

Year-End Tax Readiness Checklist

Organize the records your tax professional needs and resolve bookkeeping questions before filing season becomes urgent.

Books and reconciliations

- Complete transaction entry through December 31 and reconcile every bank and credit-card account. Date: _____
- Reconcile loans, payment processors, payroll liabilities, and sales-tax accounts. Date: _____
- Review uncategorized, duplicate, personal, and unusually large transactions. Date: _____
- Confirm beginning balances agree with the prior year's final tax return or adjusting entries. Date: _____

Income and customer activity

- Confirm all sales channels, deposits, merchant accounts, cash payments, and other income are recorded. Date: _____
- Review open customer invoices and identify uncollectible balances for your tax professional. Date: _____
- Collect Forms 1099-K and compare them with payment-processor records; investigate differences rather than forcing totals to match. Date: _____
- Document refunds, chargebacks, discounts, and customer credits. Date: _____

Expenses, assets, and contractors

- Collect receipts and support for major purchases, travel, meals, vehicle use, and home-office costs. Date: _____
- Create a list of equipment, vehicles, software, and other assets purchased or disposed of during the year. Date: _____
- Verify contractor names, addresses, tax IDs, and annual payments before 1099 deadlines. Date: _____
- Review owner contributions, draws, distributions, and reimbursements for correct classification. Date: _____

Tax professional handoff

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| ■ Provide the profit-and-loss statement, balance sheet, general ledger, bank statements, and loan statements. | Date: _____ |
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| ■ Provide payroll reports, sales-tax filings, estimated-tax payment details, and prior-year carryforward information. | Date: _____ |
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| ■ Prepare a written list of unusual transactions, business changes, new states served, and questions requiring judgment. | Date: _____ |
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| ■ Confirm delivery method, due dates, missing-item process, and who will answer follow-up questions. | Date: _____ |
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Reminder: This checklist is educational and does not replace advice from a qualified tax professional.