



Miserly Moms: Living Well on Less in a Tough Economy

Jonni McCoy

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With gas and food prices soaring, there's more need than ever before for Jonni McCoy's Miserly Moms. Jonni shares the money-saving strategies that allowed her family to transition from two incomes to one. These practical, proven strategies, tips, and recipes will help anyone live frugally without feeling deprived. Real-life examples show how anyone can learn to live more carefully and reach their financial goals. Now in its fourth edition, Miserly Moms is packed with even more ways to reduce a family's expenses and expose hidden living costs.

Miserly Moms: Living Well on Less in a Tough Economy Details

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From Reader Review Miserly Moms: Living Well on Less in a Tough Economy for online ebook

pianogal says

Parts of this book are good - this is probably the best one of her's I've read. But she still gets SOOOOOO listy about everything. She's got some good stuff, but you have to dig through to find it. There are also sections in this book that are repeats from her other books, so you can skip those if you've already read them.

Not my favorite author. I feel like she has good frugal ideas, but she needs to make her writing a little more frugal as well.

Trish says

I have mixed feeling about this book. I liked a lot of what the author's thinking process on most things for example using coupons/ getting it cheap or free on items that you don't use is not really a deal. Another example is cloth diapers vs disposal diaper. She takes all the cost of cleaning the cloth diapers into consideration. There are some parts in the book I didn't think were updated like there is no mention of how to budget in home internet. I didn't like how everything goes back to 1991. That is over 20 years ago and things were a lot different then.

Piaget91 says

This book is an incredible information source on how to save money (by smart planning not cutting crazy coupons), cook basic things from scratch, and think about the cost of food differently.

I bought this book in case it had a good tip or two for meal planning/grocery shopping, and have come away with great ideas for having pancake, soup, and biscuit mix cheap and on hand at all times, as well as real solutions for saving more at the grocery store (and I already spend very little and make most of our meals from scratch).

fabulous find!! if you have any interest in trying to save money by learning a bit and doing just a bit of planning and putting things together yourself - buy and read this book - it's great!!

Lori Kincaid Rassati says

I was not impressed. If you've been trying to cut back for any length of time and/or are familiar with any of the *how to* tips that most folks suggest, then this book is just more of the same. And even though she tries to address working moms at some point, her whole concept is based on going from two incomes to one. I'm a working single parent already living on one income. I don't have time (nor do I really care) to save 15 cents by making my own muffin mix or save \$1 by making my own playdoh or...I thought some of her cleaning tips/cleaner recipes were interesting, but again, I'm not breaking the bank buying bleach or Windex. Most of her recipes just sounded awful, and I couldn't imagine my children, who are not picky eaters, liking them.

Kristin says

Turns out I AM the cheapest person alive. Can't think of one thing I learned here, although in general its good, thrifty advice. Guess I was just a wartime housewife in my past life, after all. She could have done less of the I'm a Christian, stay-at-home mom because I'm better than you vibe, though.

mandy says

Would like to cut back my hours at work, so decided to check this book out for tips. It is a revised version of a much older book, and a lot of the resources cited are still from the early 90s or even before.

Same old, same old, really...

Make food from scratch.

Buy used.

Staycation instead of vacation.

Bargain shop

Coupon clip

etc etc etc

Some helpful recipes for make-your-own mixes and such, but otherwise, just so-so.

Lisa says

I will not claim that I am the budget queen or that when I set goals I always obtain said goals; but as my girlfriends can attest I love learning how other ladies do things and like taking their ideas and then trying to apply them. That is probably why I loved this book so much. I found reading it was so enjoyable that I had a hard time putting it down, something that doesn't regularly happen to me when reading books like this. Normally it takes me forever to get into the book and every time I put it down it takes forever to get back into it, again. This read very much as if I was chatting with a girlfriend over coffee and learning tips n' tricks that she uses.

As for all these tips n' tricks I cannot say that I'll be applying them all but it definitely has opened my eyes to a few of them and made me realize that some of my fears were unfounded. She did a good job explaining multi-store shopping and how to do it simply or extreme. She has 11 Guidelines that she follows and you can pick and choose what you want to apply. Plus, as you read these tricks she sums it down where you aren't bogged down by math and percentages. I cannot repeat enough how enjoyable this book was to read.

I have already started to apply some of these money saving tricks and can tell a difference. I've always been a meal planner but this book is not only a great reference for other books but a great way to pick up some more money saving tips. Also, she includes recipes and does a fantastic job of breaking down pricing. Her breakdown on eating out to home cooking blew my mind. I knew it was a huge difference but how she compared has really changed my mind and made me very conscientious of spending.

