Advance Plan

You Need A Cash Plan gives you a clear, complete view of how you plan to use your income for the next twelve months *starting today*. But, there are situations where it would be great to be able to plan for a year starting on a *future date* such as when planning to get married or starting a small business. This is easily done with the advance plan feature in You Need A Cash Plan.

An advance plan is created when adding a new cash plan by:

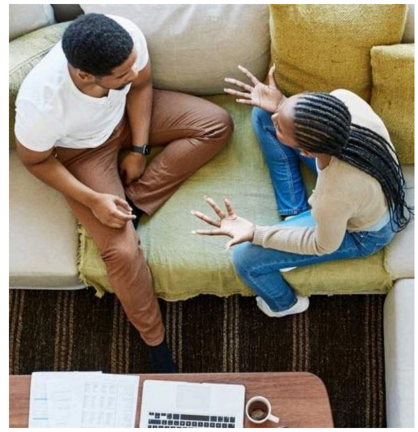
1. checking the advance plan checkbox, and
2. entering the start date for the advance plan.

The Primary cash plan can also be used as an advance plan by editing the plan and making the above changes.

Before getting married

Combining finances when setting up a new household can be stressful. With money being one of the top ten reasons for divorce, being able to avoid any post-honeymoon financial shocks would be a real advantage for sustaining marital bliss. Toward such an ideal outcome, an engaged couple can pre-plan their combined finances with a You Need A Cash Plan advance plan that has a start date of either their wedding day, or perhaps the day they return from their honeymoon.

Depending on how they prefer to manage their household finances, the couple can start with one or multiple cash plans on one or multiple computers.



To negotiate how they want their combined finances to work for the first year of their life together, the couple works through the getting started process for each cash plan, but they do not pay bills for the first time. On the advance plan start date, the newlyweds:

- uncheck their cash plans’ advance plan checkbox, and
- finish getting started by paying bills for the first time as a married couple.

Their combined or separate cash plans become the couple's ongoing tool for managing their household finances.

Preparing a small business plan

When putting together a business plan for starting a small business, projecting the startup cashflow is typically done with a spreadsheet. There are a plethora of templates available for doing this. After a small business opens, it is recommended that the cashflow projection spreadsheet be updated periodically, but that chore is often neglected. The pressure of day-to-day operations gets in the way of doing any business planning with manually prepared documents. The advance plan feature in You Need A Cash Plan overcomes the disadvantages of creating and maintaining a static business plan.

When first preparing the small business plan, an advance plan is added in You Need A Cash Plan with a start date of the business' opening day. The cashflow plan for the first twelve months of business operations is created by working through the getting started process, but not paying bills the first time. (The group name Allowance can optionally be changed to something like Petty Cash.)

On opening day, the cash plan's advance plan checkbox is unchecked and getting started is completed by paying bills the first time. Using the cash plan thereafter to manage daily cash provides a dynamic business plan that is driven by day-to-day operations. Planning cashflow for the coming year becomes a natural part of doing business.