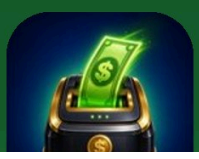
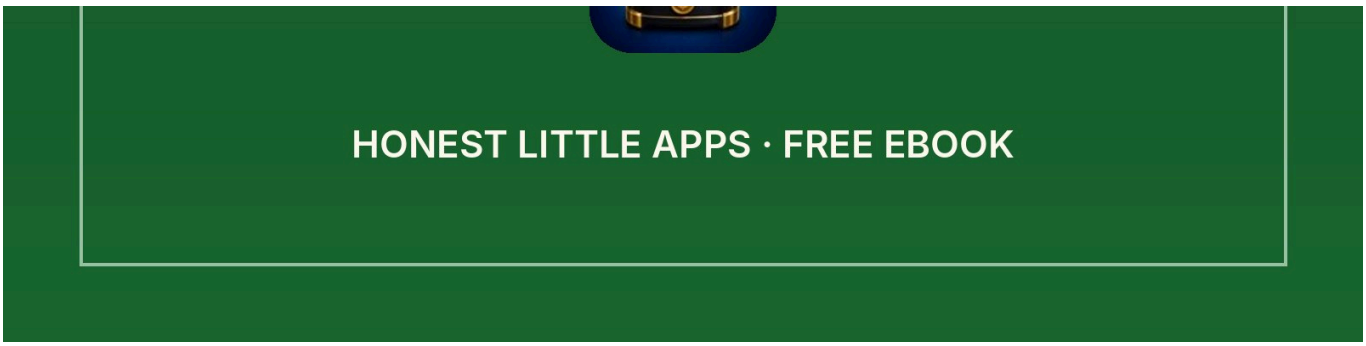
31 Money Facts

Compounding, budgeting and the rules of thumb worth knowing





31 Money Facts

Compounding, budgeting and the rules of thumb worth knowing

One plain-English money fact a day. General education only, not financial advice.

Day 1

Rule of 72: divide 72 by an annual growth rate to estimate how many years it takes to double. At 8%, about 9 years.

Day 2

$1,000 growing at 7% a year becomes about $7,600 after 30 years. That's compounding.

Day 3

The Federal Reserve estimates a US $1 bill lasts about 6.6 years in circulation.

Day 4

US paper money is 75% cotton and 25% linen, which is why it survives the wash.

Day 5

Some of the first coins were struck in Lydia (modern Turkey) around 2,600 years ago.

Day 6

Paper money took off in China under the Song dynasty, around 1,000 years ago.

Day 7

A common guideline is an emergency fund covering 3–6 months of essential expenses.

Day 8

At 3% inflation, prices roughly double in 24 years (72 ÷ 3).

Day 9

Paying only the minimum on a credit card can stretch a small balance out over years of interest.

Day 10

$5 a day is about $1,825 a year. Small daily amounts add up fast.

Day 11

There are more $100 bills in circulation than $1 bills (Federal Reserve data).

Day 12

The Monopoly board's street names come from Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Day 13

For years, the US penny cost more than one cent to make.

Day 14

Idle and clicker games run on exponential growth: each upgrade multiplies, it doesn't just add.

Day 15

Warren Buffett has said he bought his first stock at age 11.

Day 16

The word 'salary' is often linked to the Latin for salt, sal, though historians debate the story.

Day 17

One popular theory traces the $ sign to a handwritten abbreviation for the Spanish peso.

Day 18

The 50/30/20 budget (needs, wants, savings) was popularised by Elizabeth Warren and Amelia Warren Tyagi.

Day 19

Opportunity cost: the real price of something includes the best thing you gave up to get it.

Day 20

Sunk cost fallacy: money already spent shouldn't decide what you do next.

Day 21

'Pay yourself first' means moving savings out on payday, before you spend.

Day 22

Diversification means owning many investments, so one bad one can't sink you.

Day 23

Check the unit price on the shelf label. The bigger pack isn't always cheaper per ounce.

Day 24

Subscription creep: small monthly charges you forget about. Review them every month.

Day 25

Vanguard launched the first index fund for everyday investors in 1976.

Day 26

The New York Stock Exchange traces its roots to the Buttonwood Agreement of 1792.

Day 27

The Bitcoin white paper was published in 2008.

Day 28

Hungary in 1946 had the worst hyperinflation on record. Prices doubled roughly every 15 hours.

Day 29

Zimbabwe issued a 100-trillion-dollar banknote in 2009.

Day 30

All the gold ever mined would fit in a cube roughly 22 metres on each side.

Day 31

In clicker games growth is guaranteed. Real investments go up and down, and past returns don't promise future ones.

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