Maggie Hall says

Some of this information I already knew- like wash clothes in cold water, etc. But it has some good recipes and formulas for money saving meals, playdoh, cleaning agents, etc. Worth a skim but unless you can change the way you shop (like going to several stores and only once a month) hard to put into play all the tips. With two little kids, I can't linger that long in the aisles or split my list too much before the peanut gallery rebels!

Molly says

This book is about moms going home to stay with their children. It makes no reference to the economy and makes no bones about being an overtly christian and mom-staying-home-centric book, although the tips are applicable to anyone. It's full of tips that are not particularly useful to anyone who has ever read a book about being frugal, although she does mention that there are better deals buying off brands than there are clipping coupons. I gave it a one.

Misty says

The 3 stars is solely for the homemade art supply and household cleaner recipes, which are brilliant and easy. The rest of the book is self-congratulatory and overly religious. Some of the suggestions are wildly out of date, even though this is an updated version.

Tatiana says

This book was really informative. McCoy has a lot of great ideas on how to cut back. I plan on implementing a lot of them. I enjoyed her personal experiences, her insights into how important stay-at-home mothers are, and all the information (from healthy foods, to making your own crafts, to making your own homemade cleaning supplies) she provided. Definitely worth a read!

Susanhayeshotmail.com says

I have waffled between a three star or four star rating. This is a good little book, packed with some good guidelines, including some solid advice regarding some ways to be penny wise but pound foolish, so I'll give it the four. The reason I waffled is that I didn't actually learn much myself and I don't agree with her claim that a freezer is not a good budget saving tool. To be frank I find it amazing that people do not already use many of these basic money saving tactics, planning menus around sales, shopping around, knowing what a good price for things you buy all the time etc. But then again, menu planning and meals eaten together at the table seem to be fast becoming things of the past.

Lindsey says

What this book is about:

Have you been thinking about becoming a full-time stay-at-home mom? Are you trying to cut costs and save money for your family? Maybe you would just like to learn to live frugally but comfortably? Then this book is for you!

Okay, so in my opinion this book is for anyone - moms, dads, singles... anyone who would be interested in some great tips on saving money and living healthier can benefit from Miserly Moms. I find it to be an invaluable resource that I'm sure moms will love as much as I do!

Why this book is different:

There is nothing theoretical in the way Miserly Moms is written. Author Jonni McCoy has lived and practiced this way of living - she is proof that it can work. And not only that, but she has testimonials from readers (this is a reprinting) sharing their success stories as well! I'm not surprised. Reading through this book, you'll note the ring of truth in her words - what she says makes total sense!

Refreshingly, Miserly Moms is neither boring nor a slow read. It's so easy to find what you're looking for and to pick and choose what tips you want to follow - I love it! And it's written with the goal of being a stay-at-home mom in mind. I found this extremely helpful (though I'm still working part time at home) and was very interested in reading Jonni's thoughts on working moms. Did you ever think about how money is spent by working moms? By the time you've paid for work clothes, convenience foods (at home and at work), gas going to and from work, daycare bills, and whatever else comes up (car expenses, etc), you're practically paying for the privilege of working! I don't know about you, but I'd rather be at home taking care of my kids... that's just an aside, of course. Something I noted. I know not all of us can stay home, but if you're wondering if it is possible to stay at home, survive, and save money - well, you'll see that it can be done.

Anyway, on with examples of what Miserly Moms is all about...

Topics covered in Miserly Moms:

- * Budgeting
- * Food-buying tips (don't buy everything at one store, etc)
- * Frugal and healthy recipes
- * Celebrating frugally
- * Baby care (now that's not easy to save money on)
- * The cost of working
- * Getting the kids and husband involved in saving
- * Saving on medical expenses
- * Saving on Utility expenses
- * Craft ideas (for less!)
- * Cleaning (safer and cheaper)
- * Even a FAQ area
- * And much more!

This book is like the bible of money-saving ideas for moms. I highly recommend it and know I'll be gifting copies to my mom friends!

Elizabeth Fryer says

Great info for working and stay-at-home moms. I appreciated the info on the "cost of working", I never realized how much it cost me just to have a job, no wonder I never had any money back then. The recipes are pretty good too, the cinnamon rolls are to die for, except I added 1 cup Cool Whip to the frosting for a fluffier texture and creamy flavor. It definatly makes me realize that when I go back to work someday, I will need do a lot of meal planning and budgeting in order to save money so that I have money for the higher priorities on my list.

Crystal ☆ Lost in Storyland says

I'm not a mom, but there are some great budgeting tips in this book. They work whether you're married or single. I'm also looking forward to trying out some of the quick and easy recipes provided.

A good, quick read for fast information. Worth some rereads to reflect more deeply on the information provided (and to check on how you're doing after implementing the suggested practices).
