

Work sheet: Retirement planning checklist

Soaring healthcare costs and expanding life spans mean that planning ahead is more important now than ever. Use these checklists to make sure that you're on track for a healthy, wealthy retirement.

Checklist for retiring in about 30 years	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Control debt
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Establish and maintain an emergency savings plan.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Make regular contributions to an IRA.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Contribute to employer retirement plan if one is available.

Checklist for retiring in about 20 years	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Emergency savings plan in place.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. On track to be debt free by retirement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Well-established retirement savings plans with suitable investments for your timeframe.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Keep spending in check.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Update your will and consider estate planning.

Checklist for retiring in 5 to 10 years	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Evaluate investments for suitability.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Emergency savings plan in place.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. On track to be debt free by retirement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Well-established retirement savings plans.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Determine how much money needed for retirement; compare that to current savings.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. Work to close the gap between retirement savings and the amount of money needed for a comfortable retirement.
<input type="checkbox"/>	7. Is downsizing your home an option?

Checklist for 1 year from retirement	
<input type="checkbox"/>	1. Estimate a budget for your retirement income.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2. Set up payment plan to coordinate savings, pension and retirement plan withdrawals to coincide with budget.
<input type="checkbox"/>	3. Consider part-time jobs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	4. Speak with a Social Security representative to determine when you should apply for benefits.
<input type="checkbox"/>	5. Review will and power of attorney; insure that beneficiaries on retirement accounts are up to date.
<input type="checkbox"/>	6. If retirement comes before Medicare eligibility, make plans to purchase private

	health insurance or continue your employer's plan through COBRA.
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