ROXTON WEALTH

THE LIFE & WEALTH SERIES

Financial Planning in Your 20s

The decisions you make now can shape decades to come.

WWW.ROXTONWEALTH.COM

Financial & mortgage advice, tailored to you

You do not need to have everything figured out

Financial planning in your 20s is not about doing everything at once. It is about understanding what matters now, building useful habits and avoiding decisions that could create unnecessary pressure later.

A stronger starting point often means:

- Knowing what comes in and what goes out each month
- Understanding your workplace pension
- Saving towards goals that matter to you
- Building a small financial buffer where possible
- Being thoughtful about borrowing and credit
- Creating choices rather than putting pressure on yourself

Small, consistent steps can be more useful than one perfect financial decision.

The financial priorities of your 20s

Starting a career

Your first years of work may involve changing roles, switching industries, freelancing, or becoming self-employed. As your earnings change, it can help to avoid automatically increasing every part of your lifestyle at the same pace.

A pay rise can create an opportunity to strengthen savings, improve financial resilience, or reduce expensive borrowing.

Managing income

Knowing your salary is not the same as knowing what you can comfortably spend. Your take-home pay is affected by tax, pension contributions, student loan repayments, and bills.

A simple monthly overview can help you see what is genuinely available after essentials.

Build the basics before chasing the complicated stuff.

Build a base for the life you want

Student finance

Student loans do not need to be treated in exactly the same way as every other type of borrowing. Before deciding to make voluntary overpayments, it is worth understanding the terms of your plan, your wider savings position and what other financial priorities may be more urgent.

Saving habit

Saving is not only for people with large amounts left over every month. It can be used for immediate needs, unexpected costs, travel, a future home, career changes or simply creating breathing room. The amount matters less than building a regular habit that feels realistic.

Financial flexibility

Your 20s can include unexpected opportunities: a job abroad, a new qualification, a career break or a business idea. Building some financial resilience can make it easier to consider opportunities without every decision being driven by immediate pressure.

Saving, student loans and home ambitions can all sit within the same picture.

Financial planning in your 20s is about creating layers of stability and opportunity, rather than following one fixed route.

Creating healthy financial habits

Essential costs

Rent or mortgage payments, bills, food, travel, debt repayments and childcare.

Lifestyle spending

Social plans, clothes, subscriptions, holidays, hobbies and everyday extras.

Future you

Savings, emergency funds, pension contributions and longer-term goals.

> *The strongest habits are usually the ones you can keep. A budget is simply a plan for your money, reflecting your actual life.*

The goal is not to control every penny. It is to know where your money is going.

Why starting early matters

Starting early means small decisions made consistently can have more time to develop. This is the effect of compound growth: money that stays invested may generate growth on previous growth over time.

More time

You may not need to take the same level of risk later to pursue a long-term goal.

More flexibility

Consistent habits give you more choices as your income and responsibilities change.

More resilience

A stronger base makes it easier to handle life events without expensive borrowing.

More confidence

Understanding what you are building makes planning feel more purposeful.

You do not need to start big. You just need to start in a way you can sustain.

INVESTMENT VALUES CAN RISE AND FALL. YOU MAY GET BACK LESS THAN YOU INVEST.

Understanding workplace pensions

Employer contributions

Your employer may contribute to your pension. If you opt out, you may be giving up contributions that could otherwise support your future retirement planning.

Tax relief

Pension contributions can receive tax relief, subject to the relevant rules and limits. It is a way of paying future you first.

Compounding

A contribution that feels modest today may have many years to build alongside future contributions and potential investment growth.

Your pension is not simply a deduction from your payslip. It is part of your future pay.

Useful questions: How much am I contributing? How much is my employer contributing? Do I understand where to find my pension information?

Pensions are long-term investments. Their value can go down as well as up, and the amount you receive in retirement is not guaranteed.

Saving for your first home

Buying a first home can feel like one of the biggest milestones of your 20s. Preparing early can help you approach the process with more confidence.

Mortgage preparation may include:

- Checking your credit report
- Paying bills and commitments on time
- Avoiding unnecessary new borrowing
- Keeping evidence of income organised
- Understanding monthly outgoings
- Building a realistic picture of costs

Beyond the deposit

A lender will look at income, regular outgoings, and credit history. Consider the ongoing costs: bills, council tax, maintenance, and service charges.

