Money Mechanics

Strategic Financial Advice

2026 EDITION

MONEY MECHANICS E-BOOK

Your Backup Plan and Personal Insurances

Protecting your income, your family and the plans that matter most

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About Us

Scott Malcolm is director and principal consultant of Money Mechanics, a specialist Financial Life Planning firm in the areas of Superannuation, Wealth Creation and Education services.

Our values-based financial life planning process brings together technical expertise and the human touch to create a solution tailored towards your overall life goals. We choose not to take upfront or ongoing commission on financial products, so our clients have a clear fixed fee for advice that isn't tied to any product provider.

Money Mechanics believes in the value of education and financial literacy. There is an array of jargon in the financial world and we aim to demystify it through regular education programs, our podcast and our social channels.

Our mission

To educate and inspire people around their money, so that they can live a rich life. Everything in this e-book starts with your values – the 'why' behind your money decisions – before we get anywhere near products or strategies.

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Podcast	Money Mechanics with Scott Malcolm (Apple Podcasts, Spotify and more)

Notice: While we have checked everything within this booklet, no person should rely on the contents without first making their own inquiries or obtaining advice from a qualified person regarding their personal circumstances. This e-book is general information only and does not take into account your objectives, financial situation or needs.

Please read this e-book together with our Financial Services Guide (FSG) and Privacy Policy, issued by Infocus Securities Australia. Both are available on our website or on request.

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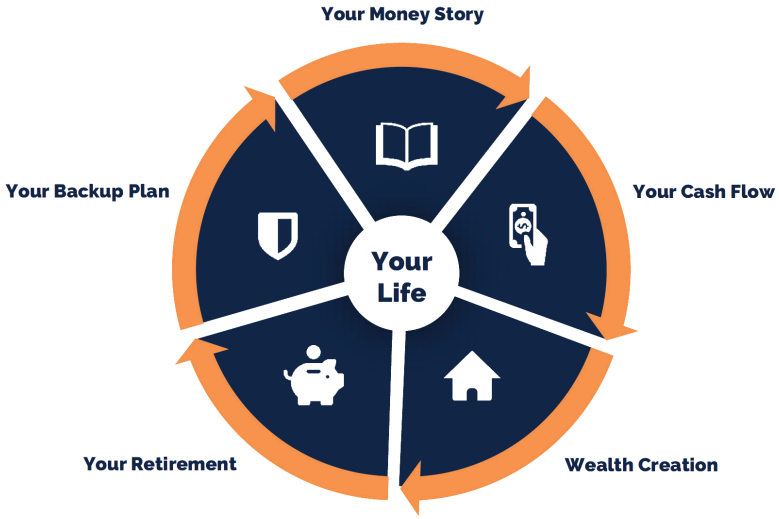
Our Advice Proposition

Money Mechanics brings the following elements together to create your **Financial Decision Making Framework**. It's a fluid process – as your life changes, so does your plan.



Your Life – The who, what, where, when and why this is important to you. This may be a specific financial goal or outcome you are aiming for. What matters most is alignment to what you value and the role money plays in your life. This connects to **Your Money Story** – your conscious and unconscious past behaviours, thoughts and feelings when it comes to money.

Your Cash Flow – What you earn and where it goes, knowing what it really costs to be you. Cash flow management, salary sacrifice and packaging strategies. Your budget should tell your story.

Your Wealth Creation – Pay as you earn, company, family trust, partnership, borrowed funds, regular savings plans and dollar cost averaging strategies and structures.

Your Retirement – Your post-retirement strategies and your ability to sustain your lifestyle without the need to work. Defined benefit, accumulation, self-managed super and retail or industry super funds can be product solutions, as well as top-up amounts through the Centrelink system.

Your Backup Plan – What if the worst was to happen? These are your estate planning and protection strategies – insurances, wills, powers of attorney and testamentary trusts.

