



It is possible to get out of financial trouble.

**It can be done**, but it takes:

- determination
- hard work
- honesty
- all the members of the family working together.

## Face the problem

The first thing to do is to **face the problem**. If you get **letters** from people you owe money to (called creditors), **open** them. **Read** them. You must know where you stand with each creditor.



## Discuss the problem with your family

If you have adult family members who **depend on your income**, discuss the situation with them. If your family wants to get out of debt, **everyone** in the family must cooperate. You must all **agree on the way forward** and **stick to the plan**.

## Draw up a budget

Look at your budget. Tick off all your **needs**. Now look at **the things that are left**. These are the things you need to pay off and cut down on.

Sit down and **make a list** of all your **creditors** and **how much you owe them**, each one. Make it your goal to **pay off your creditors!** Work out how much you can afford to pay each one, leaving you just enough to live on. Avoid all **unnecessary** spending.





In the old days, savings clubs were simple and easy. Members knew and trusted each other.

These days, a **dishonest** person can start a club and take your money. Our lives are busier and **strangers** come to live in our communities more often. **We have to be more careful.** Never give your money to a stranger who promises to start a new savings scheme.

Despite these dangers, saving clubs are good for **short-term saving**, if you know and trust the people who run it and if the leaders of the club write everything down.

**Choose your savings club carefully!  
Save only with people you know and trust!**



## The bank method

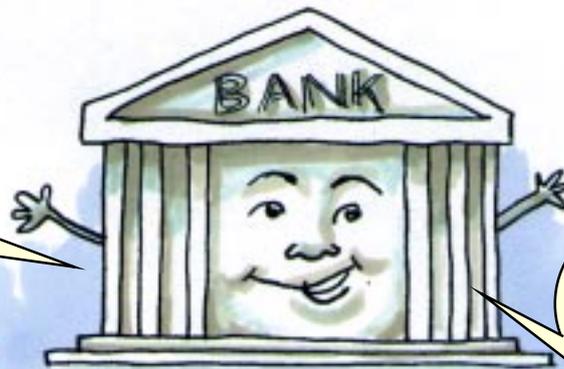
Saving with a bank is one of the ways to save for the medium and long term.

But why?

Your money is **safe**. No one can steal it. The bank has **rules** which protect you.

But I am scared of banks. I don't understand them. I have never even been inside a bank.

Banks are there to help us! You have a right to go into any bank and ask the financial adviser to explain what services it can offer you.



**MONEY MANAGEMENT**

Now is a good time to find out what banks do, and how they can help you!

**Rule number 6  
Save a little money every month.**