

# PERSONAL FINANCIAL SOFTWARE AND FINANCIAL APPS

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SIRS Branch 116

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# THE BEST PERSONAL FINANCIAL SOFTWARE

- INTUIT'S QUICKEN, \$65
- MONEY LINE, \$34, Free for personal use
- MINT, FREE
- DOXO, FREE
- BILL'S ACCOUNTS MGR – MANILLA, FREE
- YNAB, \$60

Stop worrying about money.  
Get started with Quicken 2014.



# Quicken (cont.)

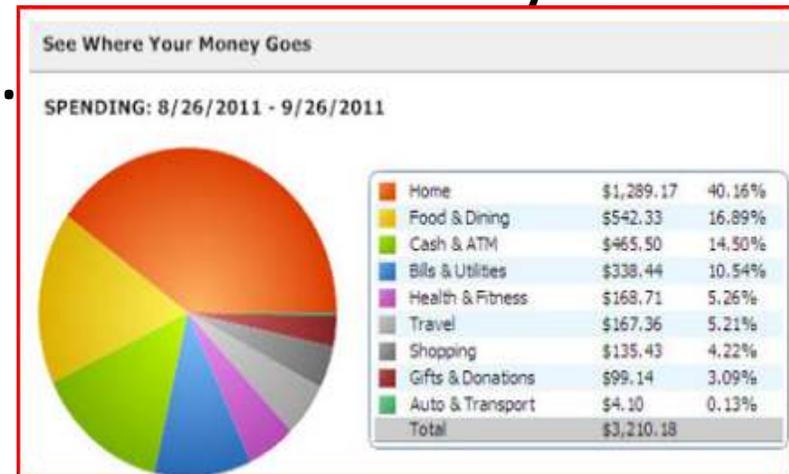
- **Securely connects to your banks in seconds**
- Simply enter two items — your username and password — for each account, and Quicken does the rest, swiftly and securely. It organizes all your financial information, together in one place, just like that.



The screenshot shows a window titled "Add Your Primary Checking Account" with a sub-header "Your Bank". It contains two input fields: "User ID / User Name for your online bank account" with the text "Jeff Parker" and "Password for your online bank account" with masked characters. A "Save this password" checkbox is checked. A "Connect" button is at the bottom right. Security logos for Norton Security and TRUSTe are visible on the right side of the form.

# Quicken (cont.)

- **Sorts your expenses into categories, automatically**
- Quicken automatically downloads and categorizes your expenses from your banks, then shows you a simple chart of what you've spent in the last 30 days.



# Quicken (cont.)

- **Makes budgeting (and staying on a budget) painless**
- Quicken sets up a realistic household budget based on your spending history. These goals are customizable, and make it easy to plan for your future.



# Quicken (cont.)

- **Shows exactly where you stand**
- Bank balances don't give you the "whole picture." Quicken 2014 does. It forecasts your balances to show you exactly how much money you have in real-time. It even helps you pay bills on time by reminding you when they're due.



- **Take the first step toward feeling better about your money.**
- Quicken personal finance software will get you organized — and put you in control of your household budget. All in just minutes!

## Quicken (cont.)

- Track investment accounts
- Track your entire net worth (Assets – Liabilities). Bank Accounts, House equity, investment portfolio, annuities, pension annuity, auto blue book value, etc. minus credit card debt, home mortgage balance, etc.
- Tabulate location of valuable documents like deeds, account numbers, important contacts, etc. A document for your heirs.

# Quicken Mobile app

- **Better decisions on the go**
- The Quicken 2014 mobile app lets you take Quicken 2014 with you: it's easy to track purchases, check balances, and stay in sync — anytime, anywhere!
- **Snap and store receipts**
- It's easy to keep track of your important purchases: just snap a picture of your receipt with the Quicken 2014 mobile app.

# MONEY LINE

- **MoneyLine Personal Finance Software**
- **Easy Home Accounting and Checkbook Software**
- MoneyLine **personal finance software** tracks all your money, bank accounts and spending in one place, so you stay organized and in control of your finances. Keep track of your spending
- Monitor bank account balances
- Categorize purchase transactions

# Money Line (cont.)

- Personal finance software gives you fast and easy access to all your important spending and financial data in one place to help you manage your spending and **digitally balance your checkbook**.
- **Get it Free.** A free version of MoneyLine personal finance software is available for non-commercial use. If you will be using MoneyLine at home you can [download the free version here](#).

