# DIVERGENT MONEY RESET WEEK CHECKLIST

*Created by a neurodivergent financial therapist and coach to help you reset your money gently.* 

🔽 Print it. 🛞 Tape it up. 🔁 Use it weekly (or whenever you can).

# 🔆 DAY 0: PREP (Saturday PM or Sunday AM)

- [] Gather receipts, screenshots, transaction logs Anything that shows what you spent last week
- [] Clear one small surface (desk, table, bed corner) *Make room for a fresh start—no perfection needed*
- [] Set up sensory aids (music, blanket, candle, fidget) Create a cozy, safe brain space

### MAY 1: LOOK BACK

- [] Review last week's spending Just glance, don't overthink
- [] Label leaks (Red = Cut, Yellow = Caution, Green = Good) Use color or symbols to sort decisions
- [] Identify unplanned dopamine buys Note the impulse wins or "oopsies" without judgment
- [] Practice nonjudgment: this is data, not guilt This step matters more than perfect behavior

## 🌞 DAY 2: LOOK FORWARD

- [] Check upcoming bills, meds, events, renewals Anything with a date and money involved
- [] Set 1–2 small money intentions (e.g., "No late fees," "Cook twice") One goal for function, one for feelings
- [] Block 15 mins for calm, unhurried money time Put it on your calendar or a sticky note

### **\*** DAY 3: CASH-FLOW SLICE

- [] Add up what you have for this week Check accounts, expected income, loose cash
- [] Assign money to core categories (groceries, meds, fun, etc.) *Think buckets: what needs filling first?*
- [] Transfer weekly "spendable" funds to debit/card Make your budget accessible in real life

# 🌱 DAY 4: MICRO-SAVE

- [] Send \$10-\$25 to emergency or sinking fund Whatever is realistic—small still counts
- [] Mark it visually (savings jar, app, sticker chart, etc.) Externalize progress to get that dopamine hit

# 🏖 DAY 5: PAPER TRAIL TIDY

[] File or photo receipts (trash what's done) — Put it where Future You can find it

[] Flag pending charges, note any errors — Quick scroll through bank or credit app

[] Clear inbox of payment confirmations — Archive or label anything money-related

### **DAY 6: REWARD & REFLECT**

[] Check off what you accomplished (half is still a win!) — Progress deserves recognition

- [] Celebrate with a sensory reward (treat, walk, fav show) This signals to your brain that routines = dopamine
- [] Reflect briefly: What worked well this week? Jot a note or say it out loud

### 🔆 DAY 7: FREE SPACE (Optional)

[] Gently reflect on your system — Does anything need to shift or get simpler?

- [] Adjust for next week Tweak steps, move things around, drop what didn't serve
- [] Rest. That's a task. Lay down. Let your brain defragment. This still counts.

No pressure to complete this day—think of it as a soft bridge to next week.

#### **EMERGENCY RESET PROTOCOL (For When Everything Falls Apart)**

- [] Breathe. You're not behind. Every week is a new week
- [] Pick one task. Any one. The easiest box is the best box
- [] That's your win. Restart achieved. You came back. That's the muscle

Progress, not perfection. This is a rhythm, not a report card.

