

English Vocabulary: Afford

When we want to say “ter condições financeiras” in Portuguese, we have 3 options in English:

1. **to have the means** (= ter meios) (*formal*)

- He **has the means** to buy a new car.
- He **doesn't have the means** to buy a new car.

2. **can afford** (= ter condições) (*informal*)

- He **can afford** a new car.
- He **is able to afford** a new car.
- He **can't afford** a new car.
- He **is unable to afford** a new car.
- He **could never afford** a new car.
- When he was younger he **could afford** a new car.
- When he is older he **will be able to afford** a new car.

3. **to bear the costs** (= arcar os custos) (*formal*)

- He **can bear the costs** of a new car.
- He **can't bear the costs** of a new car.

The expression “**to be affordable**” means “ser/estar acessível”.

- The government is building **affordable** housing units near the park.
- New cars are not **affordable** for many people.

The verb “to afford” also has other meanings. See here:

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/afford>