# Money Line (cont.)

- **Personal Financing Features**
- Checkbook register for all your personal accounts, including savings and checking accounts
- Add and track additional accounts, including credit cards
- Categorize transaction types and set budgets to manage finances and track spending
- Split transactions across multiple categories
- Schedule recurring transactions like paychecks and mortgage payments
- Download transactions directly from your bank
- Reconcile your purchases and transactions against your bank statement
- Track transfers between accounts
- Report on income and expenses by category and payee to help manage and track your spending

# Money Line (cont.)

## Account & Checkbook Expense Tracking

MoneyLine allows you to manage your checking, savings, or credit card accounts. You can also add additional accounts.

MoneyLine © NCH Software

Last reconciled: -

C	R	Date	Number	Payee	Note	Category	Payment	Deposit	Balance
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-01		The Populist	Anniversary	Dining	\$102.36		\$1,897.64
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-03		King Soopers		Groceries	\$42.51		\$1,855.13
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-08		Conoco		Auto	\$52.00		\$1,803.13
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-08		CenturyLink		Internet	\$45.99		\$1,757.14
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-11				Cash	\$120.00		\$1,637.14
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-12		Amazon	Camping equipment	Recreation	\$68.96		\$1,568.18
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-15		NCH Software		Net Salary		\$1,000.00	\$2,568.18
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-16		The Walnut Room	Dinner with Tom	Dining	\$52.00		\$2,516.18
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-18	101	Excel		Utilities	\$56.38		\$2,459.80
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-18		US Bank		Mortgage	\$564.13		\$1,895.47
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-18		Verizon		Cell Phone		\$123.56	\$2,019.03
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-18		Renaissance HGA		Dues	\$85.00		\$1,934.03
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-18		King Soopers		Groceries	\$56.45		\$1,877.58
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-19		Conoco		Auto	\$62.00		\$1,815.58
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-20	102	DV, Vesper DDS		Dental	\$35.00		\$1,780.58
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-21		Home Depot	Bathroom sink	Home Improvement	\$129.63		\$1,650.95
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-22		Amazon		Entertainment	\$76.88		\$1,574.06
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-24		The Populist		Dining		\$64.58	\$1,638.64
<input type="checkbox"/>		2013-03-29		Transfer to Savings Account	Vacation Fund	Vacation	\$200.00		\$1,438.64

# Money Line (cont.)

**Reconcile Bank Statements**

Reconcile with Statement

Opening Balance: \$0.00      Opening Date: 0  
Reconciled Balance: \$1,743.49      Reconciled Date: 2013-03-18  
Closing Balance: \$1,732.86  
Difference: -\$10.63       Show all unreconciled transactions

R	C	Date	Payee	Description	Payment	Deposit
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-01	The Populist	Anniversary	\$102.36	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-03	King Soopers		\$42.51	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-05	Conoco		\$52.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-09	CenturyLink		\$45.99	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-11			\$120.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-12	Amazon	Camping equipment	\$68.96	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-15	NCH Software			\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-16	The Walnut Room	Dinner with Tom	\$52.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-18	Excel		\$56.58	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-18	US Bank		\$564.13	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-18	Verizon		\$123.56	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C	2013-03-18	Renaissance HOA		\$85.00	

OK      Cancel      Help

MoneyLine © NCH Software

# Financial Applications

- **Mobile Trading With Fidelity**

- Stay on top of the market, and trade no matter where you are.

- [Fidelity Mobile®](#)

- Learn more about managing your portfolio from your iPad®, iPhone®, Android™, or Windows Phone 8 device.

- Trade stocks, ETFs, options, and more—anywhere, anytime.

- Track your account positions and preferred securities.

- Get the latest news and views on the market.

- View real-time quotes and charts.

