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January 2012

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## The #1 Money Secret of The Rich

Ever wonder how the rich get richer? It's simple. They spend less than they earn, and invest the difference. If you're not born into money, here are five tips for spending less so you can invest more and build wealth this year.

- 1. Track Your Spending.** It's hard to tell where you're spending too much if you don't write anything down. But who wants to save receipts, log a checkbook register, or use a spreadsheet? New online tools help you automatically track all your financial information in one place, for free. At [www.mint.com](http://www.mint.com) you can set up a free account to see exactly where your money is going.
- 2. Use a Budget.** This financial practice of the rich has enormous power. You may prefer to call it a "spending plan" but the idea here is to know how much you can spend on different categories so you don't overextend yourself. Include savings as a category and "pay yourself first" each month by putting money aside into a designated savings account.
- 3. Reign in Expensive Habits.** Smoking and eating out are expensive. Statistics show that the pack-a-day smoker spends nearly \$260,000 over a lifetime – and that does not include increased insurance costs and other factors. Or, you may enjoy eating at nice restaurants each week, which is another budget killer. What habits can you reduce to save money?
- 4. Pay Down Debt.** As you free up more of your income it can be smart to pay down high-interest debt. For example, taking extra money to pay down a loan with 10% interest can be better than putting money in a savings account at 3% interest.
- 5. Pay In Cash.** Credit card companies know you spend more when there's not an immediate withdrawal from your bank account. Try to pay for everything in cash (or debit card). If you want a new computer, to take a vacation, or even a car, try to save up and pay for it in cash instead of getting a loan. Remember, the key here is it to not take on more debt.

The secret to building wealth is to reduce your spending and debt so more of your income can work for you. Follow these tips to free up more money for savings and investments. And may you have a prosperous New Year!

### Learn How To Maximize The Value Of Your Home!

We've had a great deal of success in selling our listings fast and for top dollar even in today's real estate market! How did we do it? Call us and find out!

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## Word of the Month...

Studies have shown your income and wealth are directly related to the size and depth of your vocabulary. Here is this month's word, so you can impress your friends (and maybe even fatten your wallet!)

**Circadian** (sur-KAY-dee-an) adjective

**Meaning:** Recurring naturally on a 24 hour cycle, even in the absence of light fluctuations.

**Sample Sentence:** It is much easier for you to get a good night's sleep if you follow your own natural circadian rhythm.

## Little-Known Animal Facts

- Starfish don't have brains.
- The Housefly hums, middle octave, key of F.
- The eye of an Ostrich is bigger than its brain.
- Butterflies taste with their feet.

## Sugar Craving Fixes

Addiction to sugar is not a sweet habit to kick. However, there are things that you can do to curb the urge to splurge on sugar.

Keeping your protein/sugar balanced can do wonders for achieving freedom from sugar cravings. Eating several small meals and snacks with a source of protein in each will help. Substitute the high calorie sweets with herbal tea or fresh fruit.

Also a good oral Aloe product can be swished in the mouth then swallowed thereby killing oral bacteria partly responsible for that "sweet tooth."

## Quotes To Live By...

Searching is half the fun: Life is much more manageable when it is thought of as a scavenger hunt as opposed to a surprise party.

—Jimmy Buffett

Life is about not knowing, having to change, taking the moment and making the best of it, without knowing what is going to happen next. Delicious ambiguity.

—Gilda Radner

# How To Never Forget Important Facts

Do you have trouble remembering important facts? Whether you're a student or simply need to recall information for your professional or personal life, it can be embarrassing to not remember critical data when needed. The following techniques are simple ways to boost your brain power and help you recall important details when you need them.

- ◆ **Repetition** is the age old method of remembering important facts. Take out a piece of paper and write the things you need to recall 5 to 7 times. Some people will need to write them more times, others less depending on the individual need for repetition.
- ◆ If you are **auditory** (or verbal) you will probably need to hear them to make the facts stick in your brain. Take the notes you have written multiple times and read them out loud. Repeat the reading several times to embed the facts for later recall.
- ◆ **Visually**, you can stimulate your memory by using color codes in your notes. Perhaps you will use RED for the urgent tasks and BLUE for important reminders. Drawing objects that relate to the material can also be useful for quick mental retrieval.
- ◆ If you learn through **music**, try composing your own "lyrics" using the material you need to remember. Then you can add those words to an common song like *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*. Combining the facts with something familiar will make it easier to remember later.
- ◆ One more method is to use a **mnemonic device**. Try using the first letter in each word of the main points to create an easy to remember word or sentence. It's a great way to aid your memory.

