

FROM ONE HOUSEHOLD TO TWO: A JOINT BUDGET WORKSHEET

	Our shared <u>home</u>	Home of: _____	Home of: _____
MONTHLY NET INCOME	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____

MONTHLY EXPENSES (average per month)

HOME

Mortgage/rent	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Maintenance	_____	_____	_____
Lawn Care	_____	_____	_____
2 nd Mortgage	_____	_____	_____

UTILITIES

Electric	_____	_____	_____
Gas	_____	_____	_____
Oil	_____	_____	_____
Telephone	_____	_____	_____
Cell Phone	_____	_____	_____
Water	_____	_____	_____
Sewer	_____	_____	_____
Cable TV	_____	_____	_____
Internet	_____	_____	_____
Trash/Recycling	_____	_____	_____

TAXES

Real estate	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Personal property	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____

EXPENSES, continued

Shared _____

INSURANCE

Homeowner/renter	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Automobile	_____	_____	_____
Life	_____	_____	_____
Accident/Disability	_____	_____	_____
Excess Coverage	_____	_____	_____
Long-Term Care	_____	_____	_____

AUTOMOBILE

Lease or Loan	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Fuel	_____	_____	_____
Repairs	_____	_____	_____
Memberships	_____	_____	_____

MEDICAL

Medical Insurance	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Doctor	_____	_____	_____
Dentist	_____	_____	_____
Hospital	_____	_____	_____
Medication	_____	_____	_____
Counseling/Therapy	_____	_____	_____
Orthodontist	_____	_____	_____
Special Needs (glasses, etc.)	_____	_____	_____

EDUCATION

Tuition	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Tutoring	_____	_____	_____
Lessons	_____	_____	_____
Other	_____	_____	_____

EXPENSES, continued

Shared _____

PERSONAL

Debt Service	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Clothing	_____	_____	_____
Groceries	_____	_____	_____
Haircare	_____	_____	_____
Memberships	_____	_____	_____
Credit payments:			
_____ Credit card	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
_____ Credit card	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
_____ Credit card	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
_____ Credit card	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
_____ Credit card	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		

Loans:

Loan from _____	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
Loan from _____	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
Loan from _____	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		
Loan from _____	_____	_____	_____
Total owed \$	_____		

EXPENSES, continued

Shared _____ _____

MISCELLANEOUS

Child care	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
Household help	_____	_____	_____
Summer Camp	_____	_____	_____
Papers, Books & Magazines	_____	_____	_____
Entertainment	_____	_____	_____
Pet Expenses	_____	_____	_____
Vacation	_____	_____	_____
Gifts	_____	_____	_____
Legal fees/Prof. Fees	_____	_____	_____
Charity Contribution	_____	_____	_____
Child's Parties	_____	_____	_____
Child's Allowances	_____	_____	_____
Other Child Support	_____	_____	_____
Alimony payments	_____	_____	_____

OTHER

_____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Total Expenses \$ \$ \$

INCOME MINUS EXPENSES \$ \$ \$

Some questions to explore together:

- What are our up-front expenses, if one of us relocates (such as moving costs, security deposit, necessary furnishings), and where will that money come from?
- Can we afford to separate into two households right now? If we can't, can we set sensible and respectful ground rules together that will help us in the meantime to co-exist peacefully while still having space for each to explore and meet his/her individual needs?
- Could we benefit from mediation or other outside support that will help us to avoid conflict, protect the children and reach fair agreements?
- What debts could we pay off while still living together, that will enable us to afford to separate?
- How long will it take to free up the money that right now is paying those debts month to month?
- How can one or both of us *realistically* reduce some budget line-items to be able to live more affordably, both while we remain together and after we separate?
- Are we both willing to stick to our joint budget, and to our separate budgets, while our finances remain combined?
- Can we agree on reasonable and reliable monthly support payments that will allow our two separate households to operate securely, while we begin discussing how to settle our bigger, longer-term issues?