

HOW TO **MANAGE**

YOUR MONEY *to pay
for a*

\$5,000 VACATION

IN CASH

EVERY YEAR

Table Of Contents

Yes, You Can Do This!.....	4
Save It	5
Making Saving a Priority	6
Eliminating Expenses	9
Reducing Expenses	12
Earn It	15
Save Some, Earn Some	20
Additional Advice	23
Conclusion	24

"On vacations: We hit the sunny beaches where we occupy ourselves keeping the sun off our skin, the saltwater off our bodies, and the sand out of our belongings."

Erma Bombeck

Family vacations are one of those things that everyone seems to remember forever. *Now is the time to start making preparations for vacations that the whole family will be talking about for years to come.* And not just one vacation, either, but one each year!

Yes, You Can Do This!

You really can take a \$5,000 vacation every year, even if you have a relatively modest income! The trick is in knowing how to manage your money to make those memorable vacations possible.

Coming up with \$5,000 may sound intimidating, especially if you're already struggling to pay your bills each month. However, it's really not that difficult, if you're willing to eliminate some of the non-essentials from your life and maybe earn a few extra dollars each week.

There are 3 basic ways to realize an additional \$5,000 each and every year:

1. You can save it
2. You can earn it (*and not spend it*)
3. Some combination of #1 and #2

It's important to remember that regardless of whatever method or combination you choose, it's imperative that you don't spend the money on something else. Do whatever you must to keep that money untouched; that can be the difficult part.

This report shows you many ideas and specific plans for getting that extra \$5,000. Use these ideas as a springboard to more ideas of your own and enjoy a fun and rewarding new lifestyle!

Save It

Saving is generally the least fun, but it's also the easiest, since many of the options simply involve spending less money.

Since we're talking about \$5,000 a year, and there are 52 weeks in a year, let's just call it \$100 a week.

There's a small insurance factor built in, since you should end up with an extra \$200 in the end or you can use that as a 2-week cushion. Or maybe that's the two weeks you're gone on your fabulous vacation, so you save for 50 weeks and vacation for two.

Saving money can involve:

- ✓ Simply putting extra money away by making saving a priority
- ✓ Eliminating expenses (and saving the money instead)
- ✓ Reducing expenses (and saving the difference)

Let's look at ways you can accomplish your goal of \$100/week by using savings techniques.

MAKING SAVING A PRIORITY

The real key to saving money is to simply put the money some place safe before you can spend it. A simple savings account may work well for you, or, if you'd like the money to be a little less accessible, you might prefer a brokerage or money market account.

You might think that you don't have any money to save, but you're probably mistaken. You'll naturally adjust your lifestyle to the money that is available to you.

Strive to save at least \$200 dollars a month, or \$50 a week. If you can do that, you're already half way to your \$100/week goal. If that's more than

you can handle, then save less than \$50 per week (perhaps \$25 or \$10) and make up the rest with the other strategies in this report.

Try these techniques to help you save:

1. **Direct deposit.** The easiest way to do this is to work with your employer and see if they can direct deposit your paycheck into two separate accounts: your checking account and the account you're going to use to save your vacation money. This way you can still pay your bills, but you're also forcing yourself to save money with every paycheck.
2. **Automatic withdrawal.** An alternative is to set up an automatic withdrawal from your checking account to your savings, money market, or brokerage account each month. With a relatively short timeframe (1 year or less), *any investments you make with that money need to be safe, short term and liquid, like bonds, T-bills, or CDs.*
3. **Set up a budget.** One of the easiest ways to free up some extra cash each month is to understand where every dollar is being spent. When you really dig into your finances, you'll be surprised at how you spend your money.

- 4. Use Uncle Sam.** This isn't the wisest way to do it, but it can work like automatic savings for you. You could have your employer increase your tax withholding amount and get the money back in the form of a tax refund each year.

Whichever technique you use to help you save really doesn't matter, since they all work to help you reach your goal. *What's important, though, is that you save something on a regular basis.*

You'll establish a habit of saving, and this habit is one of the best things you can do for you, your family, and your financial security – not to mention the vacations!

Savings Tally: \$50/week

*"If you would be wealthy,
think of saving as well as getting."*

Benjamin Franklin

ELIMINATING EXPENSES

Consider all the things you purchase and the services you buy that you don't really need or would be better off without. Nearly everyone spends money on non-essentials that don't really provide a significant amount of enjoyment or value. *Try eliminating these expenses and saving the money you would have spent on them.*

The following table shows some expenses you might currently have that you could consider eliminating and banking the savings.

