

Debt Snowball vs. Debt Avalanche Decision Checklist

Directions: Use this checklist to review the key considerations to assess whether you should choose the debt snowball or avalanche method as your debt payoff strategy. The total score will provide an indication for which method may be best suited for your needs and situation.

Question	Check for Debt Snowball Method (1pt for each checked)	Check for Avalanche Method (1pt for each checked)
I have a lot of different debt accounts of various amounts.	☐ Yes	☐ No
I have at least one large debt with a high interest rate (>15% APR)	☐ No	☐ Yes
Watching my debt accounts get closed will provide a major source of motivation for me to stick with my debt plan.	☐ Definitely	☐ Maybe
My debt is very substantial (ex. 100% of my yearly income or more)	☐ Yes	☐ No
I believe I will faithfully stick to my budget, including the money in my budget allocated for debt repayment.	☐ Definitely	☐ Maybe
I am confident that I would stop using and even cancel any credit cards once they are fully paid off.	☐ Definitely	☐ Maybe
I have plans to purchase a home very soon, and improving my credit score quickly is important to me.	☐ Yes	☐ No
Most of my debt accounts are held in credit card debt.	☐ Yes	☐ No
Totals (add up points in both columns)		