Net Worth Statement Instructions

Financial Net Worth

Enter the current value of each item in the "Value" column. If you own a house, for example, list the current market value using a web site like www.zillow.com or www.cyberhomes.com. Then put the amount that you owe on each item, if any, in the "Debts" column. You can get an estimate of the value of your vehicles at www.kbb.com.

For your home and any vehicles on which you are making payments, the current amount owed may be on your most recent statements or an amortization table on your original contract, or you may have to call your lenders. For credit cards, only include those that you do not pay off each month.

Of course, some items, like a savings account, have value but no debt. Others, like credit card balances, have debt but no value.

Experiential Net Worth

One shortcoming of financial net worth statements is that they fail to account for charitable donations you've made, experiences you've had such as memorable vacations, investments you've made in your education or the educations of your children.

Use the Experiential Net Worth form to indicate some of these elements and any others you can think of that don't show up on a traditional net worth statement. You don't need to capture everything here, just some of the ways you've spent money in the past year that led to some of your most memorable experiences.

Add whatever details you'd like. You don't need to put a dollar value on each item. For giving you might just list the organization that you contributed money to under "Experience" and something about the work that the organization does under "Details." For vacations, list the place you visited under "Experience" and something memorable about the trip under "Details."

Emotional Net Worth

This is the most subjective form of net worth -- a snapshot of how you feel about your financial situation right now. Answer the questions listed on the form and then give yourself an overall score.

As you think about these three elements of your net worth—your financial net worth, experiential net worth, and emotional net worth—are you pleased with what you see? Did this exercise remind you of some deeply satisfying ways you used money in the past year? Did it bring back some good memories? Or do you see some room for improvement? Use these three aspects of net worth to guide your goal setting for next year.