



***First Federal***  
BANK of KANSAS CITY





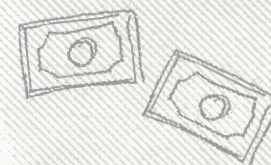
# Tomorrow is yours. Rule it.



We all have things we want to do in life. Maybe it's the experiences we want to check off our bucket list – like the once-in-a-lifetime trip. Or, it's the things we've always dreamed about. The new home. Being able to send a child off to college. Or enjoying a worry-free retirement with the ones we love.

The good news is that it's all possible. All it takes is the right know-how to make it happen. But how do we get that know-how? Well, what if you could talk with future you? Imagine him or her giving you the lowdown on how to make it all happen.

Think of this ebook as tips, life hacks, and just smart stuff from that future you.







## The two types of tomorrows



Dreams come in different shapes and sizes. Let's put them into two buckets:



Dreams around the corner



Dreams down the road

We'll look at what you need to know to make each of these types of dreams possible. And we'll help you get the know-how that puts you in charge of your future. In no time at all you'll feel like the Duchess of Your Desires or the Archduke of Your Aspirations.





## Dreams around the corner



We all have our eyes on something just around the corner. For some of us, it's upgrading that old beater to a sweet ride. Or that sun-and-sand vacation we've always wanted. Or a new big screen so we can cheer on our favorite team in the full glory of super-maximum definition.

Although these are dreams, they don't have to stay that way. Future you will tell you it just takes the right steps to get there.







## Take the first step

### KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

By looking at where our money goes, we have a clearer picture of what we have that can go toward those around-the-corner dreams. But something else can happen, too. We may uncover ways we could save a few bucks or change the way we do things to find a few more bucks.

Let's look at a few ways we can start down the path toward achieving those dreams around the corner.

### TAKE SMALL STEPS

These goals don't require that we throw every penny we have at them. Pick a goal and divide it into manageable chunks and it'll seem more doable.







## CREATE A COUNTDOWN

Say you have your eye on a new \$800 TV but don't have that kind of coin lying around. Could you stash away \$50 per month? \$100? More? Create a countdown calendar that shows how much you have left to save each month. It will build your anticipation. And remind you of how much you have accomplished. Sometimes all it takes is a simple plan.

## WHERE TO SAVE

We'll want to keep this money easily accessible in a savings account, so we can get it when we're ready to pay for that around-the-corner dream. Plus, getting this money out of our checking account keeps us from mistakenly spending it. Look for a savings account with a competitive interest rate so your money earns extra each month as you add to it.







## Saving for a car

It doesn't matter if it's a fun car or something more functional, we all need a way to get around. But what we want and what we need can be two different things. And the wrong choice can leave us with sticker shock every time we open that monthly car payment bill. It can mean the difference between us owning the car and it owning us.



## THE LOW DOWN ON DOWN PAYMENTS



Whether buying new or used, it's recommended to put down 20% in cash. Or more if it's doable.

## DON'T FORGET THE OTHER COSTS



Remember that we'll also have to pay taxes and title and licensing fees around the same time. So it's more than just the down payment that we have to come up with.



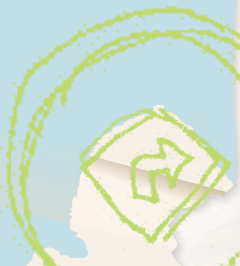
Check out our "Borrowing Like a Boss" ebook for more tips on how to get a sweet new ride that fits your style and your budget.



TIP



The best time to start saving for a new car is just as we're paying one off. We're already used to that money coming out of our checking account each month. So it's easy to keep it going by moving the same amount over to a savings account monthly. Then when we're ready to buy that new ride, we'll have some down payment money ready.







## Saving for the fun stuff

Maybe you've been eyeing the tricked-out technology of the latest smart phone. Or maybe you've been wanting to take the family on a beach vacation. We all have something we'd like. With the right know-how, we can make that fun stuff happen.

