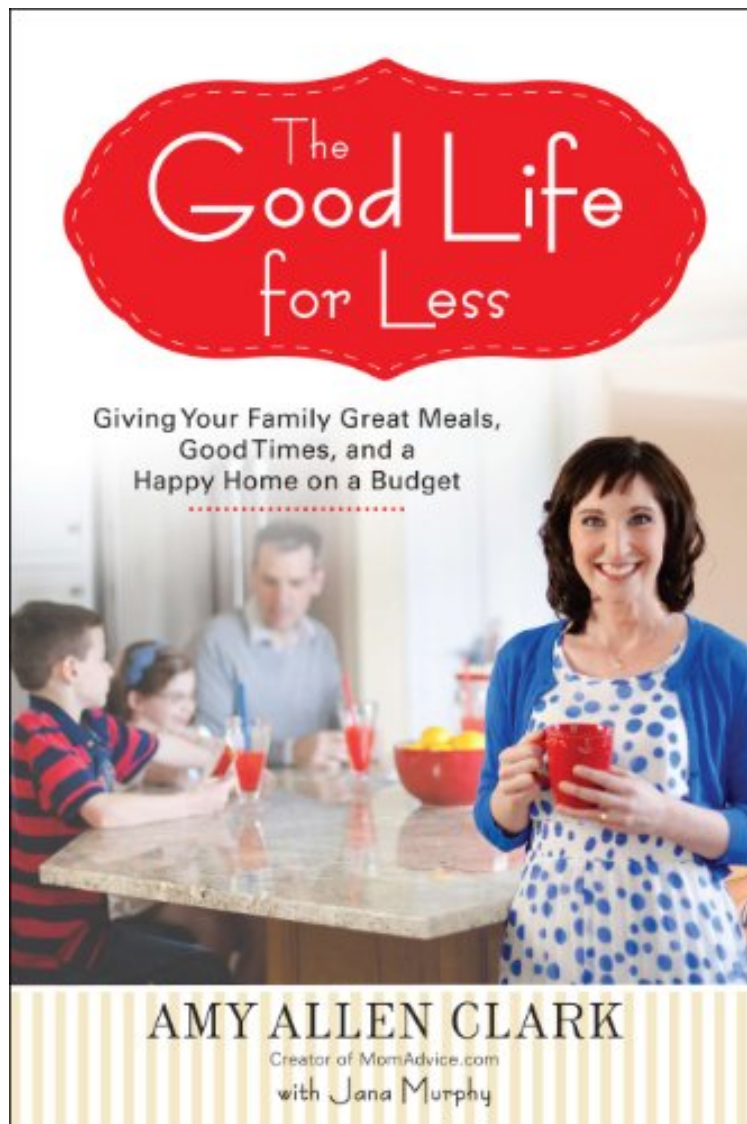


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The Good Life for Less: Giving Your Family Great Meals, Good Times, and a Happy Home on a Budget

Amy Allen Clark, Jana Murphy
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Amy Allen Clark, Jana Murphy : The Good Life for Less: Giving Your Family Great Meals, Good Times, and a Happy Home on a Budget before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Good Life for Less: Giving Your Family Great Meals, Good Times, and a Happy Home on a Budget:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Frugal CheckupBy SusieJaneHomemakerI have purchased many books on frugality in the past 20 years. My favorites will always be The Tightwad Gazette series. This book was a

good read. I have enjoyed several recipes out of it. I can't say that I really learned anything new but it was a nice refresher on being frugal. I try to give myself a frugality checkup every year by rereading some favorite books on the subject. I will be keeping this book for my frugality library. 9 of 10 people found the following review helpful.

Friendly, Frugal AND Fun! By SunSkiRead

Let me start by saying I was a bit hesitant to spend money on a book about saving money. Once I received the book I quickly realized how much money I would soon save by making this small investment. Starting off the new year by reading this book is a great way to get yourself and family on track for success. Amy outlines fun, thoughtful and healthy ways to get your mundane daily cleaning tasks accomplished, prepare meals for yourself and family and still celebrate holidays while creating new traditions. This is not a book about how to "live without," but instead about how to have it all maybe just in a roundabout way. She and her family live life to the fullest and have a lot of fun along the way!

I have been an avid reader of Amy's blog (momadvice.com) for years and I wondered if I would actually find any new information in the book. I did. A lot. Plus unlike a daily blog where I might read a five minute post on a single topic, I was able instead to sit and savor full chapters with Amy's wonderful ideas and stories of what has worked for her (or hasn't!) over the years. Some of the recipes in the book were ones I have seen (and made) from her website---however this was actually one of my favorite parts of this book. I bought "The Good Life for Less" thinking I would read it and then give it to my sister to read. After about two chapters and many pages flagged by me I got to the recipes. So many of her best (and my favorites now!) were there-- Pot Roast Italiano, Bow Ties with Sausage Tomatoes and Cream, Homemade Chai Mix, Rosemary Ranch Chicken Kabobs---I quickly realized this book will become a resource book for me that I will use for years to come. I have gone online so many times to look up these recipes or printed them and not put them somewhere where I could find them. Now I have them all in one place! And it looks like my sister will get her own copy as well. This would be an excellent book for a new college grad, newlywed or a new mom. Amy's personal stories of her own trials of going from a complete non-cook to a well-respected domestic blogger as well as her struggles and success of getting out of debt are a true inspiration. You relate to her as a friend. She isn't "preachy" in her advice or delivery---she is just a friend chatting over a cup of coffee. I walked away from this book WANTING to create a budget, set my meals for a month, spend less at the grocery store and eat better. I might even try and make some of my own cleaning products!

GREAT BOOK, GREAT ADVICE! Buy two or three copies today---you will want to share the ideas (but not YOUR book!) with a friend over coffee!!

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Lovely foundation for frugal living with heart

By Nancy Lary

This is absolutely a wonderful way to either introduce yourself to or remind yourself of great ways to live a good life while living frugally. Amy offers good advice from the heart. Amy lives this way and is such a wonderful example for her friends and readers when it comes to staying true to your beliefs and ideals. I've enjoyed reading her blog for years and now am so happy to have her words of advice encouragement at my fingertips in book form, not to mention the convenience of having these great recipes in a collection. Any recipe she has developed is a sure-thing with my family!

When Amy Clark and her husband found themselves in unexpected financial trouble right before the birth of their first child, they quickly learned the importance of smart budgeting and making a little money go a long way. In this book, Amy offers up a clever lifestyle plan that is long on creativity and short on cost to help you achieve a peaceful, thrifty home and a loving, happy family:

- Set a reasonable budget and stick to it
- Save half price or more on nearly everything
- Cook delicious, frugal meals for any size family, and save money by making your own easy salad dressing, barbecue sauce, and homemade mixes
- Manage an organized, clean house without spending valuable time and money
- Create traditions and family occasions kids will remember forever

without breaking the bank

You'll be inspired by a wealth of smart and creative ideas for families living on a budget and a guide for everyone who finds themselves challenged to juggle all the roles that come with parenting. Amy gives you the tools, the guidance, and the inspiration you need to run your own household with wisdom, wit, love, and style.

About the Author Amy Allen Clark is the creator of MomAdvice.com, an online community where mothers and homemakers can discuss the issues that are most important to them. She is also a member of the Walmart Moms network and a spokesperson for brands such as Kenmore, Cheer, Kellogg's, and Minute Maid, and has been named one of the Top 50 Power Moms in Nielsen's list and a Power Mom by Parents magazine. She lives with her husband and two children in Granger, Indiana.