

The Top 26 Challenge



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INSTRUCTIONS

Challenge

Retirement is one of the most significant changes that any person will face. You will be much better off if you do not face retirement as an all-ornothing alternative.

The Top 26 Challenge is a strategy to test drive your life in retirement before you jump in with both feet. Or if you're already retired, you can use the challenge to explore changes.

On the following pages, you will find a list of 26 aspirations and goals many people have for retirement.



Wants & Wishes

Let's find out what is most important to you. To begin, go through the list and write down what is a want and a wish. Wants are aspirations or goals that are very important to you. Wishes are just that, something that you'd like to have but it's not essential.



26 ASPIRATIONS AND GOALS



1	Antiquing, collecting art or other collectibles						
2	Attending sporting events						
3	Cultural activities such as concerts, ballet, or shows.						
4	Developing my cooking skills						
5	Dining out and entertainment activities						
6	Exercising						
7	Following my favorite sports teams						
8	Gardening						
9	Going back to school or learning new skills						
10	Going to the gym						
11	Home Hobbies						
12	Managing my investments						
13	Pursuing creative interests such as art or pottery						
14	Reading						
15	Recreational Activities - fishing, hunting, or skiing.						
16	Spending time at a vacation home						
17	Spending time with friends and family						
18	Spending time with my family						
19	Starting a new business						
20	Staying connected to friends and family online.						
21	Travel in an RV						
22	Traveling domestically						
23	Traveling internationally						
24	Upgrading or renovating my home						
25	Volunteering for charitable organizations						
26	Working part-time						

To begin write the goals and aspirations that you want on the following page. Second, decide the importance of each item on a scale between 10 and 1, with 10 being very important and 1 not so much. Then, consider if you will begin that goal as soon as retirement begins or later. Is the aspiration or goal for you, your spouse, or both? What is your budget for that aspiration or goal? And how often and how many times do you plan for that aspiration or goal? It is essential to be as specific as you can on the goals and aspirations that are high on your list. Afterwards, go through the same process for your wish list on page 6.

Wants: Retirement Life Goals Before and After Retirement

Importance High Low 10 1	Description	Start Year	SA	SB	Both	Amount	How Often	How Many Times
						\$		
						\$		
						\$		
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						\$		

Wishes: Retirement Life Goals Before and After Retirement

Importance High Low 10 1	Description	Start Year	 SA	SB	Both	Amount	How Often	How Many Times
						\$		
						\$		
						\$		
						\$		
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Time for the Challenge!

Try your top aspiration or goal for two weeks.

Keep the long-term perspective in mind. Remember, not every day will be a mountain top day.

Decide if that aspiration or goal will fit into your retirement life as a new normal; love it or leave it.

If you are inclined, move on to the next aspiration or goal.

Remember, you are trying to build a retirement life you genuinely love.

