



## 6. How You're Spending Money

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It's obviously not necessary for couples to disclose every penny they spend. But it is a good idea to [be open and honest about big purchases](#) and any money that you're saving. "In my experience, lying about finances, hiding money, or spending money without the other knowing is a secret that almost always destroys relationships," says Derek Bradford, founding partner of [Bradford & Gordon law firm](#). "When one partner is keeping secrets about money, they are not only betraying their partner's trust, but they are also exerting control over their partner." And that's bound to cause things to fall apart.