



“Getting Frugal With Your Entertainment Options”

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If you just discovered the power of personal budgeting, as you get more familiar with your budget, and you begin watching your expenses more closely, you will discover, if you are like most people, that one of the biggest expenses is entertainment. The cost of going to a movie for two people, with popcorn and drinks can be as much as \$40 these days. Even if you go to the matinee and bring a few snacks of your own, you are looking at about \$20 for two people. Going out to dinner is comparable in cost, and if you are looking for a steak and wine dinner, you can expect to pay up to \$100 for two people.

Well, here is a way you can save money. Instead of going to a movie, you can rent a movie and pop your own popcorn. Instead of having steaks at a fancy restaurant, make dinner at home. You can get a good price on quality steaks at the grocery store, and get nearly the same meal at a quarter of the cost.

In a similar fashion, you can find a way to get a discount on almost any form of entertainment. You might be thinking that there is no way to downsize attending a professional sports event like a major league baseball game, but that is not always the case. All major league teams have minor league teams, called farm teams, where they promote their players. If a farm team is located near you, you will find that it is much more economical in price (and sometimes more exciting). If there are no minor league teams nearby, you can always find a sports bar with big screen TVs. You will discover that if you go there for a major sporting event, the crowd in the sports bar can get just as excited as the crowd at a live game, even more so in some cases. The atmosphere can be as fun as those at real games.