



20 ways to save

Whether you want to go out, stay in, find the best broadband deal or just make cheaper phone calls, here are some ideas for how you can save money

Going out

1 Cheaper food and film

Film fans can now get a cut-price meal as well as cheaper cinema tickets. Mobile phone firm Orange previously offered buy-one-get-one-free cinema tickets on Wednesdays to its mobile phone, broadband or mobile broadband customers.

This has now been extended to include two-for-one pizzas (plus free dough balls or garlic bread) at Pizza Express. Go to web.orange.co.uk/article/pizzaexpress to download the voucher. The offer runs until the end of August.

2 Cinema subscription

Cineworld has a subscription card that costs £11.99 a month (£14.99 including London West End cinemas) to see as many films as you like. There is a minimum 12-month subscription. Visit www.cineworld.co.uk/unlimited to find out more.

3 Pay what you want

If you live in London or are travelling there, you can get a meal for as much (or as little) as you want to pay, if you act quickly. The Little Bay

restaurant at Farringdon has scrapped bills and is letting diners decide for themselves how much their meal and the service is worth.

The offer runs until the end of February.

4 Restaurant reservations

Restaurant reservation site www.5pm.co.uk is a useful place to look for restaurants offering cut-price menus.

www.lastminute.com lets you search for 'eat out for a tenner' (many places are in London, though) while www.toptable.co.uk frequently features half-price offers.

Useful sites

7 Supermarket discount offers

If you want to check what discount offers your local supermarkets have, it may be worth visiting the site www.fixturerferrets.co.uk.

8 Mystery shopping

The site www.retaileyes.co.uk is one of several mystery-shopping companies that will pay you a small amount of money when you sign up to test the services offered by their clients (which include Virgin Active gyms). You test the service, then write up a report of your experiences.

9 For the over-50s

The site www.oscaruk.co.uk lists discounts available for over-50s on everything from eating out, to travel, shopping and fitness.

10 Develop snaps

If you want to find the cheapest online photo developer for the exact quantity and size of prints you want, a site such as mydigitalprints.co.uk could be useful. It also compares the cost of photo gifts such as mugs, calendars and greeting cards.

Staying in

5 Swapping books

If you're a book lover, but want to save on the cost of buying new ones, you might be interested in a site used and recommended by Which? member Annette Gisby.

As the name suggests, the site www.readitswapit.co.uk lets you swap books with other people who have registered books on the site.

Each person just pays for the postage/envelope to send their book.

6 Sell old DVDs

The site Musicmagpie.co.uk which pays you for CDs that you want to get rid of, now also accepts DVDs.

When we tested the site to try to sell 20 CDs, we found that it was user friendly, gave instant quotes and allowed us to get rid of 25-250 CDs at a time.

Don't expect to make a fortune by selling your CDs and DVDs to the site: most of the CDs fetched only

25p-50p (the most we made was £1.38 for Johnny Cash's Ring of Fire). However, you don't pay for the postage and packaging.

You will be saving on waste, too. Each year about 30 million CDs are sent to landfill.

Discs must be in perfect playing condition, with original cover, artwork and booklets, but it's fine for cases to have wear and tear.

You can of course try other sites such as Amazon Marketplace and the auction site eBay.

Also check our guide to selling unwanted goods on eBay at www.which.co.uk/sellingonebay.



Your ideas

Over the next few months, we will focus in each 'Ways to Save' feature on a single subject. Next month it will be gardening and, the month after, travel. We're interested in hearing your moneysavers. Email paul.ryan@which.co.uk with your ideas.



Driving

11 Cheaper cover
There are ways to save money on the cost of breakdown cover. The AA is giving away a £20 M&S voucher when you sign up to its £35 basic (or any other) cover. Details from its website or call 0800 294 7817 quoting 1081. You can get RAC membership for £14 if you pay in Tesco Clubcard points. Normally, cover starts at £29.

Money Saving Handbook

12 Savvy shopper
Whether you want to find out more about credit cards, mortgages, mobile phones or fuel bills, *Money Saving Handbook* shows you how. We also warn about false economies. For example, when you're arranging life insurance, don't try to save money by withholding information about previous illness. If the insurer discovers you failed to reveal facts, they can refuse to pay a claim, even if the illness isn't connected to what later happened. To order *Money Saving Handbook* at the special price of £9.99 including free p&p (normal price £10.99), call 01903 828557 and quote MSW0309. The offer closes on 12 March 2009.



Making phone calls

13 Free directory inquiries
Why pay for directory inquiries when you can check numbers for free at www.thephonebook.bt.com.

14 Overseas calls
If you are making an international phone call from a BT phoneline, it can

prove expensive. However, the website www.niftylist.co.uk/ calls has a list of destinations and access codes you can dial first to save money.

Alternatively, you can use an online telephony service such as www.voipcheap.co.uk to make cheap or even free international calls from your home computer.



Saving energy

15 Ideas to cut bills
For tips on cutting the cost of energy bills, see the website www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/calculator/checklist.

16 Which? Switch
See www.which.switch.co.uk to find how much you could save on your fuel bills.

Computing

20 Best Buy broadband
O2's cheapest standalone broadband package is a Which? Computing Best Buy, according to our most recent customer satisfaction survey.

It costs just £12.23 a month and gives you speeds up to 8Mbps download and 1.3 Mbps upload.

It's available in O2's LLU coverage areas (about half of UK homes) and has a 12-month minimum contract. All O2 packages have no download limit and include free parental controls and anti-virus software.

Find out which are the best and best-value broadband deals in the March issue of *Which? Computing*.

MEMBER OFFER

Which? Money magazine is your personal finance guide through the recession. Whether you're investing for your children or worried about your own savings, we're here to help you make the right calls. Every month, Which? offers independent, expert advice based on rigorous research. Try two issues for £2 at www.which.co.uk/moneytrial or call 01192 822800.



Travel

17 Hiring a car
A site worth looking at to check the prices of car rental suppliers in the UK and abroad is www.carrentals.co.uk.

18 Family railcard
A Family and Friends Railcard cuts the price of an adult ticket by a third and 60% of a child's ticket when at least one adult and child are travelling together in Britain. Up to four adults and four children can travel on one card. It's available online at www.familyandfriends-railcard.co.uk.

The railcard can't be used on weekday morning peak services within London and the



South East. If you're unsure when these times are, call National Rail Enquiries on 0845 748 4950.

19 For more travel tips
Check out our report on European travel on p16 this month to find a variety of tips on travelling by plane or train more cheaply.