

Good and Bad Credit Signs & Tips



Good Credit Signs

- Paying at least the minimum required payment
- Paying on time
- Never missing a payment
- Staying within your credit limit

Result

- Easier to borrow money
- No additional penalty fees
- More money you'll keep in your pocket

Bad Credit Signs

- Paying too little
- Paying too late
- Missing payments
- Going over your credit limit
- Having too much debt

Result

- Difficult to borrow money
- You lose money on late fees
- More money spent on finance charges

The Consumer Council Will Not

- Lend you the money to pay off your debts
- Pay your bills for you
- Be a guarantor for any loans or mortgages which you undertake
- Take responsibility to ensure all your debts are paid on time



For more information and further assistance please contact:

THE CONSUMER COUNCIL OF FIJI

4 Carnavon Street

Private Mail Bag

GPO, SUVA

Phone: +679 3300792, +679 3310183

Email: complaints@consumersfiji.org

Website: <http://www.consumersfiji.org>



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MAKING CONSUMER VOICE COUNT



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**DEBT
MANAGEMENT
and CONSUMER
CREDIT ADVISORY
SERVICES**

Are You In Financial Trouble?

Here are some questions to ask yourself –

1. Are you always late in paying your bills?
2. Do you have to borrow from money lenders, relatives or friends?
3. Will a small reduction in your income or an unusual expense unable you to pay all of your monthly bills?
4. Do you juggle payments to keep creditors satisfied?
5. Do you ignore the mail or telephone to avoid dealing with creditors?
6. Does it take you 60 or even 90 days to cover bills you once could pay monthly?
7. Have you stopped making deposits in your savings account?
8. Have you been ignoring demand notices?
9. Are you are always worried about your debts?
10. Do you argue with your spouse or partner over bills?
11. Are you paying off purchases you made a year ago?

12. Do you use savings or credit cards to cover everyday living expenses, such as groceries?
13. Do You put off medical and dental visits because you cannot afford regular visits?
14. Is your cheque account frequently overdrawn?
15. Do you race to deposit your pay cheque or wages because you've already written cheques?
16. Do you worry about money all the time?
17. Are you getting calls from your creditors daily?

If the answer to any of these is Yes then YOU NEED OUR HELP!

The Consumer Council of Fiji now provides free Debt Management and Consumer Credit Advisory Services in Suva. We will assist you with:

- the repayment of your debt by helping you create a payment plan to get your debt under control;
- Better understanding of your rights as a borrower and your responsibility towards payment of the loan; and
- Establishing a budget

Out of control debt can have long term effects on your future. You could lose your home, get a bad credit rating and you could end up losing your retirement money.

