

BUDGET A BOYFRIEND

by Amy Spagnola

It can be difficult to judge the 'right' time to progress in a relationship, especially when it comes to physical intimacy. Dolling out affection can be compared to investing money. Our society teaches guys to want your whole piggy bank as soon as they can. But as with guys and money, it's better to invest a little at a time, so over a long period of time your gain is substantial. The more he invests in the relationship aside from the physical, the more likely he'll become emotionally engaged in the relationship. This means there's a much better chance of relationship longevity.

For some "money management" based on guys, consider these tips:

INVEST IN THE RIGHT PLACES:

Putting your money under your mattress may seem like a good idea but you'll never make any interest. If you invest in bad boys or never watch for red flags in relationships, you'll likely never "profit" or gain from any real intimacy. Trust your instincts and make sure he has the right characteristics you're looking for before you physically or emotionally invest in him.

RESEARCH AND ALLOCATE MONEY INTO APPEALING STOCKS:

Similarly, in order to find the right guy, it often takes some risk-taking and moving and shaking. Find places to go where you'll find a guy that shares your interests. If you like books, make a beeline for the bookstore. Or if you prefer a sports guy, head to the gym or ball field. But know that finding a Christian guy is a must.

PAY ATTENTION TO ROLE MODELS:

When people divvy up their money into investments, they look at the example of others who have flourished. Try and watch out for strong and successful relationships and model your relationship after the behaviors and attitudes in those relationships.

SPEND WISELY:

It's important to budget and save. In a relationship, it's wise to save intimate acts, such as sex, until you're married and completely ready. This may take lots of time. It's important to treat yourself with respect at all times and to get to know the person you're with on lots of levels and in different situations. Spend your affections wisely.

DON'T SPEND ALL IN ONE PLACE:

No wise investor puts all their money into one place. Putting every dime and nickel into one stock would be foolish. If you're in love, out of love or looking for love, it's important to have other interests outside of your romantic liaisons. Keep up an active social life; enjoy friends, hobbies and favorite pastimes.

