

Become Debt Free and Find Wealth

a special report by
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“The best kept secret to
becoming wealthy
is no secret at all!”

There won't likely be any great secret revelations made here. In fact, you will probably be disappointed to realize that the fundamentals I am about to espouse are no secret at all. They

are tried and true fundamentals that, when applied wisely, give you control over your money. Enough control that you can direct it wisely and, even if you don't make huge sums of money, you will be well on your way to a comfortable, wealthy lifestyle.

Also, I am not about to duplicate what others have done so well. Nor do I pretend to take credit for the techniques I am about to outline. The steps I will explain can be found in much greater detail in a book by Dave Ramsey called [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#). The purpose of this report is to introduce you to Dave's techniques and encourage you to take control of your financial future by getting out of debt and on the road to prosperity.

What you have to understand first is that the greatest wealth-building tool you possess is your income so to get you on pace to building wealth, you need to take back your income. Take it back from whom, you say? From your creditors. Most of us are financially "floating" through life paying out most of our income to debt payments. We pay one or two car payments, a stereo or furniture payment, a credit card or two or three or six, student loans and more. Not to mention the never-ending mortgage. No wonder we are constantly feeling as though there is too much month and not enough money!

You can't build wealth until you have something to invest and in order to have something to invest you have to get out of debt. According to Dave Ramsey, in [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#), debt is the most aggressively marketed product on the planet. And for good reason. There is a lot of profit in it! Banks know they can make a fortune in interest rates by convincing you that you can't do without that new car or that 42" plasma TV or the \$25,000 Harley... all of which you can't really afford. Otherwise you wouldn't need to finance them.

"The gratification of wealth is not found in mere possession or in lavish expenditure, but in its wise application."

Miguel de Cervantes (1547-1616) Spanish novelist, dramatist and poet.

Step One: *Get out of debt!*

This may seem impossible but in [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#)

Dave has a tried and true method he calls the Debt Snowball. In a nutshell, you list all your debts, smallest to largest, and attack them in that order as aggressively as you possibly can. You pay the minimum payment on all of your debts except the smallest one on your list, which you pay off as fast as possible. When this one is payed, you move on to the next. As you pay off an item, you add it's monthly payment to the amount you pay on the next, thus creating the "Snowball" effect. Most people who do this are able to pay off huge amounts of debt in 18 to 36 months. Not just a few people, either. Tens of thousands of people have been using the effects outlined in [The Total Money Makeover](#) and have enjoyed the thrill of becoming debt free.

Now I have given you a short overview. There are many more details outlined in Dave Ramsey's [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#). For instance, before starting the debt snowball you should create an emergency fund of \$500 to \$1000 dollars, depending on your income. Dave explains in great detail how this will help you stick with the snowball when you are hit with those unexpected emergencies that we all encounter.

Another tool, which is covered in depth is creating a budget. For me personally, this was the most exciting aspect. When my wife and I sat down the first time and created our first budget ever, she kept asking me "What's wrong? How come there is so much money left over?" It was the most exciting time we had ever had dealing with money matters. We used the tools provided in [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) to make a budget and also to allocate that money throughout the month. There are forms you can copy right in the book! Although we hadn't been fighting about money, we had never taken control of our money in such a positive way and I had certainly never seen my wife beaming so happily as we were deciding how our money would be spent for the entire month.

"Wealth after all is a relative thing since he that has little and wants less is richer than he that has much and wants more."

Charles Caleb Colton (1780-1832) British clergyman, sportsman and author.

“Wealth is not his that has it, but his that enjoys it.”

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) American statesman, scientist and philosopher.

Step Two: *Put your money to work!*

Now that you are no longer bogged down financially by sending most of your paycheck to various institutions of debt, you are free to establish greater security and invest in your future. If you are diligently following [The Total Money Makeover](#), then at this stage it will be time to boost your emergency fund. Dave calls the \$1000 emergency fund the “Baby Emergency Fund”. Now you will be able to quickly boost this to a fund that can cover three to six months of expenses. [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) will explain how to know whether you should be closer to three months or six months. This depends on your specific situation.

Once you are out of debt and you have a healthy emergency fund it will be time to start allocating a percentage of your income to retirement. Part of Dave Ramsey's philosophy is that you *stop all investing* while you are getting out of debt. [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) will explain how, mathematically, it makes no sense to invest while you are in debt. You make a greater return on your money by investing it in getting out of debt. Besides, once you are out of debt, you will have more money than you ever had before for investing and will more than make up for whatever small amount you may have invested before.

So at this point you will start building your retirement. If you have children, or plan to have children, you will next want to start saving for college. All of the details, so you can understand exactly how you and your situation fit into these aspects, are covered in [The Total Money Makeover](#).

