FREE

# Before You Buy It

The pressure never hits you at home. It hits you in the shop, at the counter, with the card already out. This is the card you carry so the decision happens before you are standing in front of it.

### 1. The 24-hour rule

If it is over $100, you do not buy it today. Write it here. Come back tomorrow.

### 2. Five questions

- [ ] Do I **need** this, or do I **want** it?
- [ ] Could I borrow it, fix it, or wait?
- [ ] What else could this money do? Name the bill it would cover.
- [ ] Does buying this break my rent, food or bills this week?
- [ ] Once I own it: can I afford to fix it if it breaks, and do I have the time to look after it?

### 3. If it is a car, or anything financed (AU)

- [ ] Run a $2 PPSR check first: stolen, written off, or money still owing?
- [ ] Private sales have no cooling-off. Once it is yours, it is yours.
- [ ] Negotiate the **total price**, never the weekly payment.
- [ ] Add it up before you decide: on-roads, rego, insurance, first service.
- [ ] Test the repayment at a higher interest rate. Could you still pay it?

> *Half the shelf is "how to budget". Almost none of it stands next to you at the moment you are about to spend.*

### Take the five questions with you

Cut out the card and keep it in your purse or wallet. The five questions, with you at the counter.

CUT OUT

**BEFORE YOU BUY IT**

1. Do I **need** this, or do I **want** it?
2. Could I borrow it, fix it, or wait?
3. What else could this money do? Name the bill it would cover.
4. Does buying this break my rent, food or bills this week?
5. Once I own it, can I afford to fix it if it breaks, and do I have the time to look after it?

Over $100? Wait a day.