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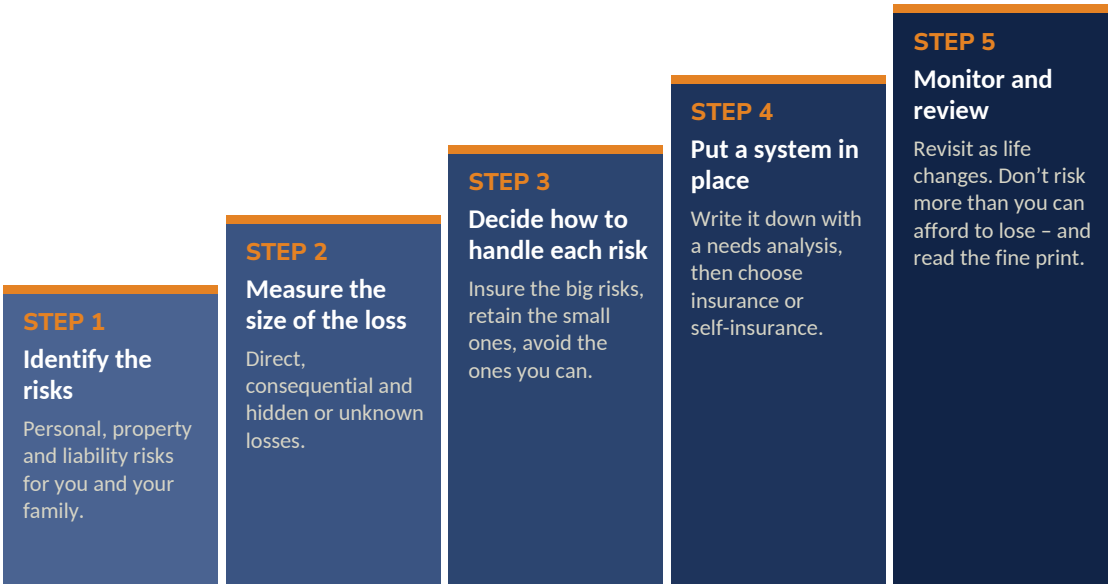
Your Plan B – Managing Risk

A backup plan brings together two areas: **risk management (insurance)** and **estate planning**. Both answer the same question – if the worst happened, would the people and plans that matter most be looked after?

Five steps to managing risk



Your estate plan essentials

With longer lives, a modern estate plan is as much about how your wealth is **preserved and enhanced** to cope with the costs of ageing as it is about how it is passed on. It typically includes:

- **A will** – and possibly a testamentary trust for children or asset protection (see page 12).
- **Enduring powers of attorney** (financial, and medical or guardianship) in case you can't make decisions yourself.
- **Super death benefit nominations** – super doesn't automatically form part of your estate, so a valid binding nomination matters.
- **An executor and guardians** you trust, who know where your documents are.
- **Your insurances**, so the full picture is considered together.

> **Scott's tip**
>
> It's not a nice topic, and it's often the most challenging part of financial planning. But having the conversation – and putting the right structures in place – means you can get on with living, without worrying about what would happen if.

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Types of Insurances

Generally there are insurances available for different insurance events. In very general terms these can be for a lump sum or regular income payment. There are generally two types of insurance, general and life.

General Insurance: is for anything that does not insure a personal life. For example this would include your car, house, contents, liability, indemnity and health and travel insurances.

Life Insurance: is for insurance over a person or linked to a person and can result in a lump sum or income payment.

Types of Life Insurances

Term Life – Generally the most basic form of life insurance as a lump sum is paid on the death of the life insured. Contracts can differ from policy to policy and could include an accidental death clause or suicide clause or restriction.

Total Permanent Disability – This insurance will pay a lump sum if the life insured becomes totally or permanently disabled. It is important to understand the contract of the insurance policy that you have as only certain events or classifications of disablement will provide the lump sum benefit.

Trauma – This insurance will pay a lump sum if the life insured suffers a defined trauma event. Trauma events are defined by the insurance provider and will be defined in the contract of the policy. Some basic policies will only cover events such as heart attack or stroke with limited cancer events so it is important to have an understanding of your family history as well as what is covered by the contract you have.

Income Protection – This insurance will pay a regular income payment for the life insured if they suffer total or partial disablement as defined by the policy document. You can control the level of cover by reducing or extending the payment period and the waiting period until a benefit is paid. Generally your sick leave and ability to fund lifestyle for a period will determine these levels. If you are self employed you can cover business expenses or protect income depending on the structure of your employment or industry.

The Contract

This is the most important part of an insurance policy as it details how and when the insurance company will pay a claim. Typically a policy will include the following headings:

Life Insured / Items Insured: What is covered under the policy could be an asset or a person.

Policy Owner: The policy owner is the beneficiary of the insurance payment so if you want to ensure money goes to a certain person you can control it with this part of the policy. You should be aware that this could mean a payment will not go to an estate of a person and be managed by their Will.

