



## NEXT MONEY MOVES GUIDE

By helping prioritize your next money moves, this guide answers the question “what should I do next?”

Your financial success is largely determined by how you apply “extra” money. This includes 1) Surplus Funds from your budget 2) Current Assets 3) Money Windfalls (*which are things like tax refunds, large gifts, work bonuses, inheritances, etc.*). For maximum results, simply apply any “extra” money toward your next level.

### ❑ LEVEL 1:

#### **Implement Budget with Spending Plan** (*including adequate insurances*)

*Document income + expenses, along with having action plan to ensure the math happens. Protect with proper insurance.*

### ❑ LEVEL 2:

#### **Save \$2,000 for Emergencies**

*This “Emergency Fund” is used only for emergencies such as job loss, family health issues, etc. It’s your “shock absorber”.*

### ❑ LEVEL 3:

#### **Pay Off All Credit Card Debt**

*Get rid of all balances using the “[Debt Snowball](#)” approach.*

### ❑ LEVEL 4:

#### **Increase Emergency Fund to Three-to-Six Month’s Survival Expenses**

*Save more if your income is unstable, or if you only have one wage-earner in your household.*

### ❑ LEVEL 5:

#### **Pay Off All Consumer Debt**

*Say bye to auto loans/leases, student loans, personal loans, furniture/appliance loans, etc. Everything but home loans.*

### ❑ LEVEL 6:

#### **Start Funding All Surplus Categories**

*Budget for items like “Car & Home Repair/Maintenance”, “Replacement Car”, “Health Expenses”, etc.*

### ❑ LEVEL 7:

#### **Designate 10% to Retirement**

*Contribute 10% of your income to 401k’s, IRA’s, etc. Start with company-matching 401k’s, then look at IRA’s.*

### ❑ LEVEL 8:

#### **Target Next Major Goals**

*Save for a home down payment, college fund for your children, starting a new business (don’t go into debt here!), etc.*

### ❑ LEVEL 9:

#### **Pay Off Home Loans**

*Don’t start pre-paying home loans until Levels 1-8 are completed and still in place.*

### ❑ LEVEL 10:

#### **Enjoy Your Financial Freedom**

*Remember those “Ultimate Investments” in life! Now’s when you have the most time to pursue these!*