

ACTIVITY #10: COMPARISON SHOPPING

Ready to shop? Don't forget to compare! A good way to spend wisely is to get in the habit of comparison shopping. Comparison shopping means comparing the quality, price, and convenience of the products or services you want before buying them.

In addition to saving you a lot of money, comparison shopping also gives you information about what is available in your area, and allows you to use the shopping method that is most convenient and efficient for you. See the example below and use the blank chart to help you the next time you comparison shop.

EXAMPLE: Comparison Shopping for Jeans

| Store: | GAP (at the Mall) | Discount Store (Marshalls) | Internet | Thrift Store |
|--------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Price: | \$50 | \$35 | \$30 | \$10 |
| Location: | Far away | Close | My home | Very close |
| Hours: | Convenient | Convenient | Convenient | Only open until 4:30 p.m. |
| Extra Costs: | \$10 for paratransit | None | \$7 for shipping | None |
| Other: | Fun to visit! | None | Can't try them on | Don't have my size |

In the example above, we chose to buy the jeans from the discount store because:

- The jeans cost \$15 less at Marshalls than they did at the mall.
- Marshalls had the right size jeans, unlike the thrift store.
- Marshalls is easy to get to.
- The online list price for the jeans is \$5 less than Marshalls, but when you add shipping it's actually \$2 more. This price might be worth the convenience of shopping from home, as long as you don't mind not trying on the jeans first.

(Continued on next page...)

Name: _____

Now it's your turn! Use the blank chart below to help you comparison shop.

Comparison Shopping for _____

| Store: | Store #1 | Store #2 | Store #3 | Store #4 |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Price: | | | | |
| Location: | | | | |
| Hours: | | | | |
| Extra Costs: | | | | |
| Other: | | | | |



FINN SAYS...

Comparison shopping means comparing the quality, price, and convenience of what you want to purchase.