- **Access the application for your device:**

- [iPhone® and iPod touch®](#)

- [iPad®](#)

- [Android™](#)

- [Kindle Fire®](#)

- [Windows Phone 8](#)

- [Mobile site for smartphones \(Fidelity.mobi\)](#)

# MINT

- [Mint.com](https://www.mint.com)

Free

Mint.com and its mobile apps (such as the [Mint iPhone app](#) and Android app) is our favorite personal finance app for a number of reasons, although the big disclaimer is it designed for U.S. only. On to the good stuff: First, Mint.com connects to any financial account you might have: checking, savings, credit cards, investments, loans, retirement plans—you name it. Second, it automates so many aspects of money-management, because it automatically categorizes your spending, which enables you to see exactly how you spend your money. Third, it's free. And true, it's supported by ads, but it's some of the most useful targeting advertising I've ever seen because it offers you financial services fully tailored to your needs and with better interest rates than what you're currently paying or receiving. Mint has so many more incredible features, too, that help you budget your money, get out of debt, and achieve financial goals. For all these reasons, it's our Editors' Choice. Mint.com is truly the best solution for managing your money.

# DOXO

- [Doxo](#)

Free

Managing your own money is one thing, but taking charge of household expenses is another matter. Doxo is a relatively new website and service that lets you manage household payments, connect with utility and service providers, and backup important family documents while you're at it. Think of Doxo as an online filing cabinet, where you can view all your e-statements at once. No more logging into ten different sites—your electric and gas providers, cable providers, credit card, video streaming service, etc.—just to know where all the household bills stand. You can even connect to healthcare providers to see medical statements, too. Doxo is off to a strong start in an interesting and still developing category that blends household financial management with personal data management (we call them "online family organizers"), and it's well worth signing up for if your real filing cabinet is in shambles.

# MANILLA

- [Bills & Accounts Manager - Manilla](#)

Free

Bills & Accounts Manager – Manilla puts account balances of all kinds onto one screen in your iPhone or Android. You can connect to banks, credit cards, your Groupon account, and even travel rewards programs. There's a document manager tab included that keeps record of statements that all your various account spit out each month (Chase, however, is not supported in this particular feature). It's quite similar to Check in many respects, except that Manilla doesn't total your account balances together. It keeps everything separate

# YNAB (you need a budget)

- [YNAB](#)

\$60

YNAB, which stands for You Need a Budget, aims to straighten out your personal finances so that every dollar has a job. Well, that's all true, but not perfectly accurate. What this desktop software for Windows and Mac really does is teach you how to be more financially responsible by walking you through the paces of making a budget, explaining why budgeting is important as you go. Some software doesn't always tell you what to do and why, but YNAB does. The educational value implicit in the app is well worth the \$60, especially for people who are new to personal finance. IT also has a wealth of online video tutorials and classes. The biggest difference between YNAB and Mint is that with YNAB, you have to manually record your expenses because the software is local on your computer. It does have some syncing capabilities, which means you can access the budget you set up from a mobile device, but syncing is not the same as those automatic transaction entry features found in Mint. Still, it's a great piece of software for those who prefer to run their finance management offline.

# VIEW YOUR STOCKS GAINS (or losses)

- **Easily view your stock gains (or losses)**
- Company: [Shares 2](#)
- Cost: \$3
- Platform: iOS
- Tired of trying to wade through pages of investment statements from your broker just to see what your returns are? You might want to check out Shares 2.
- The main objective of Shares 2 is simple: It lets you quickly see whether your portfolio is making you richer or poorer.
- After inputting all your stocks from any of the major international stock exchanges -- including the number of shares you own and the price you bought them at -- Shares 2 will tell you how much you've made (or lost) in total on a given day, how much you've made overall, and what the market value of those stocks are.
- You can easily add or delete new stocks. A recent update to the app also automatically switches the value of your investment to the currency that your stock is listed in ... which is handy for international stocks.
- That's it. The app isn't cluttered with charts. It's easy to use, attractively designed, and most of all, it gets you the information quickly. -- A.C.

