The way you handle money is impacted by both your individual personality and your life experiences. If you understand your unique money personality you will be a more effective moolah manager.

To discover your moolah personality read the following statement and put an X by the ones that best reflect your spending habits.

___ When I go shopping I always buy something.  
___ I clearly understand the difference between what I need and what I want.  
___ I go shopping when I am feeling upset/bored/happy.  
___ I don’t worry about money because I believe it will all work out on its own.  
___ I only spend my money on things that are important to me.  
___ I try to buy things that are nicer than what my friends/classmates have.  
___ I have bought many things I have never used or used very little.  
___ I usually compare quality and price before making an expensive purchase.  
___ Life is unpredictable, so I don’t spend much time planning for the future.  
___ I will pay more for an item with a name brand that other will recognize.  
___ I hate having to wait for things, so if there is something I want; I usually just buy it even if I don’t really have the money for it.  
___ I see no problem asking my family to give me money.  
___ I like to be the first one to have the newest fad.  
___ I am easily influenced by what other have or buy.  
___ My appearance is always very important to me.  
___ When I shopping I normally only make planned purchases.  
___ I generally have no idea how much money I have because I don’t keep track of it.  
___ When I am out having a good time with friends, I am willing to pay for more than my share of expenses.  
___ I like to impress others with my generosity.  
___ When I go out with friends, I usually bring just enough money to cover my share of expenses.
Determining Your Moolah Personality*

At the end of each statement is a letter, tally the number of each letter that you marked. The highest number determines your moolah personality.

_______ A      _______ C
_______ B      _______ D

Flash (A)

Impressions - Spontaneous, seize the moment, impulsive and fails to consider the consequences
Positive - Enjoys the moment with friends, and gets things without having to wait for them
Negative - Buyers remorse and may limit your future opportunities due to overspending

Money Management Suggestions for Flash Personalities
Find a mentor to help with a spending plan. Set up a savings account that limits your access to your money. Be wary of using credit cards. Ask yourself “Do I really need this? or “How many hours do I have to work to pay for this?” before making a purchase. Establish a savings plan that requires you to set aside funds for the future.

Fame (B)

Impressions – Seeks recognition, enjoys status, and may seem fake or snobbish
Positive – Makes a good first impression and is generous with friends
Negative – Feels stressed to keep up with others and feels money is needed to maintain friends which may lead to spending more than you have

Money Management Suggestions for Fame Personalities
Set up a budget to prioritize your purchases. Before purchasing name brand items ask yourself if you could substitute without hurting quality/appearance. Be wary of relying on credit to maintain your lifestyle. Establish a savings plan that requires you to set aside funds for the future.

Focused (C)

Impressions – Goal orientated, organized, penny pincher and driven
Opportunities – Able to set and accomplish goals and is a smart shopper
Threats – Intolerant of others with different standards or lifestyle and fails to take advantage of opportunities if they don’t fit into the master plan

Money Management Suggestions for Focused Personalities
Learn to balance using money to achieve goals with relaxing and enjoying life. Make sure to take some risks by stepping out of comfort zone. Remember to designate some mad money and get involved in charitable giving.
Free Spirit (D)

Impressions – Easy going, carefree, lives for the moment and may seem immature
Opportunities – Able to adapt to different situations, takes advantage of new opportunities and generous with friends and family
Threats – May not have enough for the things you need so you have to borrow from others and lacks the self-confidence to plan resulting in missed opportunities

Money Management Suggestions for Free Spirit Personalities
Seek a mentor to help establish and achieve financial goals. Set up a saving account so savings is automatic and is difficult for you to access. Strive to reduce or eliminate your reliance on others to provide you financial support. Be wary of credit card usage. Establish a savings plan that requires you to set aside funds for the future.

*Moolah personalities was adapted from Money Habitudes™ by LifeWise (www.lifewise.com)
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