Terms: When and under what conditions the insurance company will pay the claim.

Exclusions: These are events in which the insurance company will not pay claim.

Premium: What you will pay for the insurance cover and how often.

Insurance Tips

1. **Shop around for the best premium**
2. **Use longer waiting periods or higher excess amounts to reduce the overall cost if you can carry the risk**
3. **Read the contract and fine print (what is covered and what isn't).**
4. **Don't sign anything if you are not sure about it. Ask questions.**

Tax Point:	*When it comes to the taxation and deductibility of life insurance premiums it depends on the structure the insurance is held. Lump Sum insurances held in your personal name are generally not deductible however in superannuation they can become a deduction for the super fund but then the conditions of payment must be met in order to access the benefits.* *For income protection insurance the premium could be deductible but there may be tax consequences if you go onto claim. If in doubt, speak with a professional adviser.*

Insurance Needs Analysis

There are many ways to determine your needs analysis for insurance products. One starting point is to look at your ability to fund your income requirements; the following table may assist.

***Replacement Income requirements** *(for death, trauma and TPD):*

	You			Partner		
	Death	TPD	Trauma	Death	TPD	Trauma
How long would income be required (A eg 5 years)?	___Y	____Y	____Y	____Y	____Y	____Y
Amount required p.a. after tax (B eg $52,000)	$			$		
Expected Return on investment (C eg 5% = 0.05)						
Indexation (D eg 3% = 0.03)						

On Death	**You**	**Partner**
TOTAL (B/(Ax(C-D)) **= eg $52,000/(5x(0.05-0.03))** **= $52,000/(5x0.02) = $52,000/0.1 = $520,000**	**$**	**$**

For Total Permanent Disability (TPD)	**You**	**Partner**
TOTAL (B/(Ax(C-D)) **= eg $52,000/(5x(0.05-0.03))** **= $52,000/(5x0.02) = $52,000/0.1 = $520,000**	**$**	**$**

For Trauma Event	**You**	**Partner**
TOTAL (B/(Ax(C-D)) **= eg $52,000/(5x(0.05-0.03))** **= $52,000/(5x0.02) = $52,000/0.1 = $520,000**	**$**	**$**

After working out your family income needs in the event of Death, TPD or Trauma it is then important to factor in any other lump sum requirements as follows:

Death Cover:

	You	Partner
Replacement income requirements: *(see above pg 13*)*	$	$
Capital requirements:		
Reduce / Clear home mortgage	$	$
Reduce / Clear other liabilities	$	$
Childcare / Housekeeper / Nanny	$	$
Education Costs	$	$
Other	$	$
Less assets that could be converted to cash:	($)	($)
TOTAL TERM LIFE REQUIREMENT	**$**	**$**

Total & Permanent Disability (TPD)

	You	Partner
Replacement income requirements: *(see above pg 13*)*	$	$
Capital requirements:		
Medical expenses	$	$
Reduce/Clear home mortgage	$	$
Reduce/Clear other liabilities	$	$
Childcare/Housekeeper/Nanny	$	$
Home modifications	$	$
Recovery Income	$	$
Other	$	$
Less assets that could be converted to cash:	($)	($)
TOTAL TPD REQUIREMENT	**$**	**$**

Trauma Event

	You	Partner
Replacement income requirements: *(see above pg 13*)*	$	$
Capital requirements:		
Medical expenses	$	$
Reduce/Clear home mortgage	$	$
Reduce/Clear other liabilities	$	$
Childcare/Housekeeper/Nanny	$	$
Home modifications	$	$
Recovery Income	$	$
Other	($)	($)
Less assets that could be converted to cash:	**$**	**$**
TOTAL TRAUMA REQUIREMENT	**$**	**$**

Income Protection Insurance

In order to calculate your needs for income protection insurance

Income Protection	You	Partner
Current Salary (annually gross) (A)	**$**	**$**
Current Superannuation Payments (B)	$	$
TOTAL Income Earned (C=A+B)	**$**	**$**
Cover required (generally will only cover 75%) (D)	☐ 75% of salary ☐ Other: _____	☐ 75% of salary ☐ Other: _____
Total Cover Required (C x D) =	**$**	**$**
Waiting period (days)	☐ 30 ☐ 60 ☐ 90	☐ 30 ☐ 60 ☐ 90
How much sick leave do you have?	☐ 180 ☐ 365 ☐ 720	☐ 180 ☐ 365 ☐ 720
Benefit period (For how many years?)	☐ 2 ☐ 5 ☐ to age 65	☐ 2 ☐ 5 ☐ to age 65

Affordability

The cost of insurance can often be an obstacle for people that can result in taking on more risk in order to reduce premium costs. Ensure you are comfortable with continuing to carry the risk or take on a smaller amount of the risk by adjusting benefit amounts or payment periods. As mentioned in the planning process, insure the big risks, minimise the small risks and be mindful in life to avoid the risks that you can.

