

Debt Avalanche Worksheet

Financial Goal Planner & Debt Freedom Toolkit

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What is the Avalanche Method?

Pay minimum payments on all debts, then put every extra dollar toward the debt with the **HIGHEST** interest rate first.

When that debt is gone, roll its full payment into the next highest-rate debt. This method saves the most money in interest over time.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Extra \$ available each month: _____

How the Avalanche Method Works — 4 Steps

1

List all debts from highest to lowest interest rate (ignore balance size).

2

Pay the minimum payment on every debt except the highest-rate one.

3

Put all extra money toward the highest-rate debt until it is paid off.

4

Roll that payment into the next highest-rate debt and repeat until debt-free.

Avalanche vs. Snowball — Which is Right for You?

☐

Avalanche Method — Choose this if:

Best for: saving the most interest, mathematical approach, patience for longer initial payoffs

☐

Snowball Method — Choose this if:

Best for: quick wins, multiple small debts, people who need early motivation to continue

Step 1 — List Your Debts from Highest to Lowest Interest Rate

#	Creditor / Account	Rate (%) ↓	Balance (\$)	Min Pay (\$)	Extra (\$)	Total Pay (\$)	✓	Target Payoff Date
1		% _____					☐	
2		% _____					☐	
3		% _____					☐	
4		% _____					☐	
5		% _____					☐	
6		% _____					☐	
7		% _____					☐	
8		% _____					☐	
9		% _____					☐	
10		% _____					☐	
11		% _____					☐	
12		% _____					☐	

TOTALS

\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____

Tip: To estimate how much interest you will save, use a free debt payoff calculator at consumer.gov or nerdwallet.com/calculators.

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Step 2 — Avalanche Roll Tracker (Show how payments grow as each debt is paid off)

#	Creditor	Rate (%)	Balance (\$)	Min Pay (\$)	Rolled \$ Added	Total Attack \$	Est. Months	Date Paid Off
1		%						
2		%			↑ roll from #1			
3		%			↑ roll from #2			
4		%			↑ roll from #3			
5		%			↑ roll from #4			
6		%			↑ roll from #5			
7		%			↑ roll from #6			
8		%			↑ roll from #7			
9		%			↑ roll from #8			
10		%			↑ roll from #9			
11		%			↑ roll from #10			
12		%			↑ roll from #11			

How to read this table:

Rate (%) ↓

= Sort debts by this column, highest first. The interest rate is the only thing that determines order.

Rolled \$ Added

= minimum freed from the last paid-off debt, now add

Total Attack \$

= your extra \$ + all rolled payments. Grows v

Tips for Staying on Track with the Avalanche Method

- **Automate your minimum payments:** Set up autopay on all debts so you never miss a payment and risk fees or credit score damage.
- **Track your interest savings:** Note the interest rate of each debt you pay off — seeing the numbers motivates you to keep going.
- **Don't open new credit accounts:** New high-interest debt restarts the clock and undermines the progress you have already made.
- **Consider balance transfers:** If eligible, a 0% intro APR card can temporarily eliminate interest and speed up your payoff.

Debts I Have Paid Off — Check each one and record what you saved!

☐ Debt #1: Interest saved: \$ ☐ Debt #2: Interest saved: \$ ☐ Debt #3: Interest saved: \$ ☐ Debt #4: Interest saved: \$

"The wise store up choice food and olive oil, but fools gulp theirs down."

— Proverbs 21:20 | Patience and strategy lead to lasting financial freedom.

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