# MAXIMIZE CREDIT CARD REWARDS

- **Maximize credit card rewards**
- Company: [Wallaby](#)
- Cost: Free
- Platform: Online, iOS, Android
- Having trouble figuring out which credit card to use in order to maximize your rewards while shopping? Wallaby will help you figure it out.
- Matthew Goldman, from Pasadena, Calif., launched Wallaby in 2012, after seeing an ad at a gas station that said Chase Freedom cardholders could earn 5% cashback on gas purchases that quarter. Goldman realized he had that very card in his wallet, but had forgotten to use it every time he had pumped gas -- likely adding up to more than \$100 in lost rewards.
- Wallaby allows users to load their credit cards into a virtual wallet and recommends which card to swipe based on each card's rewards program -- you simply tell it where you're shopping.
- You set your own preferences, like if you want the app to stop telling you to use a card once your balance has reached 30% of your credit limit or your statement cycle is about to close.
- [Related: Buyer beware: Retail cards have costly trap](#)
- On average, users save a couple hundred dollars a year, Wallaby estimates.
- The company is also creating a Wallaby card, which will store a consumer's credit card account information. When it's swiped, the card that maximizes the consumer's rewards at that location will be charged.
- The Wallaby card is expected next year, and there are already more than 20,000 people on the wait list. It will be free for all users in the beginning, but then will likely cost a small fee for users who want more advanced capabilities. --B.E.

# KEEP YOUR RETIREMENT SAVINGS ON TRACK

- **Keep your retirement savings on track**
- Company: [FutureAdvisor](#)
- Cost: Free for advice, monthly fee of \$9 or \$19 for investment management, depending on assets
- Platform: Online
- Free investment advice may sound too good to be true, but thanks to computer algorithms, it's now possible.
- In fact, it's how FutureAdvisor, a three-year old financial website, aims to provide quality financial advice to average Americans who may not meet the lofty asset minimums that big advisory firms often require.
- FutureAdvisor's algorithm analyzes your existing 401(k), IRA, and other investment accounts and compares them to model portfolios. It then uses that data to recommend how you should allocate your money across various assets classes and suggests specific trades you should make to improve your portfolio diversification and cost efficiency.
- For instance, FutureAdvisor often suggests that clients switch into low-cost index funds. ([CNNMoney's 401\(k\) fee calculator](#) is powered by FutureAdvisor data).
- [Related: 'How I saved \\$1 million'](#)
- "In one fell swoop, we've saved clients \$1,000 or more in annual fees by moving them into low-fee index funds when it's more appropriate," said Bo Lu, co-founder and CEO of FutureAdvisor.
- For a low flat annual cost, FutureAdvisor can also manage your account. Users with less than \$50,000 in total assets can pay \$9 a month for FutureAdvisor to monitor their accounts on a daily basis and even execute trades. Users with more than \$50,000 have to pay \$19 per month, but also get advice on how to minimize capital gains taxes . --H.Y.

# GET AN ONLINE FINANCIAL ADVISOR

- **Get an online financial advisor**
- Company: [Wealthfront](#)
- Cost: Free for accounts with less than \$10,000, otherwise 0.25% a year
- Platform: Online
- If you've got a stash of cash, but no idea what to do with it, Wealthfront thinks it can help. The site is the fastest-growing online financial advisor, with assets ballooning from less than \$100 million at the start of 2013 to more than \$400 million currently.
- Based on your finances, investment goals, and risk tolerance, Wealthfront determines how to allocate your money across low-cost index exchange traded funds that invest in stocks, bonds and commodities around the globe. It continues to monitor and automatically rebalance your portfolio to maintain the target allocation.
- For accounts with between \$5,000 and \$10,000, its advice and management services are free. For accounts with more than \$10,000, Wealthfront charges an annual fee of 0.25%, and includes a service to help minimize an investor's capital gains tax liability.
- [Related: Why Coin is the future of payments](#)
- Wealthfront's investment team is led by Burton Malkiel, author of the investing classic "A Random Walk Down Wall Street." Malkiel has been a long-time proponent of portfolio diversification and passive investing.
- "A significant amount of research has proven that a majority of mutual funds underperform the market," said Adam Nash, chief operating officer at Wealthfront. "So we can't control the ups and downs of the market, but we can control our diversification, the fees we pay and our taxes. Those are things we do really well for our clients." -- *H.Y.*

