



How to stretch a buck

Website has tips to save you money in all aspects of life

Ben Franklin said “a penny saved is a penny earned.” There are worse people to listen to than one of our most successful Founding Fathers. I, like Ben, appreciate the value of a dollar, and I like getting a good deal. I consider myself economical and responsible. Some would say I’m cheap.



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InSites

There are many sayings touting the virtue of being thrifty or frugal, but none for being cheap. They’re all synonyms, but cheap always gets a bad rap.

Livingonthecheap.com is a website that revels in its cheap-

ness. It is devoted to saving it’s users money on everything from dining to groceries to travel and much more.

The tagline for the site is “Your local resource for freebies, discounts and deals.” It bills itself as a local resource, but its deals, tips and strategies will work anywhere. Living on the Cheap is part of a network of sites featuring cities around the country. There are links to all the different sites. If you go to them, they are labeled with their location and have deals unique to their region. But the main site appears to be universal in its cheapness. The featured discounts apply to national chains and products or destinations that attract people from around the world.

Across the top of the site are links to different categories: Food & Drink, Shopping & Saving, Daily Deals, Entertainment & Recreation, Money & Budgeting, Travel & Exploring, Home & Garden, Family & Parenting, Health & Beauty, Tech Talk, Retirement Planning, Coupon Insider and Tax Tips.

There are multiple ways the site helps you save. The site has coupons you can print as well as electronic coupons and codes you can use with your mobile device. It also has tips for getting more out of your coupons by combining them with other deals.

Another way the site helps you save is with tips on shopping. Choosing what, when and where to buy can save you more than coupons can, such as by stocking up on frequently used, higher-

priced items during sales. Advice for saving in areas besides shopping is similar. There are tips for off-season travel and free admission days for parks, museums and other venues.

The site also features deals on goods, services and attractions. National chain restaurants offer deals on their meals, and this site helps you find them. The site can also steer you to cities with a CityPASS that lets you visit multiple attractions at a discount, theme parks that have all kinds of deals and bargains offered by hotel chains.

If you’re more of a homebody, you can still find ways to save money. Ditch the high-priced streaming services for board games, books, movies from the library or playing musical instruments as a family.

There’s also tips on how to watch some sports and movies without paying for them. Growing and cooking your own food can save on groceries and dining out. Learning how to do it yourself makes home repair and improvement projects cheaper.

There are sections on dealing with money over the long term. They include articles on budgeting, tax tips and retirement planning. Life events like birthday parties and weddings also can be done for less than the going rate.

Some things in life are worth the price. Many things are overpriced. Living within your means is priceless.

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