Expenses You Might Be Able To Eliminate		
Expense	Details	Weekly Savings
Home Phone	<p>Do you really need both a cell phone and a home phone? Did you know that you can make free phone calls from your computer? If you get a free Gmail account, you can make free calls online.</p> <p>A free Google voice account provides a free phone number and voicemail service that will even transcribe voicemails and email them to you. The account will even forward all calls to any other phone number you choose. You can set it up so that when people call that Google number your cell phone will ring.</p>	\$10

How to Manage Your Money To Pay for a \$5,000 Vacation in Cash Every Year

<p>Eating Family Dinner Out</p>	<p>Eating out can cost a fortune compared to eating at home. For a family of four to eat at a medium-priced restaurant, it costs around \$10 per person plus a \$6 tip. That's \$46.</p> <p>Consider that you could buy 2 pounds of chicken, a bag of rice, and some vegetables for around \$6. That's a savings of \$40; and that's just for one meal. If you eat out only once a week, that's \$160 a month.</p>	<p>\$40</p>
<p>Eating Out For Lunch</p>	<p>Keep in mind the cost of going out to eat for lunch. Even if you're just hitting a fast food place every day, that's around \$5 x 20 days/ month = \$100. You could eliminate half of that, easily, and be healthier in the process.</p>	<p>\$25</p>
<p>Miscellaneous Services:</p> <p>Pest Control Lawn Mowing Gym Memberships NetFlix And more</p>	<p>An example: the typical gym membership is around \$50 a month. You can get a set of dumbbells and a jump rope from Wal-Mart for a one-time cost of \$25 and do everything you need to do.</p> <p>If you need a treadmill, get one on Craigslist.com; someone might even pay you just to take it away.</p>	<p>\$25</p>

Extra Cars	<p>It's not uncommon to find people that have a winter car, a non-winter car, and a pickup truck 'just in case'. Even with two adults in the household, you might be able to work out a system that would only require one car.</p> <p>You will likely save on gas and maybe even a car payment. You would definitely save on insurance and maintenance.</p> <p>A more fuel-efficient car can save a lot of money on fuel; this is especially true if you travel a lot.</p> <p>Don't forget public transportation if you're in the city. The bus, train, and subway can be a lot less expensive than driving and paying for parking.</p>	\$35
Cable TV	<p>Cable TV may be hard to part with, but this move will not only save you a lot of money, but it'll also free up a lot of time you didn't think you had.</p> <p>Your computer has a lot to offer. Many shows are available online. You can either watch on your computer screen or hook your computer up to the TV.</p>	\$25
Morning Coffee Out	<p>A large cup of hot milk and espresso at almost \$5? That's around \$100 a month, if you limit it to Monday-Friday. There's no good reason you can't make coffee at home. You can get a coffee pot with a clock/timer for \$20 and gourmet coffee. The coffee will be ready every morning.</p>	\$25

Savings Tally:

That's \$185/week just with the items above. Adding that to your automatic savings of \$50/week = **\$235/week savings so far.**

Remember, we're only looking for \$100/week and we haven't even looked at simply reducing expenses yet!

REDUCING EXPENSES

There are lots of expenses you can simply minimize instead of eliminating altogether. In fact, some things can't be eliminated completely, but you can still save money on them. The following table details savings you might enjoy from reducing expenses.

Expenses You Might Be Able To Eliminate		
Expense	Details	Weekly Savings
Food	You don't have to eliminate dining out completely if it's important to you; simply cut back. You can also be more cost conscientious while shopping at the grocery store. Plus, always remember coupons.	\$25

How to Manage Your Money To Pay for a \$5,000 Vacation in Cash Every Year

Insurance	<p>Are you over-insured? This is usually with regards to auto insurance. Do you really need a comprehensive, low deductible policy on your 10-year-old car? You don't need \$250,000 worth of liability coverage if you only have \$20,000 worth of assets.</p> <p>Once a year, it's a worthwhile exercise to get new quotes on all your insurance from several companies. It's almost guaranteed you can find similar coverage for less money than your current plans.</p>	\$25
Clothing	<p>Consider dialing back the cost of your clothing. There are many places that sell less expensive clothing than the places you may be looking. There are also many stores that sell barely used clothing that is extremely inexpensive. There are lots of options here.</p>	\$20
Utilities	<p>Turn down the thermostat a little bit. Caulk where needed. Don't waste water. Turn off the lights when you're not in the room. This is some easy money; you just need to pay attention to what you're doing.</p>	\$10