A mortgage should leave room for your life—pensions, savings, and future goals.

Preparing for a mortgage starts before you find the property.

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE.

Protecting your future

Income protection

Income protection is designed to pay a regular income if you are unable to work due to illness or injury. For many, it is worth exploring alongside employer sick pay and workplace benefits.

Review your benefits: life assurance, private medical insurance, and employee assistance programmes can be valuable.

Building resilience

Resilience comes from a combination of a realistic budget, accessible savings, and protection that is appropriate for your circumstances.

The aim is to understand which risks could have the biggest impact on your life and future plans.

Financial resilience is about more than savings.

Common mistakes in your 20s

Lifestyle inflation

When spending rises every time income rises. A promotion or bonus can quickly disappear into higher rent or subscriptions. Decide in advance what proportion of a pay rise will strengthen your future.

Credit as extra income

Credit cards and buy-now-pay-later can reduce flexibility in your monthly budget. Before borrowing, ask: Can I afford the repayments if my circumstances change?

Comparison trap

Your financial plan should be built around your life, not someone else's highlight reel. family support or debt are rarely visible behind the scenes.

Progress is not always visible. A stronger habit may be doing more for your future than it appears.

One useful action: Check your workplace pension contribution, look at your monthly direct debits, or set up a small savings transfer.

Financial confidence grows through action.

A financial plan for the next decade

1 **Now**

Build awareness of income, essential costs, borrowing, and pensions.

2 **Next**

Create breathing room with a realistic budget and emergency fund.

3 **Growth**

Avoid fixed-cost creep. Review contributions and workplace benefits.

4 **Purpose**

Connect money to goals: home, career move, business, or travel.

The purpose of financial planning is not to predict your whole future. It is to give you more choices within it.

START A CONVERSATION

The future does not need to feel far away to be worth planning for

Tell us what you are trying to achieve, what feels difficult and where you would like more clarity. Together, we can explore the options available and build a plan that fits your life. At Roxton Wealth, we believe financial and mortgage advice should help people feel more informed, more confident and more in control of their future.

SPEAK TO US

EMAIL
team@roxtonwealth.com

PHONE
02039 172650

WHATSAPP
+44 7949 690059

WEBSITE
www.roxtonwealth.com

FOLLOW & REVIEW

LinkedIn @Roxton Wealth · Instagram @roxtonwealth · TikTok @roxtonwealth · Facebook @roxton wealth · YouTube @Roxton Wealth

VouchedFor: vouchedfor.co.uk/firm/16820-roxton-wealth-ltd

OUR OFFICES

London — Head Office
Roxton Wealth, ER76, The Link Business Centre,
49 Effra Road, London, SW2 1BZ

Cardiff — Wales Office
Roxton Wealth, Sophia House,
28 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, CF11 9LJ

Edinburgh — Scotland Office
Roxton Wealth, Westpoint, 4 Redheughs Rigg,
South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9DQ

Remote — UK-Wide
Secure, flexible remote appointments, with bespoke in-person meetings arranged across the UK.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Finance That Fits You.

This guide is for general information and education only. It does not constitute personal financial, mortgage, investment, pension, protection, tax or legal advice.

Any personal recommendation will be based on your individual circumstances, needs and objectives following a full assessment where required.

Workplace pension eligibility, contributions and scheme rules can vary. Check the details of your own scheme and employer benefits before making decisions.

Tax treatment depends on individual circumstances and may change. Roxton Wealth does not provide tax advice. Appropriate tax or accountancy advice should be sought where relevant.

The value of investments and pensions, and the income they produce, can fall as well as rise. You may get back less than you invested.

Your home may be repossessed if you do not keep up repayments on your mortgage. Insurance policies are subject to terms, conditions, exclusions and underwriting.

Roxton Wealth Ltd is an Appointed Representative of Rosemount Financial Solutions (IFA) Ltd, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Entered on the FCA Register (register.fca.org.uk) under reference 535515. Roxton Wealth Ltd is registered as a Company in England & Wales No. 16335726. Registered Address: ER76, The Link Business Centre, 49 Effra Rd, London SW2 1BZ.