

Ryan is in college full-time, and also works part-time at the local newsagent. He takes home about $€ 130$ per week. He has recently moved out of home and is renting a room in a shared house for $€ 350$ a month. Some weeks the money runs out and he does not have enough money left over to pay bills or go out. He usually just borrows from his friends, or sometimes his parents if they are in good form! He pays them back whenever he can, but things are tight so it is hard.


Zac is 21 and has just passed his driving test. He is in college and is still living at home. During the week he gets the train to college. At the weekend he works part-time in a local pub and his mam lets him use her car. He really wants his own car but there is a lot to consider: the price of the car; motor tax; insurance etc - he needs to save up. He has decided to set up a savings account and to save half of the money he makes from the pub. This way the bank can see that he is a good saver and maybe give him a loan for the car and he will save enough to pay for the insurance and tax himself.


Magda is 25. She works in a salon. Her friends are going on a girly holiday to New York next month and she wants to go too. She feels she deserves a holiday. She does not have the money to pay for the holiday but she has decided to borrow for it, and her mam said she would go guarantor. Sarah has no idea how she will pay the loan back but will sort that out after the holiday.


Amelia is 28 and renting her own place. She got a job after finishing college and everything is going great. Amelia did not have any savings as a student, but now she manages to put aside money every month. She built up debts when she was in college. She has a credit card debt and a student loan debt. Seeing as it happened in college which was years ago she does not see why she needs to pay it off now. She just ignores the calls and letters from the bank. Amelia wants to buy a house in the next few years but will go to a different bank when she needs a loan.


Jacob and Ava have been going out for 4 years. They are getting married in 2 years' time. They sat down and made a budget and figured out how much they have to spend. They are both working full time and have their own separate savings accounts, each have €5,000 saved. They decided to open a joint account especially for their wedding, and every month transfer $€ 300$ into the joint account from their individual accounts.


Lily has been going out with Michael for the last three years. They go on a date night every week which involves the cinema and going out for dinner. They love travelling so go on at least two holidays every year. They are renting at the moment but really want to buy their own place. House prices are starting to creep back up and they really do not want to miss out. They are both working but they have rent and bills to pay every month so it is impossible to save anything.


Mia is 32, and a stay-at-home mother to her 4-year-old son, Jack. Jack will be going to school next year and she wants to go back to work full-time then. At the moment she is working part-time in a coffee shop, and manages to save a tiny amount each month. The family are renting at the moment but when she get a full-time job Mia is determined to start saving up for a deposit on a house.


Noah and Hollie are married with two kids. Every week the family goes out for Sunday dinner. The kids are involved in swimming lessons and Irish dancing lessons. The family has all the latest gadgets in their house, and Noah signs up to whatever contracts are offered because they are a good deal, so he's saving by getting them really. Noah is an electrician and Hollie is a teacher. Noah recently lost his job and now the family are struggling to keep up with the bills. Noah has a car as he needed it to drive to work. Hollie also has a car but she could easily walk to work. Electricity bills are high as things are always left on.


Sophia is 17 and in her leaving certificate year. The study and exams are going to be hard but she is looking forward to the summer afterwards and then going off to college. She worked all last summer in the local restaurant. She worked 20 hours a week and got extra shifts when there were large groups in. Sophia decided she wants to save up for her debs and have some money put aside for when she starts college. Her parents will pay for most of it but she likes to have her own savings. She opened a savings account and every week, saves some money from her wages.


John lost his job recently. It was a big shock to him but he knew he could not let it get to him. He found out he was entitled to Job Seekers Allowance so is receiving that every week. He has a mortgage to pay so decided to rent his spare room - it was only being used as a dumping ground anyway. When getting the house ready for his new lodger he decided to do a big clear out. Anything he did not want and seemed valuable he put on ebay. He was delighted with what he earned! He has an interview for a job next week so hopefully things are looking up.

