



# Home Diaries

AUTUMN 2017



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## KEITH'S VIEW

We are globally faced with a lack of natural resources and it is therefore important to consider ways how we can create a more sustainable environment for all. One way of doing this is to consider renewable-energy solutions.

We take a closer look at what you can do to enhance your environment, whether it is switching to eStatements or configuring your home to embedded energy solutions.

This edition also gives handy tips on how you can reduce your utility bills and change your spending behaviour to turn your financial life around.

And to apply for a home loan is now even easier. Our online application process caters for additional loan types, such as building loans, loans for vacant-land purchases and development loans.

**Wishing you all the best on the home loan front for 2017.**

## IN THE SPOTLIGHT Sustainable living



We take a closer look at the things we can all do to live more sustainable lives.

[More](#)

## DID YOU KNOW Home loan application made easy



Apply online for additional home loan types.

[More](#)

## NEWS TO USE Handy tips



Change your spending behaviour positively.

[More](#)

## MONEY TALKS A 2017 outlook



What 2017 has in store for us.

[More](#)

### Switch to eStatements and help the environment.

Electronic **eStatements** means **no more** waiting for the **post** to arrive and no more **paper wastage**. Best of all – you **help save the environment!**

Call us on **0860 555 111** or visit  
[nedbank.co.za/homeloans](http://nedbank.co.za/homeloans) to register for  
eStatements.

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## IN THE SPOTLIGHT Sustainable living



For more **tips** on how to **live sustainably**, look at the Nedbank Smart Living Guide: [link](#)

### Smart decisions for a better future

Simple no-cost changes in behaviour or larger investments – **we can all do something** to help the **environment**.  
As the price of electricity rises, it will become more cost-effective for households to **generate their own electricity** through renewable-energy systems.

### Save money and put the power back in your hands

#### Save power

##### Did you know?

Typical medium-to-high income South African households use electricity in the following ways:

- 30% for heating water
- 20% for heating homes
- 20% for cooking
- 10% for lighting

Seeing that heating water is the biggest contributor, rather install a **solar water heater or heat pump**.

##### How a solar water heater works

Solar collectors are installed on your roof and capture heat from the sun to heat water – it's that simple. And in case there are a few overcast days, these pumps usually have electrical backups.

##### How a heat pump works

Water is heated with a pump using air equalling 50% to 70% less electricity usage than your traditional geyser!

You can attach a heat pump on any building – it looks like a small air-conditioning unit. It costs anything between R25 000 and R35 000.

A heat pump pays for itself in **less than five years!**

#### Generate power

Why not generate your own power through a rooftop solar PV system?

PV = photovoltaic

##### What are solar PV systems?

Made of solar panels, also known as PV panels, this system converts sunlight into energy and uses different types of technology to do so, namely:

- polycrystalline;
- monocrystalline; and
- thin film.

Solar panels can have a **guarantee** of up to **25-years** AND inverters can last up to **15 years!**

##### What if there's not enough sun?

Most residential solar PV systems will be grid-tied, which means you can still use electricity when it rains.

##### How much does it cost?

Anything between R80 000 and, for more high-end ranges, R250 000.

#### Store power

If you generate more power than what you use, you can store the excess power in a **battery**.

This stored energy will help you in case of load shedding, but it can also be your main source of energy in the evenings to help reduce your electricity bill.

##### Types of batteries

Lithium-ion batteries are becoming the most common and, although not financially competitive just yet, inroads are being made in the use of this technology.



#### How to improve your water and energy efficiency

##### Low cost – quick return

- Switch to water-efficient shower heads.
- Convert to LED lighting.

##### Higher cost – higher return over time

- Convert your geyser to a solar water heater.

### INVEST IN YOUR HOME'S FUTURE VALUE WITH NEDBANK

If money is the only thing holding you back, you could secure the necessary funds. Existing Nedbank Home Loan clients may be able to:

- access available funds through **NedRevolve**;
- apply for a **Readvance** or a further loan based on your home's value; or
- apply for a **Nedbank personal loan**.

For any enquiries please contact the Nedbank Call Centre on 0860 911 007





## DID YOU KNOW?

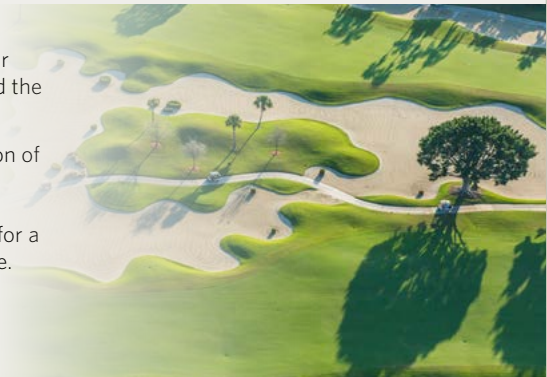
Apply for a home loan, **anywhere, anytime** and get bond approval **within hours**.

Visit [nedbank.co.za/homeloans](https://nedbank.co.za/homeloans) to apply online.

Nedbank offers you a **seamless and integrated solution** for all your home loan needs through our online home loan applications. We've even added the following additional loan types:

- **Building loans** – help finance the construction of your home, additions or improvements.
- Get a loan for **vacant-land purchases**.
- **Development loans** – this is a building loan for a development, such as a golf or lifestyle estate.
- Loans to **buy out a codebtor**.

