

Planning

A budget is a plan. You set goals, such as \$200 per month for dining out, and Quicken compares your plan with your actual spending.

You don't need to budget every dollar you spend. All you need to do is decide which categories you want to set budget amounts for. Quicken will do all the math and show you where you stand for each.

To get started with your budget, go to the **Planning Budget** tab and click **Get Started**. Follow the on-screen instructions or go to [How do I create a budget?](#) for more information.

The screenshot shows the Quicken Planning Budget interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: HOME, SPENDING, BILLS & INCOME, **PLANNING**, INVESTING, and PROPERTY & DEBT. Below these are sub-tabs: Budgets, Debt Reduction, Lifetime Planner, Tax Center, and Savings Goals. The main content area displays a progress bar for the 'Overall Budget' with markers for 'Spent', 'Overall Budget', and 'Remaining'. Below this, three budget categories are shown: 'Food & Dining', 'Bills & Utilities', and 'Entertainment', each with a green bar representing the amount spent and a grey bar representing the remaining budget. A 'Budget Category' label points to the category names. At the bottom, there is a large blue button labeled 'GET STARTED'.

What can I do with budgets?

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- [What is a budget category?](#)
- [How do I add or remove budget categories?](#)
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