Everyone has a different way of learning and recalling information. Try multiple methods until you find what works best for you.

## Recent articles you may like on our blog:

[www.RocketRealEstate.com](http://www.RocketRealEstate.com)

- What if a seller cannot find a suitable replacement property?
- Did you know there are over 80 things that can go sideways in a real estate transaction?
- Resistance may not be good for real estate.
- How to get a FREE list of 50 Sacramento and Elk Grove CA bank foreclosed homes, \$150,000-\$250,000.
- Use an AM radio transmitter to sell houses?
- Our real estate predictions and forecast for 2012 real estate.

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## Brain Teaser...

Other than being colors, what do silver, orange and purple have in common?

## Top 7 Recalled Kid Products

Be careful when purchasing resale children's products. Here are the most dangerous according to [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov):

1. Playskool Travel-Lite play yards
2. Evenflo Happy Camper play yards
3. Baby Trend Home and Roam portable cribs and play yards
4. Magnetix magnetic building sets
5. Easy Bake Ovens
6. Polly Pocket Dolls with magnets
7. Simplicity drop side cribs

## Having Trouble Sleeping?

Our bodies have a natural sleep cycle throughout the day of about 90 minutes or so depending upon the person. At the "Alpha" peak it's easiest to go to sleep and arise from sleep. People unaware of their sleep cycles may mistakenly attempt to go to sleep or set their alarm clocks at the wrong time. So knowing your sleep cycles can be beneficial. It's also important to eat a good diet, take proper supplementation and exercise. For more sleep tips, read my book at: [www.DaveRocket.com](http://www.DaveRocket.com)

## Bounce Basics

You probably have seen the claims of all the things that a Bounce dryer sheet can do. According to [www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com), some are true and some aren't.

### These are **TRUE**:

- TV screen static remover
- Deodorize Sneakers
- Freshen a drawer or closet

### These are **FALSE**:

- Repels mosquitoes
- Clean baked-on cooking pans
- Collect cat hair

## Overheard On The Beach

"I've discovered that I scream the same way whether I am about to be devoured by a great white shark or if a piece of seaweed touches my foot."

"How did they know the first victim of the "Jaws" shark had dandruff? They found her *Head and Shoulders* on the beach!"

# With Eye Injuries, Do This, Not That...

Many everyday things can harm your eyes. Here are two common eye injuries, what you should and should NOT do if you experience these risks.

- **Eye Scratches** can come from something as innocent as a baby's fingernails or something as common as being brushed with a tree branch. These seemingly minor abrasions can cause the eye to become susceptible to infection or fungus. Do not rub your eye and don't cover it with a patch. Keep the eye closed and see your doctor as soon as possible because you can experience serious harm in less than 24 hours.
- **Chemical Exposure** is common with paints or household cleaning products. Some substances are very harmful and some may only cause temporary discomfort. Do not use eye drops to flush your eyes, instead put your head under running lukewarm water for 15 minutes to remove the chemical substance. Call your doctor immediately and let them know the exact chemical exposed to the eye and when it occurred.

Of course prevention is always the best medicine, so be sure to wear safety glasses when working with tools or in any situation where bits of metal, glass, plastic, or dirt are flying around. For more eye health information, go to [www.allaboutvision.com](http://www.allaboutvision.com).

### FREE Home Buyer Consumer Info is Just a Click Away

Looking for a great home buy but can't seem to find it on the internet? That's because most real estate internet sites don't give you the tools to narrow down your search to the best buys. Instead, go here: [www.ReBuyer.com](http://www.ReBuyer.com)

### DID YOU KNOW...

Unlike most real estate agents, we *DON'T* spend our time pestering people with phone calls or bothersome interruptions to find good clients. Instead, we dedicate our time and energies to providing such outstanding service, people naturally think of us when a friend or family member needs assistance in buying or selling a home. THANKS for your kind introductions!