### SMART MONEY

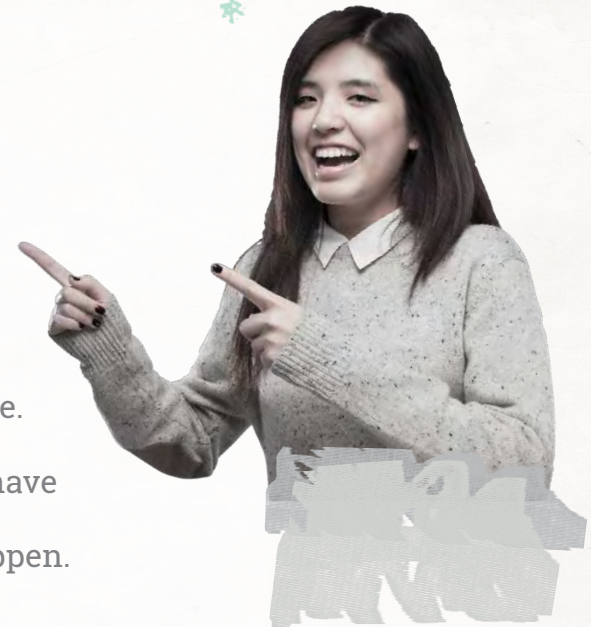


Taking on a bunch of credit card debt to get that fun stuff can cause a bunch of stress and worry. That doesn't sound like much fun. That's why our best strategy is to pay cash.


### HOW MUCH WE'LL NEED



It's worth doing a little bit of research up-front to help figure out a rough amount we'll need to save. At the very least, we can get some ranges so we can decide whether we'll want the standard model or something fancier. The more concrete our plan, the more success we'll have.







## Dreams down the road



We all envision dreams that we want to achieve down the road. Maybe we see our future selves with a beautiful home and perfectly manicured lawn. Kids off to college. And retirement just a few years away. All of our dreams down the road have one thing in common. They require a plan if they are going to become more than just dreams. This would be a good time to turn to our future selves for some smart advice on how to make it all come true. Because it's all possible. We just need the right know-how to get there.







## Planning for the journey



Future you knows a secret about achieving those dreams down the road. It takes a routine. So, how do we get one?

### KNOW WHERE WE STAND

If we know how much we have going out and how much we have coming in, then we can determine what we can put toward those dreams down the road.

### TAKE SMALL STEPS

Just like we said with our dreams around the corner, we don't have to dump everything we have into this. We can do it little by little. It's a marathon, not a sprint.

### PLAN IT OUT

The key to doing it little by little is knowing exactly what we're doing. That means writing down how much we need to stash away and how often. Writing it down increases our chances of success.





ADD IN FREE MONEY 

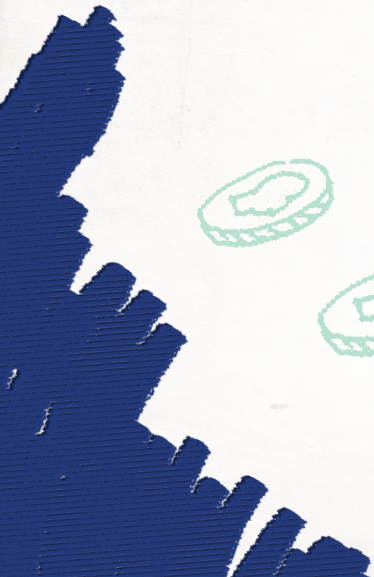
Free money is any money we weren't planning on. Like a cash gift on our birthday or an unexpected income tax refund.

REMEMBER, TIME IS MONEY 

We can't forget the power of starting early and letting time and compound interest multiply what we save. Here's an example. Janice starts saving the same amount each month in an account that earns interest. Jon waits 10 years to start saving but then saves twice as much in an account that earns the same interest as Janice's account. 10 years after that, who has more money? If you answered Janice, you're right. That's the power of time and compound interest.

PUT IT IN ITS OWN SAVINGS ACCOUNT 

There's some truth to the old saying, "Out of sight – out of mind." If our dreams down the road money isn't in our checking account, we'll be less tempted to spend it. Open a separate account for each dream (and bonus points for an account that'll let us label it with our dream like "House Fund" or "Benjamins for Ben's house").







## Saving for college

A good education can help set our kids on the right track for life. As parents (or soon-to-be parents), we'd like to help our kids as much as possible. The good news is there are smart ways to save for college so our kids can jump into their adult lives without being overwhelmed by debt.

