

## Wants vs. Needs Activity

### What Do You Really Need?

**OBJECTIVE:**

Determine what you perceive is a want or a need.  
After completing activities, you may reconsider what you believe is a want or a need.

**START:** Write for each item below: Is it a need or a want for you?

Assess your needs and wants by placing an "N" in the correct column.

ITEM	NEED	WANT	NEED	WANT	NEED	WANT
1. Vending machine snack/beverage						
2. Bottled water						
3. Cigarettes						
4. Contact lenses						
5. Car maintenance						
6. Food						
7. Money saved for emergencies						
8. Internet connection						
9. Cell phone						
10. Money to go out at least two nights a week						
11. Money to go out more than two nights a week						
12. Expensive clothes						
13. Expensive grocery bills						
14. Expensive event tickets						
15. Money saved for vacation						
16. Cash TV						

**NEXT:** If you had an extra \$200, would this change?

Reassess your wants and needs.

**NEXT:** Is this different from your friends' wants and needs?

Think about one of your good friends and assess their wants and needs.

**CONCEPT:**

Our wants and needs change throughout our lives. It's important to periodically think about what you determine as a want or need. Then reassess your thinking in consideration to your current financial situation.