



Mortgage Closings: Understand Four Key Documents

When you are closing on a house purchase, mortgage experts advise you to scrutinize and understand four key documents:

The note: This contains important financial information, such as interest rate and payment schedule. If you have an adjustable rate mortgage, the note will spell out how your rate will adjust in the future.

The actual mortgage document. This contains clauses and conditions that—when signed—you agree to but likely never will review. Examples include clauses on hazardous waste, required occupancy of the property, and ways to communicate with the lender.

Closing Disclosure: This shows how much you're borrowing, how much the financing will cost over the life of the loan, what your payment schedule will be, what your interest rate will be, whether there are additional costs such as points and fees, and the settlement costs, such as origination fees and title insurance. Some—but not all—costs listed on this statement are negotiable.

Visit Hometown Credit Union today. Chances are we'll be able to make the dream of home ownership a reality. Our loan specialists are available to make sure you understand all the fine print.

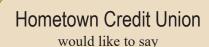
Hometown Visa Credit Cards

What a perfect time to stop in and inquire about all of our credit cards. We have three options, the Classic, the Visa Platinum, and the Visa Secured.

Find out which one fits your financial goals * and earn rewards on things you already buy.

Wishing you a safe and prosperous 2021 from your Hometown Credit Union.





thank YOU

for being a part of our family.
We are grateful for your

continued patronage. We wouldn't be here without

loyal members like YOU.



A New Years Resolution is something that goes in one year and out the other!

He believed he could, so he did and now he is in timeout.

I started thinking about the dangers of drinking on New Years Eve. After that I decided to stop thinking.

Dear God, my prayer for 2021 is to have a **fat** bank account and a **thin** body. Please don't mix these up like you did this year.

Take up last years resolution, reword it and yell "Plot Twist".

Going to a New Years Eve party without a tracking device is just asking for trouble.

My New Years resolution is to be more positive and less sarcastic. Like I won't screw that up right away.

Avoid Being Upside Down In Your Car Loan

A low or no-down payment, a longer term—loan, and a vehicle that rapidly decreases in value in the first two years can cause you to be "upside down" in your car loan. The term means you owe more for the car than it's worth. It's not unusual for a buyer to be upside down in a car loan a couple of years into a five or six—year loan.

Consumer experts recommend making a down payment of twenty percent or more and financing for no longer than four years to avoid being upside down. Unfortunately, not everyone can do this. Here are some alternatives:

- Don't finance a car for more months that you think you want to own it.
- Make the biggest down-payment you can.
- Choose a shorter-term loan if possible; and
- Buy a vehicle that will hold its value longer.

If you find that you are upside down in a loan, experts advise holding on to the car as long as you can—at least until the amount left on the loan matches the car's trade—in value. If you need to get rid of it, try selling it yourself or consider bundling the negative equity from the car with a loan on a new car. If possible, accelerate your loan payments to avoid being upside down in your new loan. Contact your Hometown Credit Union for more information.

Saltine Toffee

35 to 40 saltine crackers 2 sticks (1 cup butter) 1 cup light brown sugar 8 oz (1 3/4 cups) semi sweet chocolate chips

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line a large jelly-roll pan with aluminum foil, spray with non-stick spray and arrange saltines salt-side down in a single layer. In a medium saucepan, melt butter and brown sugar together and boil until it turns a caramel color, a few minutes. Remove from heat and pour over crackers, covering them even-



ly. Bake for 3 to 5 minutes, or until just bubbly, watching carefully. Remove from oven and pour chocolate chips over crackers. When the chips melt a bit, spread them over the crackers with a knife. Transfer pan to freezer for 15 to 20 minutes, or until completely cold. They will form one big sheet. Break up into pieces. Store in an airtight container.





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