Underwriting process

Under the law when you apply for insurance you are required to provide the insurance company with any information that a normal person would or could be expected to know about you and that may influence their decision to provide insurance.

The premium is calculated and determined by the insurance company based on their risk assessment and underwriting process.

If you have a family history or current health issue they may add an exclusion or excess to the policy that would result in no claim being paid under those circumstances.

A simple outline of the process includes the following:

1. Quote provided and agreed upon;
2. Application completed and lodged with Insurance company;
3. Underwriting process commences;
    a. Blood Tests or Medical Requirements requested;
    b. Substantiation of income may be required;
    c. Family history and current health checked with Doctor via Past Medical Attendance Report (PMAR);
4. Any adjustments to the policy provided to client for review;
5. Policy agreed under terms of the contract and policy issued;
6. Review policy if any circumstances change.

Testamentary Trusts

Most people I sit with aren't worried about *whether* their family will receive what they leave. They're worried about what happens *next*. Will a 19-year-old spend it in a year? Will it end up in someone else's divorce settlement? Will the kids from my first marriage be looked after? A testamentary trust is one of the tools that lets your values keep working after you're gone.

What is a testamentary trust?

A testamentary trust is a trust written into your will. It doesn't exist while you're alive – it starts after your death, when your executor transfers some or all of your estate into it. The key idea is the **separation of control and benefit**: a **trustee** owns and manages the assets, and the **beneficiaries** receive the benefit of the income and capital. That separation is where the protection and the tax flexibility come from.

Who's who

Role	What they do
You (the will-maker)	Set the rules in your will: who benefits, who controls the trust, and when it ends.
Executor	Gathers your estate, pays debts and transfers the assets into the trust.
Trustee	Legally owns and invests the trust assets, decides who receives income and capital each year, keeps the records and lodges the trust's tax return.
Appointor	Can remove and replace the trustee. This is where the real control sits, so choose carefully – and name a back-up.
Beneficiaries	Usually a primary beneficiary (for example, your child) plus their family – partner, children and grandchildren – so income can be shared.

The three common types

Type	Best suited to	How it works
Discretionary	Adult children who are good with money, families wanting tax flexibility	The beneficiary is often trustee of their own trust, with flexibility over who receives income each year.
Protective	A beneficiary who is young, vulnerable, struggles with spending, addiction or gambling, or is at risk of being taken advantage of	An independent trustee (a trusted family member, a professional or a trustee company) controls the money and pays for the beneficiary's needs.
Special Disability Trust	A family member with a severe disability	Can be set up through your will. It has strict rules, one principal beneficiary, and means test concessions.[1]

You don't have to decide everything now. Many wills include an **optional** testamentary trust, where each beneficiary chooses at the time whether to take their inheritance directly or through a trust. That way the decision is made with the facts of the day, not the facts of today.

1. Services Australia lists a gifting concession of up to $500,000 for eligible family members and an assets test exemption of up to $862,750 for the beneficiary (indexed each 1 July). Services Australia; Department of Social Services.

Why People Use a Testamentary Trust

Every family is different, so start with the people, not the structure. These are the situations where I most often suggest clients raise a testamentary trust with their estate planning lawyer.

Situation	How a testamentary trust can help
Young children or grandchildren	Income paid to children under 18 from inherited assets is taxed at **normal adult rates**, including the $18,200 tax-free threshold. Most other investment income for children is taxed at penalty rates of up to 45% once it passes $416.[2] It can also pay for school fees and education for grandchildren.
Creditors and bankruptcy	The trustee owns the assets, not the beneficiary, so the inheritance is generally protected if a beneficiary is sued, goes bankrupt or works in a high-risk profession or business.
A child's relationship breakdown	It can help, but it isn't bulletproof. The Family Court looks at who really controls the trust. If your child controls it, the assets may be treated as their property. If they don't, the trust is more likely to be treated as a 'financial resource', which can still affect the settlement.[3]
Vulnerable beneficiaries	A protective trust keeps a share intact for someone who struggles with spending, addiction or gambling, or who has a disability.
Blended families and remarriage	You can provide for your partner during their lifetime while protecting capital for your children, so family assets aren't redirected to a new family.
The next generation	Assets kept in the trust generally don't form part of your child's own estate when they die, which can protect them from a later will challenge.

