

**Name:**

## **Compare Prices During the Great Depression to Prices Today**

**How much did toys and clothing cost during the Great Depression of the 1930s?  
What would they cost today?**

Look at the **Then and Now: Prices** table on the next page. In the left column is a list of women's clothing, men's clothing, games and toys and household goods. In the middle column, the price of each of these items is listed based on advertisements from 1932.

**Look through a current copy of your local newspaper to find out what it would cost to buy the same item today. Write that amount in the right column.** (If you cannot find it in a newspaper, use the internet to find the cost of the items.)

**Some of those 1930s prices look pretty low compared to today's costs, don't they?**

**Why?**

**Look at the Then and Now: Wages table.**

**Do people earn more or less now than they did in the 1930s?**

**How do the prices compare to the wages?**

**How many weeks would it take to buy each of the items on the table of prices?**

(If an item costs less than a week's wages, divide the week's wages by 40 to estimate the hourly wage and figure out how many hours it would take to earn the money to buy the item.)

**Use the Inflation Calculator at <http://www.westegg.com/inflation/> find out how much each item on the list would have cost in 1929 based on today's prices. Create a column on the right side of the table to show that information.**

**Lastly, to make a list of 10 common household items and jobs that did not exist in 1929.**