Everything Else	There are many used things available that are in excellent shape. Consider buying used furniture, electronics, power tools, and more. Someone out there has what you're looking for and would love to get rid of it.	\$10
Most Items In The Previous Elimination Group	You might not be willing to get rid of cable TV, but maybe you could live with a less expensive package. Ditto for your cell phone. Go back through the previous list of items and see if there is anything you could cut back on that you refuse to eliminate. There has to be something there. Could you get a less expensive car?	Your Choice Of Reduction

Savings Tally:

Reducing Expenses: \$90/week

Eliminating Expenses: \$185/week

Automatic Savings: \$50/week

Total: \$325/week

Remember, you only need to save \$100/week to reach your goal!

Feel free to pick and choose from these ideas and some of your own to save your way to \$5,000 a year and enjoy a luxurious vacation – paid for with cash – every year!

*"Beware of little expenses.
A small leak will sink a great ship."*

Benjamin Franklin

Earn It

If your preference is to earn the extra \$5,000 per year, it's great to know that earning an extra \$100 a week might not be as difficult as you think!

Even if you're pretty busy, \$100 a week can be a snap. Don't limit your thinking to part-time jobs and earning the money each week.

There are also ways to earn that \$5,000 in one shot.

Consider these ideas:

- 1. Ask for a raise.** Even in this economy, companies still value their best employees. Show your boss how valuable you are and then go for the raise. You might be able to get the extra \$5,000 per year all in one shot this way!
- 2. Get a part-time job.** In this case, we're talking about going out and getting a conventional part-time job. There's always something out there. Jobs like these can pay well:
 - ✓ *Newspaper delivery.* This job can actually pay pretty well for the amount of time and effort involved.
 - ✓ *Bartender.* In a popular club, several hundred dollars a night is not out of the question. One good shift a month would be all you really needed.
- 3. Find a higher paying job.** This might be the easiest way to earn another \$5,000 a month; all you have to do is save the money. *Everyone should seriously consider looking for a better job after spending 2 years at their current position.* It's a much quicker way to move your career forward than staying at the same company long-term.

4. Work for yourself on the side. There are opportunities all around you with ways to make extra money. If one thing doesn't appeal to you, keep thinking of new money-making ideas and try them out.

- ✓ Consider doing freelance work. Websites like elance.com and others have lots of work available for those who are interested. Determine what you're good at and advertise.
- ✓ Flip smaller items on Craigslist or eBay. Some people make a decent amount of money by purchasing things at garage sales or from Craigslist and then selling those items on Craigslist or eBay. Anything that you can get a good deal on is fair game.
- ✓ There was recently a story in the news of a high school student that traded his way from a used cell phone to a Porsche, never spending a cent of money and using Craigslist for all of the transactions. If a high school student can trade his way from \$20 to \$10,000+, certainly you can do better!
- ✓ Mowing a few lawns a week can bring in the \$100/week that you're looking for.
- ✓ If you have a lot of trees on your land, you could sell firewood.

✓ Start an online business.

✓ Paint houses on the weekend.

5. Go for the lump sum. Would you rather go for the big payday instead of earning \$5,000 bit by bit? Here are a few ideas to get you started:

✓ ***Flip a house.*** It's really not that hard over the course of a year to find a house that you can get under contract and then sell for a \$5,000 profit. Even if you do nothing but make several offers a week for 50% of what the houses are worth, sooner or later, someone will say yes.

- Half the battle is to look in the right places. Someone with their house listed in the MLS for full price is probably not the type of owner you're looking for. Look at vacant homes, homes in probate situations, pre-foreclosures, and similar situations. The easiest way is to simply advertise, advertise, and advertise some more.
- Consider calling homes for rent ads; landlords would frequently love to get rid of their properties.

