



Wealth  
Management

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# Banking services

Exploring different account types and features

Financial institutions generally offer four primary services: bank accounts, currency exchange, borrowing (credit) and investing accounts. Specifically in regards to bank accounts, while different types exist to satisfy a variety of needs, there are generally two main options: chequing accounts and savings accounts.

## Chequing accounts

Chequing accounts are primarily used for day-to-day banking transactions, such as deposits, frequent withdrawals, cheque writing and bill payments.

## Savings accounts

Savings accounts are typically used for depositing and saving money. These accounts pay slightly more interest on the account value than chequing accounts, but there is usually a limit on the number of withdrawals that are allowed. In some cases, there's also a pre-established balance that must be maintained for a certain period of time.

## Finding the best account type for you

When choosing a bank account and the associated service package, it's important to evaluate the options available and how they align with your personal preferences, as well as your needs and transaction behaviours.

### Quick tip

Before signing up for a chequing or savings account, it's important to think about how you will use it. Some banks offer service packages that cover unlimited transactions on the account for a monthly fee. Other service packages may include a limited number of free transactions on your account each month, and if those get used, there's a cost for each additional transaction.

Consider questions such as:

- How do you prefer to conduct your banking—in person, online or a mixture of both?
- How many bills or cash withdrawals do you plan to process on a monthly basis?
- Will your account maintain a minimum balance each month?
- What are the costs associated with the banking services you're interested in?
- Is there a package of services the financial institution offers that best meets your needs (for example, a student account or a senior's account)?

For help in selecting an account, take a few minutes to visit RBC's online Account Selector at [www.rbcroyalbank.com/accounts/account-selector.html](http://www.rbcroyalbank.com/accounts/account-selector.html).

## Pre-authorized savings plans

To help ensure saving takes place at regular intervals, a pre-authorized savings plan is a great option to consider given the ongoing and long-term value it can offer.

A pre-authorized savings plan offers **four key benefits:**

1. Prioritizes your savings by “paying yourself first.”
2. Helps to grow savings faster, even if it's a small amount set aside each time.
3. Is easy and convenient to set up online.
4. Allows you to decide the frequency (for example, every two weeks or once a month) and the amount.

And, the earlier you set up this type of savings plan, the faster you will reach your financial goals. With a pre-authorized savings plan, you can even schedule the transfer to take place on the days you get paid,

so that as your paycheque goes into your bank account, the regular savings deduction happens almost simultaneously, and is “out of sight, out of mind.”

## Digital account features

Most financial institutions offer a variety of digital account features to help individuals manage their banking needs more easily and efficiently. Some of the features growing in popularity include:

- **Mobile cheque deposits:** Take a picture of the cheque on your mobile device and upload it through a banking application.
- **Interac e-Transfers:** Send an e-Transfer from your mobile device.
- **Points to pay bills:** Pay bills or make everyday purchases by using your rewards points.
- **Credit and debit card locks:** Temporarily lock and unlock your credit or debit cards in real time.

**To learn more about banking services or the RBC Wealth Management Financial Literacy program, please contact us today.**



## ATM dos and don'ts

When you use an ATM, your financial institution may charge account fees for certain transactions processed through the machine. On top of this, when you use an ATM that doesn't belong to your financial provider, additional charges can be incurred called network access fees. To help avoid unnecessary ATM costs, it's good practice to:

- Understand the service package associated with your account.
- Use your own bank's ATM whenever possible.
- Take advantage of cashback options when paying for purchases in stores to eliminate the need for additional visits to the ATM.