

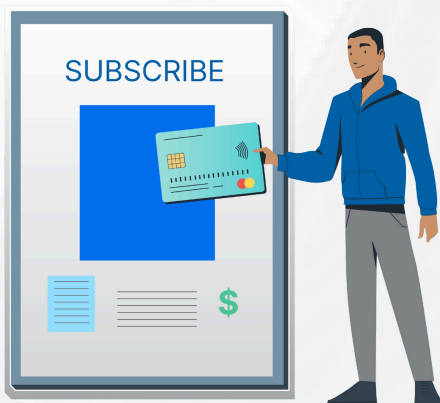
SMART MONEY MONTHLY MAY 2025 EDITION

SMART MONEY HACKS

One of the easiest ways to save money without thinking about it is to automate it. Set up an automatic transfer from your chequing to your savings account on payday. Whether it's \$25 or \$250, doing this consistently creates a habit that builds real wealth over time. You won't miss the money—and you'll thank yourself later.



Pro Tip: Use a separate bank to make it less tempting to transfer it back!



When was the last time you checked your subscriptions? From streaming platforms to meal kits, forgotten subscriptions can quietly eat away at your budget. Take 15 minutes this month to review your statements and cancel what you don't use.

Savings tip: Redirect what you were spending into a “fun fund” or emergency account.

INVESTMENTS:

THE MAGIC OF COMPOUND INTEREST

Compound interest is what makes your money grow while you sleep. Unlike simple interest, compound interest means your earnings also earn interest. Let's say you invest \$100/month starting at age 25 with an average 6% return. By 65, you'll have over \$300,000. Wait until age 35 to start? That total drops to just \$154,000. Time is money—literally.



Lesson: Start small, start early. Compound interest rewards patience.

MORTGAGES:

FIXED VS. VARIABLE



Choosing a mortgage rate can feel like a gamble—but it doesn't have to.

Fixed-rate mortgages give you peace of mind. Your rate won't change, and neither will your payments.

Variable-rate mortgages start with a lower rate, but they fluctuate with market changes—great if rates stay low, risky if they rise.

Tip: If you're a first-time buyer or budget-conscious, a fixed rate offers stability. If you're financially flexible and comfortable with risk, a variable rate might save you money.



INSURANCE:

CRITICAL ILLNESS - MORE THAN JUST A PAYOUT

A sudden diagnosis can change everything—not just your health but your finances. Critical Illness Insurance provides a tax-free lump sum if you're diagnosed with a serious illness like cancer, heart attack, or stroke. You can use it for anything: medical expenses, paying down debt, or simply giving yourself time to recover without financial pressure.



It's about peace of mind when life throws the unexpected your way.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

SEL ET SUCRE ADVANCED AESTHETICS



This month, we're featuring Sel et Sucre Advanced Aesthetics, a welcoming skincare studio in New Glasgow, NS, owned by Clinical Esthetician Julie-Anne Des Roches.

Known for advanced treatments, expert advice, and results-driven facials, Julie-Anne brings passion and precision to every service she offers.

To learn more visit sel-et-sucres.ca

