

Making Decisions

Decisions. We make them every day. A decision is a choice that is made about things that affect a person's life. Throughout our day we make many decisions, big and small, or routine and major. Our decisions are guided by what we value, or what we believe is desirable, worthwhile, and important.

Routine decisions are made daily and don't require a lot of time or thought to think through. *What am I going to have for dinner? What am I going to wear to work or school today?*

Major decisions can have long-term effects on our life. Major decisions should be made very carefully and given a lot of thought. *Which college should I attend? Should I change jobs? Should I rent or buy my home?*

A financial decision is a very important major decision. A financial decision will impact an individual's or a family's well-being, so of course making a wise financial decision is in your best interest.

Follow the 5-step decision making process when faced with making a major financial decision.

1. Identify the problem
2. Hit the pause button
3. List alternatives. What are the pros and cons for your possible choices?
4. Make your decision- only after thinking of all of the consequences of your choices
5. Evaluate the results. What happened as a result of your decision? Evaluating your decisions will help you make better decisions in the future

Using the decision making process will help you to identify what's the best solution to your decision, ensuring your family's well-being now and in the future.

Making Cent\$ of It All...

Patricia Maynard-FCS Senior Agent

