Get rich paying

BORROWERS who use extra cash to pay off their mortgages instead of stashing it in a savings account could find themselves £40,000 richer.

Overpay by £300 a month on a 25-year £100,000 mortgage at 3.3 pc — rather than paying this into a savings account paying 1.14 pc — and you would be £41,665 better off.

The figures, calculated by lender first direct, show total monthly payments of £789.96 would allow borrowers to repay their mortgage 12 years early, assuming the interest rate stayed at 3.3 pc. This would slash the overall cost of the loan and leave borrowers paying just £123,084 in total.

By contrast, if you paid only the minimum monthly £489.96 for 25 years, you would end up forking out a total of £146,988 — that's £23,904 more than you would have otherwise paid.