



## saving for a mortgage...

It's not easy saving a large chunk of money, especially when you're already renting and have bills going out. It takes discipline to put money aside each month and avoid the temptation of spending!

Here's a few ways you can cut spending and help yourself save for a mortgage:

- ① **review your outgoings** – what have you got going out of your bank account that you don't use? A cinema or gym membership perhaps. CANCEL THEM.
- ② **don't be afraid to switch providers** – You might be so used to the amount of money going out of your account each month that you haven't even questioned it. Do a bit of research, see if you can switch your electricity and gas provider, your TV package or your phone company to someone cheaper offering the same value.
- ③ **budget** - Now this doesn't mean you have to get smart price food or live on the bare essentials, but it does mean you could follow a shopping list or limit how many meals or coffees you buy out, you'd be surprised how much this can all add up to.
- ④ **compare** – Be more conscious of where you shop. You know you can get the same product in two different places and the costs differ.
- ⑤ **ask for help** – If you look around, there are a number of different schemes that help people save for their first home, take a look here <https://www.helptobuy.gov.uk/>. Or if you have any family that might be willing to help you out, have a chat with them.
- ⑥ **utilise rewards and discounts** – If you do need to buy any birthday gifts or you want to go out for a special occasion, there are sites like Top Cash Back, Wowcher, Vouchercloud which have amazing deals.
- ⑦ **know your figures** - Finally, check your bank account every day. Financial worry comes from not knowing your figures. If you're constantly in the know, you'll constantly feel in control.

If you need that extra bit of motivation to keep you on track, keep thinking about your new home, remind yourself of why you're doing all of this!