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**Suncorp's top five tips to grow the nest egg at Easter**

As Queenslanders fill their shopping baskets with Easter eggs this month Suncorp has released its top five tips on how to grow a nest egg that will last beyond the holidays.

Suncorp Bank Executive Manager Tony Meredith said Easter provided the perfect opportunity to discuss self-discipline and savings.

"Just like resisting the temptation of eating too many Easter eggs, saving money requires some work but it doesn't have to be hard and the benefits are long lasting," Mr Meredith said.

"Only a small amount saved each week can over time become a mortgage downpayment or a ticket to a better retirement.

"Creating the financial cushion of a savings nest egg is one of the most important things you can do to improve your financial future."

Mr Meredith said there were five simple ways Queenslanders could grow their savings nest egg.

**1. On your mark, get set...GO**

The sooner you get started, the better. The earlier you begin using smart saving techniques the faster your nest egg will grow and the more financially stable you will become. Investing \$10 (which is equal to a box of chocolates) each week could net you about \$500 the next time the Easter bunny hops into town.

**2. Add it to the list**

Track exactly what you spend your money on by keeping a list of everything you purchase in the course of a week or month. This is a great way to make a budget that accurately reflects your lifestyle and helps reveal areas where you can cut back and save.

**3. Reward yourself**

No, this is not a licence to splurge! Contribute to your retirement plan at work and get the government reward for good behaviour. The government will reward your efforts by adding their own dollars if you add some of your (after-tax) money into super. You also receive tax benefits under salary sacrifice schemes.

**4. Postpone big holiday plans**

It may seem like a big ask but by postponing one holiday and investing the money in a high-interest account you can make a big difference to your nest egg quickly and have a little more to treat yourself with the following year.

**5. Make it automatic**

Create an automatic payment into a savings account to help you resist missing a payment here or there. Another option is a fixed-term deposit that locks away your savings for a set period of time. Accounts such as Suncorp's eOptions will reward your commitment with higher interest or reduced fees.

For more advice on boosting your bank balance in 2010 visit [www.suncorp.com.au](http://www.suncorp.com.au) for helpful tools like the Suncorp Budget Planning Calculator and Everyday Options account that allows customers to link up to three high interest savings accounts.

**Media Contact: Sequel Communications, Jen Barwick, 3251 8122 or 0434 313 064**