



#1 Free Legal Website

FindLaw.com is the leading and largest online resource for legal information. For basic legal issues to more complex ones, you'll find thousands of helpful articles, a legal community to get answers to your specific questions, an attorney directory, blogs, news, DIY forms, and much more.

Preparing Your Tax Return

This article (including the links below) explains how to get ready to fill in your tax return and when to report your income and expenses. It also explains how to complete certain sections of the form. In most cases, based on what you filed last year, the IRS will mail you Form 1040, Form 1040A, or Form 1040EZ with related instructions. Before you fill in the form, look at the form instructions to see if you need, or would benefit from filing, a different form this year. Also see if you need any additional forms or schedules.

Six Steps for Preparing Your Return

1. Get your records together for income and expenses.
2. Get the forms, schedules, and publications you need.
3. Fill in your return.
4. Check your return to make sure it is correct.
5. Sign and date your return.
6. Attach all required forms and schedules.

Click on the links below (from the IRS) for in-depth information on preparing and filing your return

- [Tax Tips for 2008](#)
- [When Do I Report My Income and Expenses?](#)
- [Entering Your Social Security Number](#)
- [Contributions to the Presidential Election Campaign Fund](#)
- [Computations and Entering Numbers on Your Return](#)
- [Attachments to Your Return \(Schedules and Forms\)](#)
- [Signing Your Return](#)
- [Paid Preparers](#)
- [Getting a Refund](#)
- [If You Owe](#)

FINDLAW.COM EMPOWERS PEOPLE WITH TRUSTED, TIMELY AND INTELLIGENT LEGAL INFORMATION

BLOGS – FindLaw Blogs present timely news that has real-life implications, deliver important information and discuss law-related entertainment.

FINDLAW ANSWERS – A vibrant, interactive online community where everyday people can ask legal questions and get real-time answers from legal professionals and others with similar experiences.

NEWS & NEWSLETTERS – Updated throughout the day and night and covering a wide range of legal topics, FindLaw.com's News page presents current legal news, keeping people informed and educated.

FIND A LAWYER – An easy-to-search database of more than one million lawyers and law firms. It provides detailed information, enabling people to contact a qualified lawyer when they are ready.



DO-IT-YOURSELF FORMS & CONTRACTS – FindLaw.com provides accurate legal documents for common legal matters. Choose from a library of easy-to-use, low-cost, accurate legal forms for everyday legal issues.

FINDLAW VIDEO – On FindLaw.com, you'll find an online directory of more than 1,500 short videos dedicated exclusively to legal topics and attorney and law firm profiles.

Connect With Us

FindLaw.com has an entire social media team dedicated to providing our users with as many options as possible to join, participate in, and learn from the FindLaw community. Some of the social key channels are the following:



FindLaw for Consumers on Facebook

Making the law easy to access with interactive legal updates aimed at starting conversations, informing followers of their legal rights and providing a forum for questions and resources



@FindLawConsumer on Twitter

Tweeting interesting, entertaining and informative legal news everyday

HAVE A LEGAL QUESTION?
NEED TO FIND AN AFFORDABLE,
QUALIFIED ATTORNEY?

Protect yourself, your family or
your business with a legal plan
or form from LegalStreet

www.LEGALSTREET.com

Copyright © 2013 FindLaw, a Thomson Reuters business. All rights reserved. The information contained in this article is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. The use and distribution of this article is subject to the Creative Commons BY-NC-ND license, which can be viewed at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>. You must attribute the article by providing the title of the article, FindLaw copyright notice and link to the original work. You may not use the article for commercial purposes and you may not alter or transform this article in any way.

FindLaw
A Thomson Reuters Business