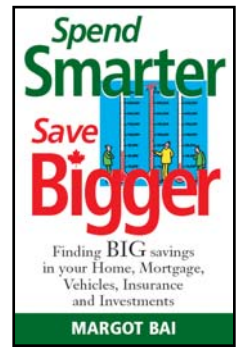


Top Ten Ways to Find BIG Savings

By Margot Bai, author of Spend Smarter, Save Bigger



1. Buy a Home You Can Afford and Focus on Value
 - When possible, put 20% down, never less than 10%
2. Choose a Shorter Term / Variable Mortgage for the Best Rate
 - Opt for the lowest rate now while your mortgage balance is highest
3. Say NO to Leasing: Save Up to Buy Your Next Car with Cash
 - Avoid paying for extra kms and minor damage
 - The longer you keep your car the better the value
4. Buy a Reliable, Efficient Vehicle & have it Serviced by a Private Mechanic
 - Use quality aftermarket parts when possible
 - Build a long-term relationship of trust with your mechanic
5. Choose Higher Deductibles or Drop Collision on Auto Insurance
 - Consider adding a deductible to DCPD, the Not-At-Fault coverage
6. Become a Safer Driver to Protect your Insurance Rating
 - Take your time and leave extra space in front
 - Learn the Fault Determination Rules at www.ibc.ca
7. Buy Term Life Insurance While You Are Young and Healthy
 - Apply with a private life insurer and do a medical to qualify for the best rate and ensure the coverage is guaranteed
8. Invest Directly With a Low-Fee Mutual Fund Company
 - Get unbiased investment advice & low fees to grow your savings faster
9. Use RRSP Contributions to Defer Your Taxes
 - Complete the T1213 form with CRA to reduce the amount of income tax deducted from each paycheque
10. Use RESPs to Get Free Money For Your Kids' Education
 - Get your kids to contribute to their RESP to teach them about saving and give them a sense of responsibility toward their education fund