- ✓ ***Flip anything else.*** There are other items that can be flipped as well: boats, cars, and planes, to name a few. Someone out there is sick and tired of owning something or really needs to sell quickly. ***You can be the solution to their problem.***
 - Remember that the key to flipping anything is to make a lot of low offers and deal with a lot of rejection. You'll hear the word 'no' a lot, but that never hurt anyone. Keep at it and you'll find something that can make you a big payday.

- ✓ ***Provide expensive services.*** Maybe you have the talent and expertise to sell your services for higher dollar amounts, like \$5,000 for only a couple of projects. For example, it's not unusual for copywriters to make a few thousand dollars or more for a simple online sales page.

Earning the \$5000 for your vacation each year will take some work on your part, but if a vacation is a priority desire for you, then just the thought of the fun you'll have can spur you on to ask for a raise, get a better job, or start your own business on the side. That \$5,000 might just be the start of many good things to come!

*"A simple fact that is hard to learn
is that the time to save money
is when you have some."*

Joe Moore

Save Some, Earn Some

This is probably the optimal solution for most folks. Eliminating the excess from your life and earning a few extra dollars are always great ideas.

Maybe you can't remove enough expenses from your life to come up with the extra \$100 a week, and perhaps you don't have the time to generate enough income to total \$100 a week.

However, *you can do a little of each*. Combined, they'll still get you to your goal and off on that yearly vacation.

Let's look some ways to cut ~\$50/week of expenses and earn an extra ~\$50/week:

Plan #1

\$25 - Cut back on grocery expenses by shopping smarter and using coupons.

\$10 - Move to lower cost cable package.

\$10 - Eliminate home phone.

\$55 - Work 5 hours/week at an \$11/hour job.

Plan #2

\$25 - Eliminate morning coffee stop.

\$15 - Take a bag lunch.

\$25 - Carpool to work with a co-worker.

\$35 - Mow 3 lawns a week.

Plan #3

\$10 - Update insurance.

\$65 - Eliminate one dinner out on the town each week.

\$25 - Buy and sell one item on craigslist.com.

Plan #4

\$25 - Eliminate cable TV.

\$10 - Make a real effort to save money on utilities.

\$15 - Mow your own grass instead of paying someone else.

\$20 - Purchase clothes from thrift stores.

\$30 - Do a couple of small jobs monthly on elance.com or similar site.

Plan #5

\$40 - Get a raise at work (\$2,000).

\$15 - Walk your neighbor's dog each morning.

\$20 - Eliminate NetFlix.

\$25 - Take lunch to work.

As you can see, there are a variety of ways to come up with the \$100 a week you need to pay for that \$5,000 vacation every year. Again, don't feel that you're limited to the items in this document. There are plenty of other ways to save and earn money.

Spend some time brainstorming for ideas that appeal to you and are feasible for your situation.

Additional Advice

At times, even though the reward is a fantastic vacation, you and your family may feel at odds over implementing the plan. These strategies will make your new efforts at saving and earning go a lot more smoothly.

- 1. Get the whole family involved.** Explain to everyone what's going on and what you're trying to accomplish. When everyone is on the same page, things tend to be a lot easier.
- 2. Keep track and keep everyone posted.** Every month or so, it's a good idea to take a careful look at how much you've saved. Then, share that information with everyone. When they can see the progress, your family will feel more motivated to stick with the plan.
- 3. Get suggestions.** Periodically, ask everyone to give vacation suggestions. A little discussion and vacation planning can serve as an additional reminder of the fun ahead. Look online together and research your favorite destinations.
- 4. Ask everyone to sacrifice just a little.** Your family members will take greater ownership in the saving and earning this way. Maybe everyone would like to give up a Christmas present each year and

apply the money towards the vacation fund. You'll be surprised by the ideas your family can come up with!

Conclusion

A \$5,000 vacation every year sound pretty nice, doesn't it? Saving and earning \$5,000 in the next 12 months might sound a little daunting, but as you've seen, it's not really that hard with a bit of effort.

Remember, you can:

1. Save it.
2. Earn it.
3. Use a combination of saving and earning.

Simply eliminating things from your life that you pay for, but don't value may be enough. If you're already reasonably frugal, you might need to earn a few extra dollars. A combination of strategies is likely to be the plan that works the best for you.

Remember to include your family in the process of saving and earning the cash. The more involved they feel, the less resistance you'll get.

Family vacations and travel are the stuff that memories are made from.

Start saving and earning and you might be in Hawaii next year instead of your seventh annual “staycation.” This is your year!