Visit [nedbank.co.za/homeloans](https://nedbank.co.za/homeloans) today.



## Handy tips on how you can save money on your home loan instalment

### See your money differently

Your home is an **investment** and it's a good idea to make sure that your **home loan** is **properly managed**. Make your payments every month and call us on **0860 553 573** if you foresee any payment problems.

### Manage your money differently

Make sure you have a **debit order** loaded on your Nedbank Home Loan account.

#### Advantages of a debit order

- **Peace of mind** through automated, regular monthly payments.
- **Save money** – paying cash means higher bank charges.
- **Reduce personal risk** by not carrying cash.
- **Save time** by not having to go to a branch.

If you would like to arrange a debit order please call **0860 553 573**.

### Manage your risk differently

Nedbank Home Loans will **bring forward** debit orders for selected client accounts during the main holidays in March and April, as well as on Sundays. This means:

- it's **easier** for you to meet your home loan repayments;
- you **won't miss** a payment;
- you will avoid **unnecessary interest** charges and returned debits.

You will be notified in advance of the expected earlier debit order dates through SMS, asking you to contact us if the arrangement does not suit you.





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## NEWS TO USE

### Minimise the pressure of financial difficulty

With the **challenging and volatile** macroeconomic **environment** we all face, it's important that consumers **change** their **spending behaviour**. It doesn't matter where you are in your financial journey, it is possible to **turn your financial life around**. Here are some tips to help you get going ...



1	Make a <b>shopping list</b> for your groceries and stick to it.	A list will not only help you save money, but it will also ensure that you buy only what you need.
2	<b>Repair</b> clothes instead of throwing them out.	It is more economical to sew new buttons on to a shirt than to buy a new one. Learning basic sewing skills is a great way to save money.
3	Give <b>appliances</b> a maintenance run.	Make sure there is no dust clogging your appliances. This will ensure that devices run more efficiently.
4	Stop collecting and <b>start selling</b> .	Take photos of the items you don't need and post them online to resell. You can use the money to pay off debt or invest it.
5	<b>Invite friends over</b> instead of going out.	You can save a lot of money if you invite friends over rather than going out and spending money on entertainment.
6	Sign up for free client <b>rewards programmes</b> .	There are a lot of retailers that offer rewards for shopping at their store, which could help you save.
7	Apply a <b>30-day rule</b> .	Avoid instant gratification. Wait for 30 days before deciding on a purchase. Quite often the temptation will pass.
8	<b>Avoid fast foods</b> .	Try making simpler and healthier meals instead of eating fast food or prepackaged dinners.
9	<b>Drink more water</b> .	Not only does drinking water have health benefits, it will also save you money when you do not buy other beverages.
10	<b>Don't spend too much</b> on entertainment.	It is important to realise that what your children want most is your time – not your money or more stuff.





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## MONEY TALKS

The good news is that the worst may be over, but much depends on how the political landscape unfolds and whether South Africa can hold on to its investment grade sovereign risk rating.

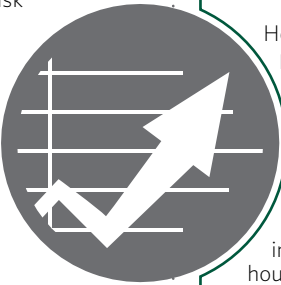


### Potential for a modest pickup in the residential property market later this year

Last year was tough for most homeowners. With confidence low and household finances under pressure, demand for mortgages and residential property faded as the year progressed. The good news is that the worst may be over, but much depends on how the political landscape unfolds and whether South Africa can hold on to its investment grade sovereign-risk rating from the three major global risk ratings agencies.

But some key factors could have the potential to stabilise our risk rating. First, the ANC policy and leadership conferences taking place in the middle and end of 2017 could shed some light on the ruling party's succession plans promoting greater investor confidence. Second is the resolution of unresolved issues in the Public Protector's report on state capture. Both factors could go a long way in affirming that government is serious about restoring fiscal discipline and implementing the much-needed structural reforms most experts and the rating agencies themselves have been calling for to unlock faster economic growth and employment.

If the local political climate remains relatively calm and the world's major countries manage to contain their worst protectionist impulses, the domestic economy should fare moderately better than in 2016 driven by a turnaround in agriculture as the drought breaks and global commodity prices firm up in 2017.



### 2016 at a glance

Household income had been under pressure for some time, growing by less than 1% in 2016, while the disruptive political events of December 2015 hurt confidence, resulting in a sharp plunge in the value of the rand in late 2015 and early 2016. This, coupled with the worst drought in decades, pushed inflation sharply higher, eroding household purchasing power even further, and forcing the Reserve Bank to hike interest rates by another 50 basis points in January 2016.

### Additional factors impacting the economy in developing countries

- Brexit.
- Rising popular support for anti-trade and anti-migration policies in developed countries in general.
- US election of Donald Trump as president.

### Talk to us

- Call us on 0860 555 111.
- Visit any Nedbank.
- Go to [nedbank.co.za/homeloan](http://nedbank.co.za/homeloan).
- For Personal Relationship Banking call 0860 555 222.

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