# AVOID SPLURGES & SAVE

- **Avoid splurges and save**
- Company: [Earmark](#)
- Cost: Free
- Platform: iOS
- Aching to take a trip to Europe next year? With Earmark, every time you forgo buying a latte, taking a taxi or going out to dinner, you can place the money you would have spent on those splurges into an account earmarked for that vacation.
- While some Earmark users actually transfer the money they would have spent on that taxi into their vacation savings account, most use it as a motivational tool. They simply record the amounts as a way of getting them to think more carefully about how much they could save toward bigger goals if they simply avoided little splurges each day.
- Users can earmark up to five goals at a time, and you're alerted when you've set aside enough money for each.
- So far, about 1,000 people are earmarking everything from power washers to PlayStations. -- *B.E.*

# INVEST IN WHAT YOU LIKE

- **Invest in what you 'like'**
- [back](#)
- [next](#)
- Company: [LikeFolio](#)
- Cost: Free
- Platform: Online
- Legendary investors like Warren Buffett and Peter Lynch are famous for their advice to "invest in what you know." But in the social media age, it's all about investing in what you and your friends "like."
- LikeFolio combs through likes, status updates and check-ins within your Facebook and Twitter networks for mentions of brands and products. Through a database of more than 30,000 keywords and phrases linked to 2,500 publicly-traded companies, it surfaces the top five companies you and your friends chat about the most. For example, mentions of Pumpkin Spice Lattes would be linked to Starbucks ([SBUX](#), [Fortune 500](#)).
- The site displays a 1-year stock chart of each of the companies and calls out what people in your networks were talking about at various times throughout the year. It also reveals how a mock portfolio equally distributed across those companies would have performed had you began investing in them a year earlier.
- LikeFolio plans to add sentiment indicators so you can tell if a company is being talked about for good or bad reasons. The company also hopes to connect to more social networks, including Pinterest.
- "By understanding the products and brands you deal with everyday, you can make yourself a competent investor," said LikeFolio founder Andy Swan. "You don't have to follow CNBC." --*Hibah Yousuf*

# SAVED PLUS APP

- **Save with every purchase**
- [back](#)
- [next](#)
- Company: [SavedPlus](#)
- Cost: Free
- Platform: Online, iOS, Android
- Feel better about spending money by saving a little every time you swipe your card.
- With SavedPlus, you can automatically siphon a percentage of every purchase you make into your savings account, IRA, investment account or a prepaid card.
- Say you set your savings at 10% and buy \$100 of groceries -- another \$10 from your checking account will go toward your savings or retirement account.
- Saving happens automatically and in such small increments, that it's barely noticeable.
- [Related: Bluetooth may make digital wallets mainstream](#)
- You can set a limit on the transactions that transfers apply to. For example, you can exclude transactions of more than \$500. A minimum balance requirement can also be applied so that no money is transferred if your balance is low, protecting you from costly overdraft fees. And you can link to an account at any bank.
- The app has been saving the average user about \$350 per month since launching in May, according to the company. So far, 1,000 users have signed on. -- *Blake Ellis*

# SIMPLIFY YOUR MONTHLY BUDGET

- **Simplify your monthly budget**
- Company: [Level](#)
- Cost: Free
- Platform: iOS
- Level is a lot like Mint.
- But instead of breaking down your budget and spending habits into a million micro-categories, like entertainment and food, Level takes your banking and credit card info, analyzes it, and establishes three simple budgets for the current day, week, and month with a design that's easy to digest.
- You can monitor transactions, create a plan to save money, or tweak the budget that Level automatically provides.
- And if you happen to overspend, Level doesn't treat it like the next financial apocalypse, it just gently reminds you that you had a little too much fun. --*Adrian Covert*

# PAY BILLS

- **Check**
- *(iOS, Android—Free)*
- While many apps will remind you of bills or factor them into your budget, [Check](#)—once known as Pageonce—will let you pay them from your phone, either manually or via scheduled automatic payments. It's all tied to your bank or credit card account, which the app also monitors to let you know if your funds are getting low or your credit limit is drawing near

# A FEW MORE FINANCIAL APPS

- Bank Without the Fees, company: Simple, Free, Platform: Online, iOS, Android
- Unearth New Discounts, company: Larky, Free, Platform: Online, iOS
- Make Better Sense of Your Medical Bills, company: Simple, Free, Platform: Online, Android, iOS
- Get Better Earnings Estimates, company: Estimote, Free, Platform: Online

# IF YOU FAIL TO PLAN

