

Personal finance

- ROSIE What? That's way more than I thought I had in my bank account.
- AL GEBRA Not so fast Goldilocks.
- ROSIE Nice costume. What's your name stranger?
- AL GEBRA The name's Al. Private detective.
- I knew a bank job when I saw one. And something told me it wasn't just the three bears' porridge she'd been pilfering...
- ROSIE Wait; I think there's been a mistake. There's a whopping £4,017 (pounds) in my account, but I thought I'd saved £3,600.
- AL GEBRA Save it for the judge lady! I'd heard this butter-wouldn't melt baloney a thousand times...
- ROSIE It's true! I started a savings account back in January. My new job pays £24,000 a year gross - before tax, national insurance or money towards a pension.
- AL GEBRA It seemed Goldilocks here was raking in a cool 2 grand a month. Still, it oughta be enough to buy her a good lawyer...
- ROSIE But I haven't done anything wrong!
- I worked out I could save 15% of my gross pay this year, but 15% of £24,000 is £3,600 right, not £4,017? Each month I planned to make four payments of £75 - one for every week in the month. I just don't understand it.
- AL GEBRA She was guilty alright, but guilty of what? Being a bank robbing criminal mastermind or a 10-a-penny Jane-Doe-chucklehead?
- ROSIE Hey!
- AL GEBRA Either way she'd saved £3,900, not £3,600. At £117, the interest was right; 0.03 multiplied by £3,900 was £117...

Bitesize

- AL GEBRA She'd thought she had paid in 4 times a month, 4 multiplied by 12 is only 48. Wait. Everybody knows there's 52 weeks in a year!
- ROSIE Oops, I just assumed there were 4 weeks a month. So I've actually saved 52 times, once every week, £75 per week, which is £3,900, plus the interest.
- AL GEBRA This was a cold and calculated calendar calamity, and somebody was about to go down.
- ROSIE Too right, I'm going downtown tomorrow - I've got a whole £4,017 to spend in the sales.
- AL GEBRA Case closed.