

Summary

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→ Personal Budgeting and Scarcity:-

- Just as the economy faces constraints, individuals also face limits due to scarcity of resources and time.
- Most students operate on tight budgets and can only satisfy a fraction of their desires.
- Eg: A student receives a \$100 monthly allowance (with a room and board already covered).
 - Only two goods are considered: gas and DVDs
 - The simplification allows us to examine how choices are constrained by income.

→ Constructing the budget line

* Prices:

- Gas: \$2 per gallon
- DVDs: \$10 each

- * With \$100, possible consumption bundles include:
 - C_1 : 50 gallons of gas, 0 DVDs
 - C_2 : 0 gallons of gas, 10 DVDs
 - C_2, C_3, C_4 : Intermediate trade off

→ Shift in budget line:-

- Increase in income shift the line outward.
- Decrease in income or higher prices shift it inward.
- Lower prices also shift it outward, even if income stays the same.
- Inflation reduces consumer opportunity.

→ Opportunity Cost

- Defined as what must be given up to obtain something else.
- Eg: At current prices, $1 \text{ DVD} = 5 \text{ gallons of gas}$.
- Even if both prices rise, the relative tradeoff is same.
- Similarly, each gallon of gas cost $1/5$ of a DVD in terms of opportunity gas.