

**STUDENT ACTIVITY****Chapter 3****Internet Connection  
Personal Finance Software****EXPLORE**

You can keep track of your money using a notebook and a pencil, or you can use personal money management software.

**Keywords:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**DIRECTIONS**

Use an Internet search engine to find software designed to help you manage, budget, or track your money. Complete the worksheet below and answer the questions that follow.

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**NET RESULTS**

**List three money management software applications.**

**List the Web address for each product.**

**Which product do you prefer? Why?**

**List the features of your favorite product.**

**What computer system requirements are listed for the software?**

**What is the product price?**

**CRITICAL THINKING QUESTIONS**



1. Identify three benefits to using software applications to help track, manage, and budget your money. What disadvantages can you identify?

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2. Personal money management software packages can range in cost from \$10 to \$150. Why is there such a great variation on price? What issues should be considered when purchasing personal finance software?

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3. What documents will you need in order to enter your personal data into personal finance or money management software? What receipts or personal documents show your spending habits for each month?

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**EXTENSION EXERCISE**



The Internet offers many sample budgets to give you ideas on how to create your own budget. Find and print three samples of personal budgets. Answer the following questions.

1. Do the sample budgets list income and expenses by week, month, or year?
2. List income categories found on the sample budgets.
3. List expense categories found on the sample budgets.
4. Which categories are considered discretionary? Why?
5. How does discretionary spending impact your ability to save money?

