



# Making change

## How to do the assessment activity:

You may want to consider whether it is useful for the learner to use a **calculator** in this module.

- Place three items, or pictures of items on the table, and write the following prices on three slips of paper—\$3.29, \$7.35 and \$13.76—one for each item. Then, set up the Money kit like a store cash register, so that you have exact change for the following assessment activities.
- In each of the following situations give the learner the amount of money indicated and ask them to buy the item as given. Then, ask them to make the correct change from the Money kit or see the other instructions in each situation.

### You will need:

- Three priced items
- Money kit—coins or play money
- paper
- pencils
- Assessment form on this page.

**Note:** There are two ways to make change—you can start with money you have to pay for an item and subtract the cost of the item OR you can start with the cost of the item being purchased and add to it the change required to arrive at the money the purchaser needs to pay for the item.

- e.g. Money paid for item—cost of the item = change, OR
- Cost of the item + change = money needed to pay for the item.

## Making change—assessment form

Skill	Can do well	Needs help
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The learner has a \$5.00 bill and wants to buy the item marked \$3.29. What is the correct change? <b>Correct change (\$1.71).</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The learner has a \$10.00 bill and wants to buy the item marked \$7.35 and you give the learner <b>incorrect change (\$2.75).</b></li> <li>• Ask the learner to count the change. Is it correct? <b>(No, it should be \$2.65).</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The learner has a \$20.00 bill and wants to buy the item marked \$13.76. Ask the learner to make the correct change. <b>Correct change is (\$6.24).</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The learner has two—\$10 bills and wants to buy the item marked \$7.35.</li> <li>• Ask the learner to make the correct change. <b>(Note—the learner will need only one \$10 bill to make this purchase. The change will be \$2.65).</b></li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The learner has three \$5.00 bills and wants to buy the item marked \$13.76.</li> <li>• Ask the learner to make the correct change. <b>(Note—the learner will need all three \$5.00 bills = \$15.00 to make the purchase. The correct change will be \$1.24).</b></li> </ul>		

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**Is the learner ready to go on?**



*Yes* — if they completed the assessment activity with less than four mistakes.

*No* — if not, then use the following activities to help the learner grasp this concept.

**Activity 1: How much money will I have left?**

**How to do the activity:**

1. In each of the following situations the learner wants to buy an item from the money that is given from the Money kit. Place the coins on the table and ask the learner how much money will be left. Here are several situations. You may want to continue and do more which include other coins or also use dollar bills.
  - \* Place the following coins on the table:
    - 4 dimes, 1 nickel, and 3 pennies = 48¢
    - The learner wants to buy an item worth 25¢
    - How much change is left? **Answer is 23¢**
  - \* Place the following coins on the table:
    - 6 dimes, 4 pennies = 64¢
    - The learner wants to buy an item worth 31¢
    - How much change is left? **Answer is 33¢**
  - \* Place the following coins on the table:
    - 5 dimes, 2 nickels, and 4 pennies = 64¢
    - The learner wants to buy an item worth 53¢
    - How much change is left? **Answer is 11¢**
  - \* Place the following coins on the table:
    - 2 quarters, 2 dimes, 1 nickel, and 2 pennies = 77¢
    - The learner wants to buy an item worth 37¢
    - How much change is left? **Answer is 40¢**

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**Activity 2: Making change from dollar bills**

**How to do the activity:**

1. Give learners **Activity 9.2** and do the activity for making change for each of the situations shown.
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**You will need:**

- Money kit

*Note:* You may want to make up a set of flash cards for each scenario, use only coins from the Money kit.

**You will need:**

- Activity 9.2
- pencils

**You will need:**

- flash cards
- felt markers/pencils
- Money kit

**Note:** Make up flash card set for this activity ahead of time.

**Activity 3: Everyday spending—what does it cost?****How to do the activity:**

1. Brain storm with the learner(s) different things they spend their money on and how much it usually costs. For example, bus fare, coffee at work, lunch or snack money, movie, laundry, phone bill etc.
2. Make a list and put each situation on a flash card—the item and the cost. Make this set up ahead of time.
3. Then, set up a store-like situation where one person is the cashier, and the other person is the customer. Have each person play each role.

Give the customer a flash card situation and enough money from the Money kit to purchase the item. Ask them to buy the item from the cashier. Have the cashier give the correct change.

4. For further practice, mix the cards and do this activity again. Reverse the roles of cashier and customer.

*This activity could be done in the community using “real life” situations, e.g. having coffee in a restaurant, then paying for it and checking the correct change.*

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**Activity 4: Ways we spend money****How to do the activity:**



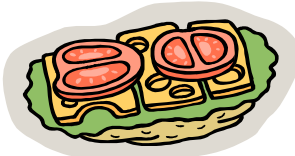

1. If the learner is living on their own then begin the introduction of other resources from the *Learning About Money series*. These may include reading some of the fact sheets in the **Consumer Education** series, or doing activities that include the **Banking Skills** and **Spending Plans**. There is also a segment on **Understanding Credit**.

**Internet:** [www.basicsskillsforliving.ca](http://www.basicsskillsforliving.ca)

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What change would you have left?

You have \$	You want to buy . . .	Price	Change
\$2.00	 spool of thread	\$1.65	\$ _____
\$5.00	 cap	\$4.89	\$ _____
\$10.00	 a cheese sandwich	\$3.95	\$ _____
\$20.00	 summer shoes	\$14.99	\$ _____