

PEAK DISCOVERY ACTIVITY 2b:
Create your Budget for Apartment, Utilities, Food, and Clothing

Find out the basic costs to live in your apartment and feed and dress yourself.

All of the answers below can be found through research on the internet, reading local newspapers, catalogs, magazines, apartment guides, or asking people who should know. These activities link to a number of resources for finding the costs of living expenses. If you live in a rural or more remote part of the U.S., you may find more accurate costs in the newspaper, catalogs, local stores, and through other local resources. Check with your teacher or counselor.

+ From your previous Activities, enter your rent per month: \$

Apartment Utilities Call your local utility companies (or ask your sponsor) to estimate your monthly utilities. The numbers are in the phone book. If you have a cell phone, be sure to include that cost in "telephone" below. Find out what the monthly costs are for the following, then calculate the yearly totals.

Gas:

Electric:

Water/sewage:

Telephone:

Add these for your Total Monthly Utilities: \$

+ Multiply times 12 for TOTAL Yearly Utilities: \$

Daily Food Cost Estimate your food cost per day. Keep in mind that eating out is 3 to 4 times more expensive than eating at home. Enter your daily costs, multiply by 12 to get the yearly total.

Use the following values for your food costs, or estimate your own:

Single female, thrifty, eat at home: \$12.00 per day
Single female, eat out sometimes: \$20.00 per day
Single female, eat out often: \$30.00 per day

Single male, thrifty, eat at home: \$14.00 per day
Single male, eat out sometimes: \$23.00 per day
Single male, eat out often: \$33.00 per day

Daily food cost: \$

Monthly food cost: \$

+ TOTAL yearly food cost: \$

Clothing Costs Estimate your clothing costs. Add it up: how many shirts, pants, etc. will you want in a year? Estimate **monthly** costs for each category, then multiply by 12 to get the yearly amounts.

Go Find It → *Using the following clothing web sites*, you'll find the cost of your clothing. Or, use the newspaper, catalogs, or go to the mall or other stores to find these costs.

<http://www.walmart.com>
<http://www.hottopic.com>
<http://www.footlocker.com>

<http://www.target.com>
<http://www.jcpenny.com>
<http://www.zumiez.com>

<http://www.ae.com>
<http://www.oldnavy.com>
<http://www.gap.com>

(Click the links above, or copy, or type them into your web browser.)

Monthly Work Clothes:

Monthly Shoes:

Monthly Casual:

Monthly Coats and hats:

Monthly Formal or professional:

Monthly Active wear (camping, sports, etc.):

+ TOTAL Clothing costs per year: \$

(Add all the above monthly clothing costs, then multiply by 12)

Total Yearly Rent, Food, Clothing, and Utility Costs

Total all the items with a " + " above:



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