

Financial readiness quiz

Take this quiz to see how healthy your financial habits are and what areas could use some improvement. Then, talk to your advisor about your results and steps you can take to boost your score.

Budgeting (15 points)

Select the most accurate response for the following statements.

1. I know where all my money goes.

- Never (0)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (2)
- Always (3)

2. I spend within my means.

- Never (0)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (2)
- Always (3)

3. I have an emergency fund that can cover at least three months of living expenses.

- Never (0)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (2)
- Always (3)

4. If my next paycheque came a week late, I would be able to meet my financial obligations.

- Never (0)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (2)
- Always (3)

5. Over the past year, I have been able to cover all of my expenses.

- Never (0)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (2)
- Always (3)

Points: _____

Investing and retirement planning (15 points)

6. When you think of retirement, which of these statements is most accurate?

I don't think about it at all – I have too many other priorities (0)

I have a vague idea of what I want my retirement to look like, but I'm not sure how much money I will need (1)

I know exactly how I want to spend my retirement and what it will cost (3)

7. How is your plan to save for retirement going?

I'm not saving regularly (0)

I put money away regularly, but I'm not sure if it's enough (2)

I'm on track to retire comfortably (3)

8. Are you satisfied with how you're investing your savings?

I have no savings to invest (0)

I'm not sure (1)

I'm investing my savings exactly how I want (3)

9. Do you review your investments on a regular basis?

Yes (3)

No (0)

10. Have you discussed your investment goals and risk tolerance with an expert?

Yes (3)

No (0)

Points: _____

Debt management (15 points)

11. What's your debt situation?

- Overwhelming – I'm afraid to even open my bills (0)
- I carry a balance on my credit card and always make the minimum payments (1)
- My debt is manageable, and I am comfortable paying it off (4)
- I am debt-free (6)

12. In the last year, have you missed any debt payments?

- Yes (0)
- No (3)

13. Do you know the interest rates you're paying on your credit cards or lines of credit?

- Yes (3)
- No (0)

14. Have you reviewed your credit score and report within the past year?

- Yes (3)
- No (0)

Points: _____

Financial protection (15 points)

Do you feel financially prepared if one of these events happened to you, your spouse or your dependants?

15. Serious illness

- Yes (3)
- Somewhat (1)
- No (0)

16. Disability

- Yes (3)
- Somewhat (1)
- No (0)

17. Death

- Yes (3)
- Somewhat (1)
- No (0)

Do you have:

18. An estate plan, including a will?

- Yes (3)
- No (0)

19. A power of attorney or an executor?

- Yes (3)
- No (0)

Points: _____

Financial stress (15 points)

How do you feel about the following statements?

20. Dealing with money stresses me out.

- Never (5)
- Rarely (3)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (0)

21. I feel uncomfortable with my financial situation.

- Never (5)
- Rarely (3)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (0)

22. Money matters worry me while I'm at work or disrupt my work.

- Never (5)
- Rarely (3)
- Sometimes (1)
- Often (0)

Points: _____

Scoring

Budgeting _____ /15 points

Investing and retirement planning _____ /15 points

Debt management _____ /15 points

Financial protection _____ /15 points

Financial stress _____ /15 points

Total score
Add all five totals for a final score _____ /75 points

Results

0 to 38 points:

Some improvement needed

You've taken the first step towards financial readiness. Now that you know where you stand, with guidance you can begin to reach for financial milestones and prepare for unexpected events. Speak with your advisor about how to get started.

39 to 60 points:

Moderately ready

You are more financially ready in some areas of life than others. Speak with your advisor to learn how you can strengthen your weak spots and boost your confidence to handle everything life has in store, whether planned or unexpected.

61 to 75 points:

Financial readiness all-star

You are financially ready. Though you probably knew you were in good shape, it always helps to see the different areas where you're prepared and know that your confidence is well placed. To see if you could be doing even better, speak with your advisor.



6 points or less in one area: You may benefit from some extra guidance on this topic. Speak with your advisor about how you can work on increasing your knowledge and confidence in this area.