Illustrative example: the tax difference

Sam inherits $500,000 from Mum and invests it, earning about $25,000 a year. Sam is in the 30% tax bracket.

Inherited directly: the $25,000 is added to Sam's income, with tax of about $8,000 a year (30% plus the 2% Medicare levy).

Through a testamentary trust: the trustee can pay $12,500 to each of Sam's two young children. Each is under the $18,200 tax-free threshold, so there's little or no tax. That's money that can go towards their education.

Illustrative only, using 2026–27 resident tax rates. The real outcome depends on the trust deed, other income and advice.

A note on Centrelink

Older guides said testamentary trust assets were ignored for the Age Pension. That's no longer a safe assumption. Services Australia uses a **control test**: if you can appoint or remove the trustee, or influence their decisions, the trust's assets and income can be counted as yours.[4] A Special Disability Trust is the main exception.

2. Since 1 July 2019, adult rates apply only to income from assets that came from the deceased estate, not to new money added later. ATO – Your income if you are under 18; ATO – rates for minors. 3. Rankin Ellison – testamentary trusts and family law. 4. Services Australia – Private trusts and companies.

Making It Work for Your Family

What a testamentary trust can't reach

A testamentary trust can only hold what passes through your **will**. Some of your biggest assets may not:

- **Jointly owned assets** (as joint tenants) pass straight to the surviving owner, often your partner.
- **Super** doesn't automatically form part of your estate. To get it into a testamentary trust, your binding nomination usually needs to direct it to your **legal personal representative** (your estate).
- **Family trust and company assets** are controlled by the trust deed and shareholdings, not your will. Plan who takes over as appointor and director separately.
- **Life insurance** with a nominated beneficiary (including cover inside super) is paid directly to them.

Super, tax and your trust

Super paid to your estate is taxed as if it went straight to each beneficiary.[5] Lump sums for your partner and children under 18 are tax-free. Adult children are usually **non-dependants** for tax, so the taxable part is taxed at up to 15% through the estate, or up to 30% for untaxed super such as some public sector schemes (17% and 32%, including Medicare, if paid to them directly). For young children, a **child death benefit pension** from super can be very tax-effective, but it must generally be paid out by age 25.[6] Get advice on which route suits your family.

Is it worth it?

It costs more to set up than a simple will, and the trust needs its own tax return and accounts every year, plus trustee fees if you use a professional. For a small estate, or one held mostly jointly or in a family trust, the costs may outweigh the benefits.

Questions to take to your lawyer

- Who should be trustee and appointor for each trust, and who takes over if they can't?
- One trust for each child, or one shared family trust?
- At what age, or in what circumstances, should each beneficiary take control?
- How will my super and life insurance get into the trust, and what's the tax?

> **Scott's tip**
>
> Start with the people. Write down who you want to look after, how, and what worries you, then take that list to an estate planning lawyer. The structure should fit your values, not the other way round.

> **Add this to your One Page Financial Plan**
>
> Under **Your Back Up Plan**, note whether your will includes (or needs) a testamentary trust, and any special considerations. Step 7 of our Backup Plan and Estate Planning Workbook (pages 16–17) will help you prepare.

5. ATO – Paying super death benefits; ATO – Schedule 12. 6. ATO – Super death benefits. Adapted from our earlier client resource, based on an ASA guide. Rules vary by state.

Your Backup Plan Checklist

Know what you have

- [ ] List every policy you hold, inside and outside super.
- [ ] Note the cover amounts, premiums, waiting periods and benefit periods.
- [ ] Check who owns each policy and who receives the benefit – including super nominations.

Work out what you need

- [ ] Complete the insurance needs analysis for you and your partner. If you're single, focus on protecting your income – there's no second income to fall back on.
- [ ] Include your debts, family living costs, children's education and how long income would be needed.
- [ ] Allow for sick leave, savings and any cover already in your super.

Get the structure right

- [ ] Read the contract – the terms, exclusions and definitions decide how and when a claim is paid.
- [ ] Compare holding cover inside super versus outside super for cash flow and tax.
- [ ] Shop around, and consider longer waiting periods to reduce premiums.

