



Home Buyer Education: Life as a Homeowner



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Seminar objectives...



- Establish and maintain household budget
- Understand basic debt management strategies
- Know how to plan a successful move—now or in the future
- Be familiar with home safety and basic maintenance
- Know how to conserve energy and save on utility costs
- Understand financial benefits of home ownership
- Know resources for remodeling and home improvement
- Understand when it makes sense to refinance

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



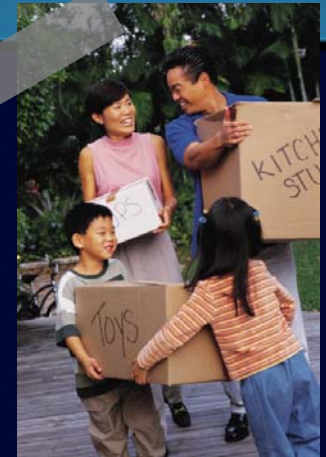
Debt management tips

- Charge it—responsibly
- Benefits of paying extra on principal (after you retire credit card debt)
- Debt counseling resources
- Avoiding foreclosure
- Canceling 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**

