

Our Top 10 Tips To Save You Money



1. **THINK SMART WITH SURPLUS CASH**

Do not leave surplus money in your current account or low interest-bearing accounts.



2. **CUT DOWN YOUR BANKING BILLS**

Check your bank charges on a regular basis. Try to avoid exceeding your overdraft permission if you have an overdraft. You should also operate online bank accounts – easier to operate and you save on time and travel expenses.



3. **CHECK YOUR MORTGAGE AND LOAN INTEREST RATES**

Review your mortgage rate and contact an authorised mortgage broker who will advise on current rates and offers.



4. **REVIEW YOUR LIFE COVER**

If you took out life cover (with your home mortgage which is mandatory) you may have been a smoker at the time. If you have been subsequently smoke-free for 12 months you could save over 50% of the annual premiums. It is worth checking out.



5. **HEALTH INSURANCE COMPARISON**

The Health & Insurance Authority have an excellent comparison tool – www.hia.ie. There are only 3 insurers in the Irish Market – VHI, Laya and Irish Life Health.



6. **PRIVATE COLLEGE FEES**

Tax relief at the standard rate is available for approved courses undertaken by a taxpayer or dependants in approved private colleges. As well as this, postgraduate courses of between 1 and 4 years duration in public colleges and approved private colleges now attract similar tax relief.



7. **SAVE YOUR MONEY**

You should always have between 3 and 6 months net annual income in a Rainy Day fund for 3 reasons:

- Emergencies
- Sudden loss of income
- Investment opportunities



8. **RENT A ROOM RELIEF**

Renting a room in your home is tax free up to a limit of €14,000 per year. One bedroom apartments do not comply.



9. **CAR LOANS**

Shop around. Expect to be charged between 6.5% and 15% depending on the institution you approach.



10. **REVIEW YOUR GAS/ELECTRICITY UTILITY PROVIDER**

There is intense competition between energy providers in Ireland. Keep checking and install a meter – pinergy.ie and prepaypower.ie are the two main pre-paid electricity suppliers.