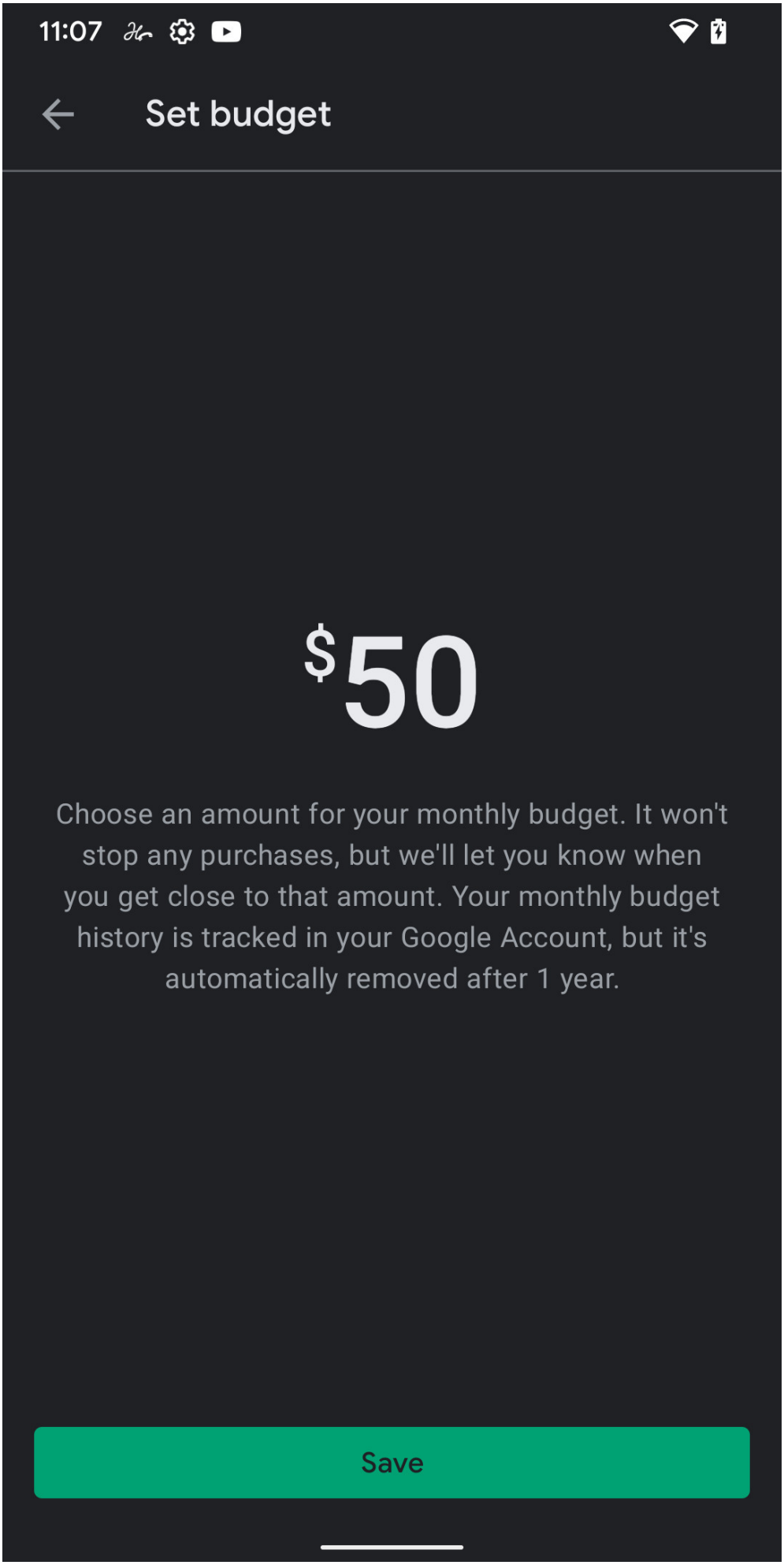
How to use Google’s budget feature on Android so you don’t overspend