Review and protect

- [ ] Review your cover at every life event – a new home, a new job, a baby or a separation.
- [ ] Keep your will and enduring powers of attorney up to date.
- [ ] Ask your lawyer whether a testamentary trust suits your family – see the questions on page 14.
- [ ] Tell your family where your policies are kept and who to contact.

> **Scott's tip**
>
> Insurance is your backup plan, not your plan. Get the cover right, then focus your energy on the life you want to live.

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Listen and Learn – Our Podcast

Want to go deeper? Each of these episodes of our podcast, **Money Mechanics with Scott Malcolm**, unpacks a topic from this e-book in plain English – often with a guest expert. Click a title to listen on Apple Podcasts.

Insurance (with Katherine Hayes) 2021
Life, TPD, trauma and income protection – what each cover does and how much you might need.

Financial Resilience (with Danielle Brophy) 2021
Building buffers – money, habits and mindset – so life's curveballs don't knock you over.
Resources mentioned: Money Wellbeing quiz

Wills and Estate Planning (with Rebecca Tetlow) 2020
Wills, powers of attorney and making sure your wishes are clear.

Estate Planning for Blended Families and Estate Disputes (with Rebecca Tetlow) 2022
Why blended families need extra care with wills, super nominations and expectations.

Inheritance: Receive Well, Give Wisely 2026
Pausing before big decisions when money comes your way, and planning your own giving well.

Redundancy: What It Really Means Emotionally and Financially 2026
Genuine and voluntary redundancy, redeployment rights for public servants, and calm decisions on cash flow, debt and super.
Resources mentioned: Moneysmart – Losing your job | Beyond Blue – Job loss

Aged Care, Centrelink and Retirement (with Rosie Bouton) 2023
Planning ahead for care, and how Centrelink and aged care fees fit together.
Resources mentioned: Advance Care Planning Australia | My Aged Care

The Human Side of Retirement: Why Connection Matters 2026
With Phil McAuliffe (Humans:Connecting) and Tatia Power (Inclusee) on purpose, belonging and life after work.
Resources mentioned: Humans:Connecting | Inclusee

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Episodes are general information only. Rules, rates and thresholds change – episodes recorded before 2026 reflect the rules at the time, so check the current position in this e-book or ask us.

How We Work With You

The Money Mechanics Formal Advice Process – a clear five-stage journey designed around you. It always starts with a conversation about what matters to you, not with a product.

1

Connect

We connect to understand your goals and priorities and define the scope of our advice.

2

Collect & Scope

We gather the information we need and explore your current position, goals and opportunities.

3

Design (Analyse + Strategy)

We analyse your situation and design a tailored strategy to help you achieve your goals.

4

Agree & Document (Present + SoA/RoA)

We present our advice and recommendations and document the advice in your Statement of Advice (SoA) or Record of Advice (RoA).

5

Implement & Review

We implement your strategy and regularly review progress to keep you on track.

Advice that's strategic. Personal. Ongoing.

Client focused
Your goals and priorities are at the centre of everything we do.

Expert advice
Thoughtful strategies backed by experience and ongoing education.

Clear communication
We explain things simply so you can make informed decisions with confidence.

Ongoing support
We review, adapt and support you as your life and goals evolve.

Glossary of Financial Terms

Annual percentage rate - The rate at which interest is charged over a yearly period in respect of money that is owed.

Bankruptcy - A legal process that people go through when they can not pay their debts. A bankrupt person gives control of most of the debts and assets to a bankruptcy trustee. The trustee decides which (if any) of the assets can be sold to pay off the debts.

Comparison rate - The interest rate on a loan that includes interest and most (but not all) fees and charges for the loan. For example, if a bank advertises an interest rate for a home loan of 5.49%pa, the comparison rate (once fees and charges have been included) might actually be 6.75%pa.

Compound interest - Interest earned on money that is invested over a period of time that is added to the original amount invested (the principal) and interest is then paid on the entire amount. Over a long time compound interest can be a good way to increase your savings.

Creditor - Someone who is owed money.

Debts (liabilities) - A debt is money that is owed. Another name for a debt is a liability.

Debtor - Someone who owes money.

Debt to Equity Ratio - This is the amount of the loan compared to the value of the property or asset purchased with the loan funds, expressed as a percentage. For example, a loan of $400,000 to buy a property worth $500,000 results in a debt to equity of 80%. Also known as Loan to Value Ratio (LVR).

