

The Emergency Fund

Rainy day fund, savings, planning ahead...whatever you want to call it your marriage needs it.

You need to have reserves because the fact of life is that there will be times when the unexpected happens.

- The car blows a tire
- The roof needs to be repaired
- There's an emergency in the family and you need to fly across country
- Someone in your family is sick and insurance won't cover medication

LIFE happens every single day.

Being prepared can have a tremendous impact on your marriage. Financial challenges are one of the biggest issues that married couples face. Those unexpected EMERGENCIES wreak havoc on the two of you emotionally, physically, spiritually and financially. That is why having a plan and the resources will make such a difference to the two of you and how you relate to one another. Credit cards are not the ultimate answer because while they do relieve the immediate stress of the situation, when the bill comes so does the stress, especially if the funds aren't available or you don't have a plan to pay off the card.

The amount in your fund will vary based on your needs. Most financial advisors recommend 3-6 months of reserves. Don't panic. Start where you can today. Even an extra \$500 in an account can ease the stress.

Due to the nature of finances and creating an emergency fund, these questions are going to be ones that you answer first for yourself and then discuss with your spouse.

1. How do you feel about an emergency fund?

2. What do you think would be an adequate amount to have for “just in case”?

3. How much do we have available now? _____

4. What changes would we have to make to our current spending to reach our goal?

5. How can we hold each other accountable to reaching our goal?

6. How will you feel when we have those funds available for any type of emergency?

Do not save what is left after spending, spend what is left after saving.

~Warren Buffet