## Tips To Reduce Auto Emissions

According to [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov), the typical vehicle releases an equivalent of 5.5 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually. Here are a few actions you can take to reduce your carbon footprint.

**Drive only when necessary.** The time spent driving doubles every 20 years. Look for options like carpooling, public transportation, combining errands, bicycling and walking to reduce time driving.

**Proper car maintenance** goes a long way to reducing emissions. Follow the owner's manual to help the environment while you also extend the life of the auto, increase value at resale and minimize the cost of gasoline.

**Use common sense** to avoid pollution. Don't let your engine idle more than 30 seconds. Be careful to not spill gas when refueling. And take heavy items out of the car whenever they are not needed immediately.

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## Thanks For Thinking of Us!

Did you know we may assist you or any of your friends or family save time and money when buying or selling a home? Thanks for keeping us in mind with your kind introductions...and spreading the word about our services.

## Brain Teaser Answer:

There is no word in the English language that rhymes with them.

## What Happened in Atlanta

A tough looking biker had been at the bar all night when he decided it was time to hit the road. He went out the front door and instantly noticed his bike was missing from where he parked it.

“All right” he said gruffly, coming back into the busy bar. “I’m going to have a shot of whisky and if my hog ain’t back up front by the time I’m done, what happened in Atlanta will happen here too!”

The other bikers frantically ran out of the bar and within seconds one came back in to tell the tough biker his hog was now parked in front of the bar waiting for him.

As the tough biker got up to leave the bartender asked, “Excuse me mister, but what happened in Atlanta?”

The tough biker sheepishly replied, “I had to walk back to my hotel!”

**THANK YOU** for reading our Home Rocket Real Estate® personal newsletter. We want to produce a newsletter that has great content and is fun and valuable to you. Your constructive feedback is always welcome. **AND...** whether you’re thinking of buying, selling or financing real estate, or just want to say “Hi,” we’d love to hear from you...

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## “I’ve taken a close look at 42 of the 50 United States. Here are some things I’ve learned in my travels...”

- Alaska is by far the most beautiful state!
- I don’t know why they call Pierre, South Dakota “Peer.”
- I couldn’t find any reference to “New Coke” in the Coca-Cola museum in Atlanta, Georgia.
- The *Cracker Barrel* and *Waffle House* restaurant chains are great examples of the type of food you’ll find in the South.
- New York delis have by far the best pastrami sandwiches.
- Montana has the best selection of cowboy belts and belt buckles I’ve seen so far.
- Chicago has the best dressed people walking up and down their streets. Also, their steak houses are amazing.
- They have stud horses in Kentucky that earn more in one day than most people earn in a year!
- The state with the most options in beauty, travel, good weather and money is California my home.

*David Jurewicz*

## Real Estate Corner...

### Q. What natural scents can make my home appealing to buyers?

A. This is a common question asked of real estate agents and it is a little surprising how easily mistakes can be made that turn buyers off.

Generally, fragrant candles and aerosol room fresheners are too strong to be used just before your guests arrive. Few things can make a buyer suspicious than an overly strong smell. They may think you have something to hide if a pleasant odor is overwhelming. If you want to freshen up the smell of your home with these products, use them at least 4 hours ahead of time.

Most people will feel comfortable in a home that smells clean and welcoming with the scent of **coffee, tea or cookies**. If you are not preparing these foods, you can simulate the smell with a few drops of **cinnamon oil** with water in a pie plate placed in a warm but not hot oven. Also, herbs like **rosemary, lavender** and **mint** offer a really pleasant natural fragrance whether you place them in vases or simmer them in a saucepan.

If you’re thinking of selling soon, call us and ask about our “Maximum Home Value Audit,” which will give you our recommendations for a fast sale at a great price. We’d be happy to set up a no-charge, no-obligation consultation, just contact us at the number to the left.

Get Free money-saving home tips at our web site: [www.HomeRocketRealty.com](http://www.HomeRocketRealty.com)