### COLLEGE SAVINGS PLANS



There are a number of different college savings plans, many offering tax benefits. The most common are 529 College Savings Plans and Coverdell ESAs (Education Savings Accounts), which allow for tax-free earnings\* growth, and tax-free withdrawals\* for qualified educational expenses. But there's also prepaid tuition plans, UGMA (Uniform Gift to Minors Act) plans, and UTMA (Uniform Transfer to Minors Act) plans. It's worth checking out each to find the one that's right for you.

\*consult a tax advisor for specific details

### HOW MUCH TO SAVE



How much we'll need to save depends on when and where our little bundles of joy will go to college. There are many resources out there that can help you get an idea of what you'll need. Just do a search for college costs calculator.







## Saving for a house

### HOW MUCH WE'LL NEED



Your lender can help you identify how much you'll need to put down in cash for the home you're buying. Keep in mind - the more you put down in cash, the lower the loan amount and less you could pay each month.

Also, it's worth considering how much you can pay each month on that home. Your payment should be no more than 25% of your monthly income (or combined monthly income if you're married).

A home may be the biggest purchase we'll ever make.

With the right know-how, we can make some smart moves to get the right house for our situation – whether it's a starter home or a place with a little extra room for our growing family.

### DON'T FORGET THE OTHER COSTS



Remember that we'll also have to cover closing costs in addition to the down payment.

**Check out our "Borrowing Like a Boss" ebook for more tips on how to buy the home that's perfect for you and your budget.**

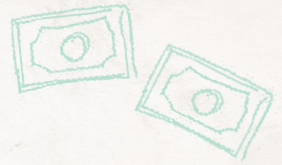






# Saving for retirement

We all dream of spending our golden years surrounded by family and friends – with time to travel, pursue hobbies, and just relax. Or maybe it's just spending more time away from the office. Whatever our vision for retirement is, we can get there. It just takes the right map.





## TYPES OF ACCOUNTS



There are two common places to put our money while it grows for retirement.

### 401(k)



This is a retirement plan sponsored by your employer. Money comes out of your paycheck - typically before taxes are deducted. And your employer might match a percentage of your contribution, sometimes as much as 100% (it's like free money!). This is often the primary spot for retirement savings.

### IRA



This is another place to save for retirement. Like a 401(k), you can put in money before or after it's been taxed, depending on whether you go with a traditional IRA or Roth IRA. But this account doesn't offer an option for outside contributions from an employer.

## HOW MUCH YOU'LL NEED



The experts say a good rule of thumb is to plan to save enough to replace 80% of what you were making before retirement. Some of us might require a little more. Others a little less. Try our retirement calculator to find out how much you might need. Remember - this is just a rough number to help us get started.







# You rule!

The things we want in life – no matter how big or small – are possible. Future you knows it's true. Whether that's taking the family on a dream vacation, upgrading the TV in the man cave, or enjoying our golden years with as much relaxation as possible. We can do it. We've all dreamed about these things, picturing ourselves in those moments. We just need to listen to the advice of our future selves. If we do that, we can rule our tomorrows.





# BETTER. TOGETHER.

We have a belief that when we help each other, we all prosper. That's why we create stuff like this ebook. And why we offer some great options to help you rule your tomorrows. Check them out:



## First Savings Plus

A First Savings Plus account rewards you with a higher interest rate just for having a First Federal Bank of Kansas City checking account.

## Home Loans

We have the options. Fixed rate or adjustable. 30 year or 15. Conventional, FHA and VA. We can help you find the loan that's right for you whether you're buying a home or refinancing to lower your payment or consolidate debt.

## Vehicle Loans

Whether it's a car or a truck, we can help you get to the loan that's right for your situation.

## IRA

Save for retirement with an IRA invested in a First Federal CD or savings account. Accounts have a choice of fixed or variable interest rates and are FDIC-insured.



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Got a question? Need a little help? Call or stop by any of our locations. Or visit us online at [ffbkc.com](http://ffbkc.com).





TO CONTINUE THE JOURNEY TO WELLBEINGVILLE, CHECK OUT THE OTHER GREAT HELP BELOW.

