



Home Buyer Education: Life as a Homeowner



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Seminar objectives...



- Establish and maintain household budget
- Understand debt management strategies
- Know how to plan a successful move
- Be familiar with home safety, basic maintenance
- Know how to cut utility costs
- Understand benefits of home ownership
- Know resources for remodeling, home improvement
- Understand when refinancing makes sense
- Know how to avoid foreclosure

Household budgeting tips

- Track expenses; identify spending leaks
- Set SMART financial goals
- Prepare a household spending plan
- Keep good financial records
- Check credit reports annually (annualcreditreport.com)
- Establish emergency fund



A stack of several coins, including a quarter and a dime, is shown in the top left corner. The coins are stacked on a dark surface, and the lighting is dramatic, highlighting the metallic texture and the details on the coins.

Debt management tips

- Charge it—responsibly
- Pay extra on principal (after retiring card debt)
- Practice good day-to-day habits
- Seek debt counseling resources
- Cancel private mortgage insurance

“Do-it-yourself” move

- Less expensive, but there are costs
 - Vehicle rental
 - Security deposit
 - Equipment and supplies
 - Mileage, taxes
- Your time
- Local moves: Charged by hour or day, plus miles driven
- Additional charges for one-way rates
- Check auto insurance for coverage



Professional movers

- **Local moves: Hourly rate**
- **Intra- and interstate moves: Cost calculated by weight and distance**
- **Insurance: Check what the moving company offers; check your own insurance**
- **Additional charges: packing/unpacking, dismantling/reassembling furniture, packing supplies**