Step Three: *Pay off the house!*

Now that you are out of debt, have a healthy emergency fund, have started saving for retirement and possibly even have a college fund for the kids, it's time to

attack the big daddy of all debt, the mortgage. Do you know where the word mortgage comes from? Mort, in Latin, and Morti, in old French means *death* and Gage comes from Latin and means *pledge* or *agreement*. If you knew you were taking a "Death Pledge" in order to buy your house, at the very least you would look for alternatives to the standard 30-year agreement, wouldn't you? If you are already buying a house, and you can actually afford it, [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) shows you how quickly you can pay down your mortgage by paying extra because you have extra money now that you are no longer giving away most of your income to creditors.

If you do not own a house, but desire to, you will find that Dave Ramsey recommends using the 100% down payment plan and will show you how to do it. If you absolutely must have a mortgage, [The Total Money Makeover](#) recommends a 15 year fixed rate mortgage. The difference in payments between fifteen and thirty years, on a typical home, is only about \$250 per month. Also, it can save you tens of thousands of dollars and, of course, fifteen years worth of monthly payments!

Imagine how much money you could invest, and in turn how much wealth you could build, if you had no house payment, no car payment, no credit card payments... no debt payments of any kind! This will typically leave you thousands of dollars per month to invest!

"That some should be rich, shows that others may become rich, and, hence, is just encouragement to industry and enterprise."
Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) Politician. President of the United States.

Step Four: *Investing*

All throughout this report, I have tried to make it clear that I am no expert in any area covered herein and that I am only reporting on the techniques presented by

Dave Ramsey in [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#). If I knew of any other means to wealth that are so effective I would gladly present them here as well, but the truth is that I have never found a plan to building wealth that is so effective, simple and honest. [The Total Money Makeover](#) is not a get rich quick system by any means. It requires hard work and effort and discipline. The good news is that Dave teaches you how to become disciplined so you can get to the place in your life where you are able to invest from the most powerful position possible.

If anyone tries to tell you it is easy to get rich, they are not telling you the truth. There are no shortcuts to wealth. Even if you were to win the lottery tomorrow, if you did not do the work and become disciplined, chances are you will quickly become another hard-luck story that we all hear about from time to time regarding lottery winners.

Dave Ramsey's investment plan is simple. It uses existing retirement plans such as 401k's and IRA's, etc.. Put your money into the right mutual funds and leave it for the long term and you will most likely see it make about 12% per year. You can see this for yourself by looking at the 10 year averages of various mutual funds.

This is explained in much greater detail in [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) so don't take my word for any of this. I am not an investing expert myself but I have been around long enough to know that this is no secret. Any investment planner will tell you that long term investments in the stock market almost always grow at higher rates than any other investment opportunity.

By the time you get to this step in [The Total Money Makeover](#) you will have so much money to invest from your income that it will add up at rates you could never accomplish if you had not done the work to get out of debt.

“Wealth is the ability to fully experience life.”

Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)
American naturalist, poet and philosopher.

Imagine you reached this stage at age 35 and since you have no debt and no mortgage you have an extra \$1700 per month to invest. If you invested this much until age 65. No more, no less, just \$1700 for 30 years, you would have \$5,941,439 for retirement. Almost 6 million dollars!

Now if your money is making 12% per year and you only withdraw 8% per year, mathematically you will never run out of money. I don't know about you, but I could live very well on about \$475,000 per year!

All of these details are explained much better than I ever could in Dave's book, [The Total Money Makeover](#) so what are you waiting for? I read the book in a weekend. It's full of letters from people of all walks of life who tell their stories and share their excitement for being out of debt. This is not just some philosophy from some broke economics professor. These concepts are being applied by tens of thousands of people and each one of them got started the same way, they bought Dave Ramsey's book [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#).

Now let me fully disclose to you that, if you buy this book or any other of Dave's books, by clicking any of the links provided in this report, I stand to make a small percentage from Amazon.com. About 4%. I obviously don't expect to get rich this way. I expect to get rich by following Dave's techniques! However, if you appreciate this report and could see fit to purchase [The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#) by clicking one of these links, I will be very grateful and you will be supporting my efforts to tell more people about Dave Ramsey and [The Total Money Makeover](#).

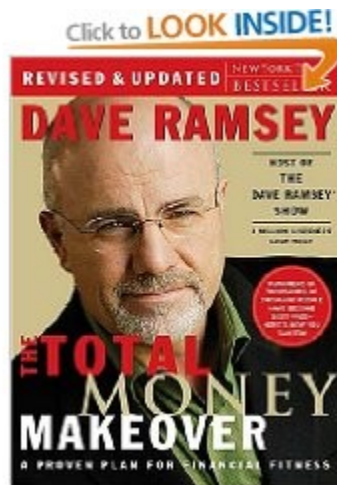
Thank you for reading this report. Don't follow this plan because I told you to, or because Dave Ramsey wants to sell more books. Follow this plan because you want to change your life so dramatically that you will change your family tree!

[The Total Money Makeover: A Proven Plan for Financial Fitness](#)

“If you will live like no one else now, later you can live like no one else!”

Dave Ramsey

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