

Assessing Your Financial Situation

The first step in financially planning an escape from an abusive relationship is assessing your current situation. Use this checklist to help walk you through the questions you need to ask yourself and the documents you need to gather in preparation.

Questions To Ask Yourself:

- How much income do you make on your own?
- How much income do you make on your own?
- Which bank accounts are joint accounts, and which accounts are in one person's name?
- How much debt are you carrying?
- Whose names are on the mortgage?
- Whose names are on the credit cards?
- Whose names are on the utility bills?

Documents To Gather:

- Birth certificates of you and your children
- Passport
- Social security cards for you and your children
- Vehicle registration/ownership pages

Documents To Make Copies Of:

- Tax documents
- Mortgage agreements
- Insurance policies
- Bank statements
- Credit card statements
- Retirement or investment fund documents