

THE COLORS OF MONEY QUIZ

Place a check mark beside each statement that you agree with for each of the colored statements below. If you do not agree with a statement or are undecided, simply leave blank. Go with your first reaction!

PINK statements:

- It's a good feeling to have money set aside ✓
- Every debt should be cleaned up as you go along ✓
- Don't buy anything that you don't really need.
- You should have a budget and stick to your plan ✓
- There should always be money in the bank for emergencies ✓
- It's important to keep record of every dollar you spend.
- Shop around until you find the best price ✓
- Excellent insurance coverage is a top priority.
- Paying cash is the best way.
- Thrifty people manage best.

BLUE statements:

- Happiness is buying something brand new.
- A person is entitled to some of the nice things from life.
- It's hard to wait for something you really want.
- The more money you make, the more you want to spend.
- Credit cards are great – they make it possible to buy now and pay later.
- Walking through stores can be depressing – there's so much you want.
- It would be wonderful to be a millionaire – all that money to spend.
- If you want something – why wait?
- No matter how much you have, you always want more.
- It's a lot of fun to spend money shopping.

GREEN statements:

- Children should have the best education money can buy.
- Success is a classy car and a beautifully furnished house.
- Brand name clothing is important.
- Buying expensive meals and gifts for others is an investment in friendship.
- It would be embarrassing if people found out that money was tight.
- You should have nothing but the best.
- It's important to look successful.
- You must spend a little more than you can afford to get ahead in life.
- A big income means you're finally successful.
- Cheap stuff is a waste and it all looks beneath me

YELLOW statements:

No system or plan – if you're spending too much, just stop.

A budget is only for someone who thinks about money too much.

Live from paycheck to paycheck and don't worry.

If there's really serious financial trouble, someone will step in and help.

Worrying about money never helps.

Keeping track of every dollar spent will drive you crazy.

It's not that important to save for the future – the future will take care of itself.

You can always get by with the least expensive insurance.

Making plans for your money never works out – so why bother?

Live with confidence – it's not that hard to be approved for credit.

ORANGE statements:

We spend money on what we care most about

Children should learn not be put a dollar value on everything ✓

It's nice to make gifts, even if you can afford to buy them.

There are a lot of things more important than money ✓

It's silly to try to keep up with what other people have.

Money doesn't buy happiness ✓

It's easy to have fun with simple things not connected with money ✓

I'd choose a job with less pay and short hours over long hours and high pay.

I gladly spend money on things that bring the family together ✓

If you lose opportunities to learn and grow because you want to hold onto your money – you've made a big mistake.

Now total up your check marks in each colored box. What color received the most check marks?

Does the explanation on the next worksheet reflect your money values?

How Does Money Reflect Your Values?

Pink: Money is valued for security.

You are LESS likely to:

- Make a purchase before shopping for the best price.
- Impulse shop or shop for fun.
- Buy clothing from the front of the store at full price.

You are MORE likely to:

- Have a reserve of money hidden away.
- Bargain hunt to avoid parting with any more money than necessary.
- Get frustrated when you see other people “wasting money.”

Blue: Money is valued for treating yourself to things you want.

You are LESS likely to:

- Say no to spontaneous opportunities for fun, even when very costly.
- Have limits on spending when you want something.
- Want a plan for spending.

You are MORE likely to:

- Shop when stressed or unhappy.
- Spend on things you want without thinking about upcoming bills.
- Buy new technology and entertainment products as soon as they come on the market.

Green: Money is valued for showing other people that I am special and deserve to be admired.

You are LESS likely to:

- Compare prices and shop for bargains.
- Be concerned about the price if it makes you look great.
- Own anything from a thrift store.

You are MORE likely to:

- Expect others to notice and appreciate a change in your hairstyle or jewelry.
- Wear name-brand clothing with the logo on display.
- Spend more on a nice car than you can afford and lease if need be to drive the best.

(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

Yellow: Money is not really all that important, and you don't worry about it.

You are LESS likely to:

- Use a spending plan.
- Save for unknown expenses.
- Plan ahead to avoid financial problems.

You are MORE likely to:

- Expect others to rescue you when faced with a financial crisis.
- Think problems will work themselves out.
- Be forced to use available money to pay the most overdue bill.

Orange: Money is valued for how it enhances the quality of life and how it helps build meaningful relationships with people.

You are LESS likely to:

- Think through and adjust your financial goals.
- Know how much you have set aside for retirement.
- Know where and how your money is invested.

You are MORE likely to:

- Think about who in your family should get which sentimental items and family heirlooms.
- Plan vacations with everyone in mind – the more the merrier.
- Spend money on large social gatherings and get-togethers.

Did this activity help you think about your use of money and how your use of money reflects your personal values? Did your “winning” color match up with your values?