Equity - Equity can mean shares in a company or an equity position in a property. For example, owning equity in a company is having an ownership interest in a company.

Expenses - The amount it costs you for your everyday living including food, transport, housing, clothing and entertainment.

Fixed interest - An annual percentage rate, or an interest rate that does not change for a specified fixed period.

Income - The amount of money you earn, such as wages and salaries, rental income, interest and government allowances. For a business or a company, income is equal to revenue less expenses.

Interest only - An 'interest only' loan means that your repayments only go towards repaying the interest for a specified period, rather than repaying the principal amount of the loan. For example, paying your loan "interest only" means that the principal balance stays the same.

Managed funds - An investment fund that pools together money that has been contributed by many investors for the purposes of investing the total amount in different investments such as shares, listed property trusts, bonds and cash.

Net worth - Your assets less how much you owe on your assets is your net worth. In order to meet basic needs and life events, an increase in your net worth should be a basic financial goal of most people.

Offset account - A bank account that is linked to a nominated home or residential investment loan. The balance of the offset account reduces the amount of interest payable on your linked loan.

Per annum (pa) - This means for the year.

Principal - For an investment, the principal is the amount of money invested. For a loan, the principal is the amount of the loan (the face value of the loan) upon which interest is then calculated and charged.

Power of Attorney - operates in circumstances where you may be suffering from either a temporary or permanent legal disability and are unable to make decisions for yourself.

Simple interest - Interest is paid on a set principal only and not re-invested.

Superannuation - An employer is required to contribute a proportion of a person's salary or wage to a superannuation fund on behalf of the employee. The money in the superannuation fund is invested with the aim of generating returns for retirement.

Term deposit - A banking product that offers a slightly higher annual percentage rate than savings accounts payable on the amount invested. A term deposit has a fixed term (which can vary) during which the amount invested cannot be accessed.

Trust – An agreement to hold an asset for another person usually called a beneficiary.

Trust Deed - A document, which explains how, a trust has been set up and the rules involved in its operation.

Trust account - An account that is usually used by lawyers, accountants and other professionals such as stockbrokers to identify and control their clients' money.

Variable interest - A type of interest where the rate may go up and/or down during the term of the loan.

Will - A legal document stating how you wish your possessions to be distributed after your death.

Further Resources

Government agencies

Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) – Moneysmart
Consumer protection regulator for financial services, with free calculators and guides.
Phone: 1300 300 630 Web: moneysmart.gov.au

Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
Information on tax and super, including your caps, carry-forward amounts and lost super (via myGov).
Personal tax: 13 28 61 | Super: 13 10 20 Web: www.ato.gov.au

Services Australia – Centrelink and the Financial Information Service (FIS)
Government payments, the Age Pension and free, independent financial information seminars.
Retirement services / FIS: 13 23 00 Web: www.servicesaustralia.gov.au

National Debt Helpline
Free, independent and confidential financial counselling across every state and territory.
Phone: 1800 007 007 Web: ndh.org.au

Complaints, advice and super

Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA)
Free, fair and independent dispute resolution for super, insurance and financial advice. AFCA replaced the Superannuation Complaints Tribunal and the Financial Ombudsman Service.
Phone: 1800 931 678 Web: www.afca.org.au

Financial Advice Association Australia (FAAA)
Find a qualified financial planner or CFP® professional (formerly the FPA).
Phone: 1300 337 301 Web: faaa.au

SMSF Association
Find a specialist SMSF adviser (formerly SPAA).
Web: www.smsfassociation.com

Moneysmart – How life insurance works
Free, independent guides to life, TPD, trauma and income protection cover.
Web: moneysmart.gov.au/how-life-insurance-works

Advance Care Planning Australia
Plan ahead for your future health care and record your wishes.
Phone: 1300 208 582 Web: www.advancecareplanning.org.au

My Aged Care
The government's starting point for aged care services and fees.
Phone: 1800 200 422 Web: www.myagedcare.gov.au

Australian Securities Exchange (ASX)
Share market information and investor education.
Phone: 131 279 Web: www.asx.com.au

CPA Australia
Represents accountants, including those who provide financial advice.
Phone: 1300 737 373 Web: www.cpaaustralia.com.au

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Important Information

Your Backup Plan and Personal Insurances
Author: Scott Malcolm, Money Mechanics

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