Write down where you want to direct your spending - cut back on what's not important so that you can spend more on what is important. Do this periodically, especially if your financial situation changes.

| INCOME | PER MONTH | WITHHOLDINGS | PER MONTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Salary 1 | $\$$ | Federal Tax | $\$$ |
| Salary 2 | $\$$ | State Tax | $\$$ |
| Commissions | $\$$ | Social Sec./Medicare | $\$$ |
| Social Security | $\$$ | Other | $\$$ |
| Other | $\$$ | Total Income | $\$$ |
| Other | $\$$ | Total Withholdings | $\$$ |
| Other | $\$$ | SPENDABLE INCOME | $\$$ |

"Must" expenses are difficult to eliminate, but you may be able to reduce them. A different insurer or a smaller house may help, but these are big decisions that require care. The best way - get rid of that debt!

| MUST EXPENSES | PER MONTH |  | PER MONTH |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Home: mortgage/rent | \$ | Insurance: life | \$ |
| property tax | \$ | disability | \$ |
| insurance | \$ | liability | \$ |
| electric/gas | \$ | other | \$ |
| water/sewer | \$ | Debts: credit card 1 | \$ |
| telephone | \$ | credit card 2 | \$ |
| maintenance | \$ | credit card 3 | \$ |
| other | \$ | other | \$ |
| Car: Ioan payment | \$ | Savings: emergency | \$ |
| insurance | \$ | education | \$ |
| gas/oil | \$ | retirement | \$ |
| maintenance | \$ | Daily: groceries | \$ |
| other | \$ | child care | \$ |
| Medical: insurance | \$ | other | \$ |
| doctor/dentist | \$ | other | \$ |
| prescriptions | \$ | other | \$ |
| other | \$ | TOTAL "MUSTS" | \$ |

You don't have to cut out all "wants" - but you should pick and choose what's truly important to you

| WANT EXPENSES |  |  | PER MONTH |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Cable TV | $\$$ | Gifts | \$ |
| Dining out | $\$$ | Allowances | $\$$ |
| Hobbies/Clubs | Other | $\$$ |  |
| Vacation | $\$$ | Other | $\$$ |
| Pet care | Other | $\$$ |  |
| Charity | $\$$ | TOTAL "WANTS" | $\$$ |


| SPENDABLE INCOME |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| LESS TOTAL MUST AND WANT EXPENSES | $\$$ |
| MONTHLY SURPLUS OR DEFICIT | $\$$ |

