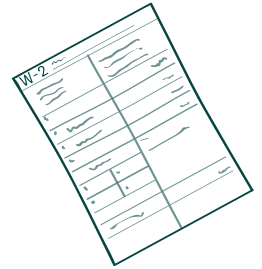




Skimm Money



theSkimm × H&R BLOCK



theSkimm's Guide to Checking off your Taxes

THE BASICS

PERSONAL INFO

- Your birthday, address, and Social Security number. Check this one off immediately. Feel good about yourself
- Bank account and routing numbers. Have these handy so you can have the gov directly refund you or take money out of your account
- A copy of last year's tax return

IF YOU'RE CLAIMING A DEPENDENT

- Birthday
- Social Security number

INFO ABOUT ALL YOUR INCOME

IF YOU'RE CLOCKING INTO THAT 9-5...

- W-2 – the one that shows your wages and how much was withheld for things like taxes. Expect your co to send it to you by the end of January

IF YOU'RE A FREELANCER, CONTRACT WORKER OR SELF-EMPLOYED...

- 1099-MISC – the one that shows how much you made
- 1040ES – tax payments you made to the IRS
- Receipts for any work-related expenses (think: gas, internet and phone bills)
- 1099-K – if you get paid through a third-party payment network (think: ridesharing, online sales business)

IF YOU'RE UNEMPLOYED...

- 1099-G, if you're getting compensation from a gov agency
- W-2, if you worked for a company for part of 2018

IF YOU MAKE MONEY OFF A RENTAL PROPERTY...

- Income and expense records
- 1040ES – tax payments you made to the IRS
- Standard info on the property, like how much it costs to rent and when you started renting it

IF YOU HAVE OTHER INCOME...

- 1099-INT if you earned money from interest
- 1099-DIV if you earned money from dividends
- Alimony records
- 1099-B if you sold investments
- Jury duty records (you civic hero, you)
- 1099-S if you made money off a property sale. Cha-ching

THE EXTRA STUFF

IF YOU'RE PAYING OFF STUDENT LOANS...

- 1098-E – to deduct your student loan interest. If you paid at least \$600 in interest last year, your loan servicer will get this to you (either online or by mail) by the end of January.

IF YOU HAVE A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA)...

- 1099-SA if you took money out of your HSA
- HSA contribution info, like monthly account statements

IF YOU HAVE AN IRA...

- Records of the contributions that you made
- 1099-R – to report how much you took out of your account

INFO ABOUT DEDUCTIONS (IF YOU'RE ITEMIZING YOUR TAXES)

IF YOU OWN A HOME...

- Real estate and personal property tax records
- 1098 – to report your mortgage interest. If you paid at least \$600 in interest last year, your loan servicer will get this to you (either online or by mail) by the end of January.

IF YOU HAVE KIDS...

- Records of daycare center fees
- If you have a babysitter, know what you paid them over the past year
- 1098-T – for any college education expenses you paid for your kid(s), like tuition or some course materials. The school will send out this form or have it online by the end of January.

IF YOU'VE DONATED TO CHARITY...

- Records of cash donations
- Records of estimated value of other donations (like clothes)
- Any receipts or other records you received from charities

IF YOU HAVE HEALTH INSURANCE...

- 1095-A if it's through the Obamacare Marketplace or a state-based Marketplace
- 1095-B if it's through a gov-sponsored program (like Medicare or CHIP) or if you work somewhere that's on the smaller side (less than 50 full-time employees)
- 1095-C form if you work for a larger company and get insurance through it