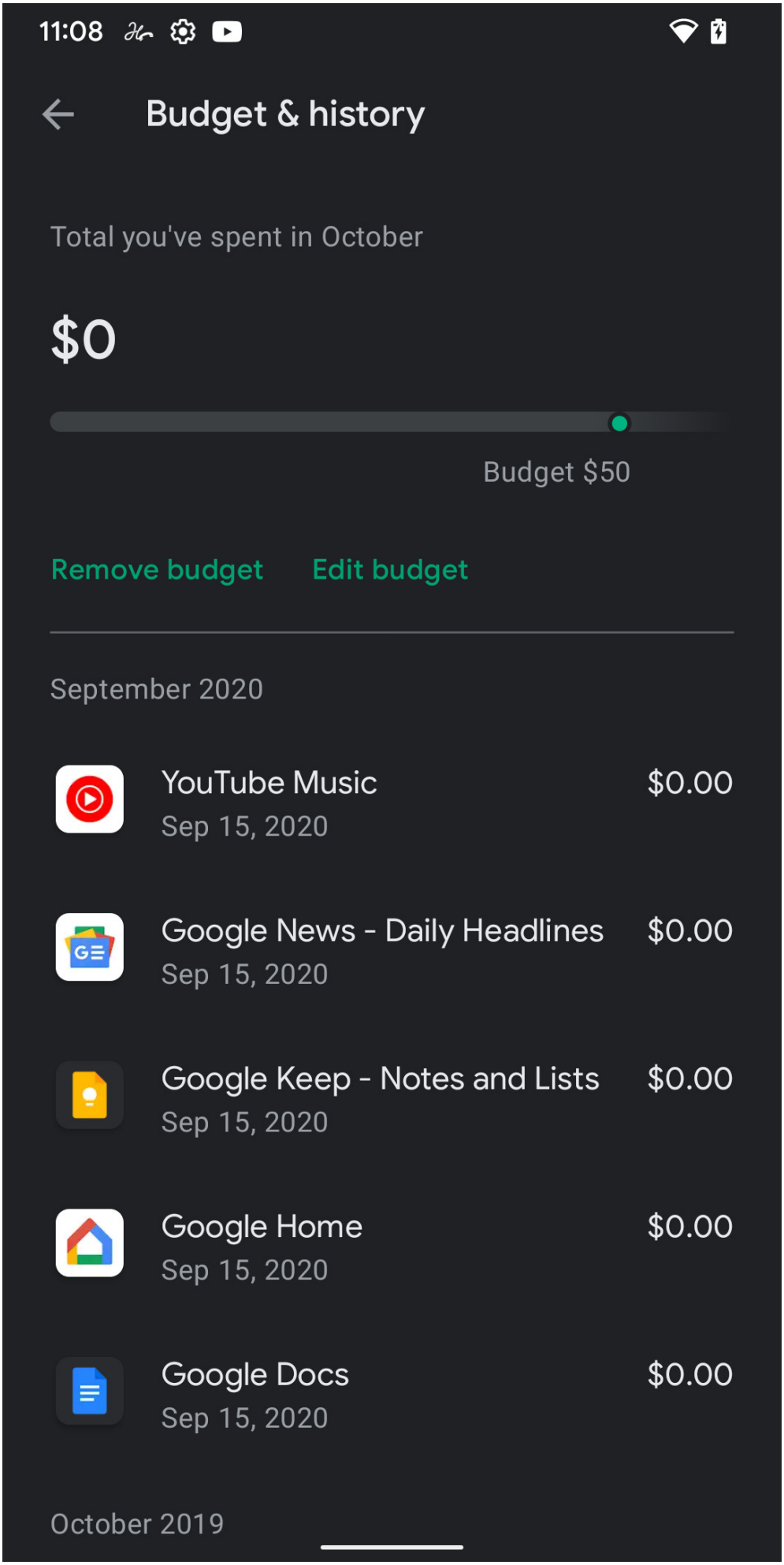
Google has provided a budgeting feature in its Play Store that allows Android users to establish a monthly maximum they want to spend on digital content. This applies to apps, games, movies, TV shows, music, ebooks, and so on. As you get close to reaching your budget limit, you’ll see an alert that you’re nearing it — or have gone over the amount you specified.

You access it like this:

- Open the Play Store on your Android device, tap on your personal icon on the upper right side, and select “Payments & subscriptions.”
- From there, select “Budget & history.”
- You’ll see the amount you spent during the current month. Choose the “Set budget” option and enter the amount you’re comfortable spending on your apps, music, movies, TV shows, and ebooks for a month. Then hit “Save.” Your budget can always be adjusted or removed altogether from this same screen.


11:07
Set budget
$50
Choose an amount for your monthly budget. It won't stop any purchases, but we'll let you know when you get close to that amount. Your monthly budget history is tracked in your Google Account, but it's automatically removed after 1 year.
Save

Choose an amount for your budget.


11:08
Budget & history
Total you've spent in October
$0
Budget $50
Remove budget
Edit budget
September 2020
YouTube Music
Sep 15, 2020
$0.00
Google News - Daily Headlines
Sep 15, 2020
$0.00
Google Keep - Notes and Lists
Sep 15, 2020
$0.00
Google Home
Sep 15, 2020
$0.00
Google Docs
Sep 15, 2020
$0.00
October 2019

You can remove or edit the budget anytime.
As Google notes, setting a budget won't actually do anything to prevent purchases or subscriptions on your Google Play account once you've exceeded it. This feature is meant to be an easy reference for tracking your spending that you can take advantage of; it doesn't implement hard restrictions like Google's Family Link parental controls can. One other thing to know is that you can only set budgets using the currency of the country where your Google Play profile is linked.

Update October 20th, 2020, 2:37PM ET: *This article was originally published on April 17th, 2019, and has been updated to reflect the fact that the feature is available to all.*

Update October 4th, 2021, 11:25AM ET: *Updated to reflect changes in the Android interface.*

https://www.theverge.com/21525368/google-budget-android-feature-how-to