## Federal Tax Refund Estimator

We have designed this form to assist you in future tax planning. The first step is to have your last year's tax return handy, and the most current pay stubs from your employer(s). The second step is to determine your tax refund goals- this will be subjective, and vary among taxpayers. For some, they want a large refund to pay for a vacation. Others don't mind owing, but only a little. The following steps will take you through the calculations to determine if any adjustments might be needed to your Federal withholdings- we have also included an example.

1. 2009 Gross Income
Found on Line 38 on Form 1040, Line 22 on Form 1040A
or Line 4 on Form 1040EZ
2. 2009 Tax Liability 2900
Found on Line 60 on Form 1040, Line 28 on Form 1040A or Line 11 on Form 1040EZ
3. Effective Tax Rate (divide line 2 by line 1) 6.4\%

This figure might vary from the one computed on your tax return because of tax credits such as the Making Work Pay Program
4. Buffer (add $0.5 \%$ to line 3 )
6.9\%
5. 2010 Expected Gross Income 47000
6. Tax Rate (from line 4)
7. 2010 Expected Tax (multiply line 5 by line 4)
8. Refund Goal
9. Amount to Withhold (add line 8 to line 7)
10. YTD Federal Tax Withholdings (found on most recent pay stub)
11. YTD Number of Paychecks Rec'd
12. Average Per Paycheck (divide line 10 by line 11)
13. Remaining Amount to Withhold (subtract line 10 from line 9)
14. Remaining Number of Paychecks
15. Average Per Paycheck (divide line 13 by line 14)
16. Additional Amount Per Paycheck (subtract line 12 from line 15)

In the previous example, you would need to withhold an additional \$47 per paycheck to reach your goal. There are two ways to increase your withholdings- first, you can change your exemptions (i.e., from 3 to 4 ). Or, you can request an additional amount to be withheld from your paycheck.

Our suggestion is to leave your Federal exemptions as is, and request an additional amount to be withheld by using your employer's W-4 form. A generic W-4 form for 2010 has been included on the next page. Or you can please visit our site and click on the Downloads link to obtain a fillable PDF W-4. Some employers, such as SkyWest Airlines, allows W-4 changes to be completed online- Go to My Benefits > My Records and click on W-4.

However, this will only affect your Federal tax refund. And since state income tax tables vary widely, it is difficult to make a blanket recommendation for your state withholdings. If you are concerned about your state tax liability, please contact us for further discussion and suggestions.

Also, making these adjustments assumes that your tax situation has not drastically changed (selling a house, getting married, etc.) from the previous year. If this applies to you or if you need further assistance please contact us.

Finally, If you would like us to perform this calculation, please fax your latest paystub along with your refund goals (you can simply jot a dollar amount on your paystub) to 866-875-5673.

Thank you in advance, and we'll talk to you soon!

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## Form W-4 (2010)

Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct federal income tax from your pay. Consider completing a new Form W-4 each year and when your personal or financial situation changes.
Exemption from withholding. If you are exempt, complete only lines 1,2,3,4, and 7 and sign the form to validate it. Your exemption for 2010 expires February 16, 2011. See Pub. 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax. Note. You cannot claim exemption from withholding if (a) your income exceeds \$950 and includes more than $\$ 300$ of unearned income (for example, interest and dividends) and (b) another person can claim you as a dependent on his or her tax return.
Basic instructions. If you are not exempt, complete the Personal Allowances Worksheet below. The worksheets on page 2 further adjust your withholding allowances based on itemized deductions, certain credits, adjustments to income, or two-earners/multiple jobs situations.

Complete all worksheets that apply. However, you may claim fewer (or zero) allowances. For regular wages, withholding must be based on allowances you claimed and may not be a flat amount or percentage of wages.
Head of household. Generally, you may claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmarried and pay more than $50 \%$ of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals. See Pub. 501, Exemptions, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information, for information.
Tax credits. You can take projected tax credits into account in figuring your allowable number of withholding allowances. Credits for child or dependent care expenses and the child tax credit may be claimed using the Personal Allowances Worksheet below. See Pub. 919, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding, for information on converting your other credits into withholding allowances. Nonwage income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or
dividends, consider making estimated tax
payments using Form 1040-ES, Estimated Tax for Individuals. Otherwise, you may owe additional tax. If you have pension or annuity income, see Pub. 919 to find out if you should adjust your withholding on Form W-4 or W-4P.
Two earners or multiple jobs. If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using worksheets from only one Form W-4. Your withholding usually will be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the Form W-4 for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed on the others. See Pub. 919 for details.
Nonresident alien. If you are a nonresident alien, see Notice 1392, Supplemental Form W-4 Instructions for Nonresident Aliens, before completing this form.
Check your withholding. After your Form W-4 takes effect, use Pub. 919 to see how the amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tax for 2010. See Pub. 919, especially if your earnings exceed $\$ 130,000$ (Single) or \$180,000 (Married).

A Enter " 1 " for yourself if no one else can claim you as a dependent.
A

B

- You are single and have only one job; or
- You are married, have only one job, and your spouse does not work; or
- Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$1,500 or less.

C Enter "1" for your spouse. But, you may choose to enter "-0-" if you are married and have either a working spouse or more than one job. (Entering "-0-" may help you avoid having too little tax withheld.)
D Enter number of dependents (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return
E Enter "1" if you will file as head of household on your tax return (see conditions under Head of household above) .
F Enter "1" if you have at least $\$ 1,800$ of child or dependent care expenses for which you plan to claim a credit . . F
(Note. Do not include child support payments. See Pub. 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for details.)
G Child Tax Credit (including additional child tax credit). See Pub. 972, Child Tax Credit, for more information.

- If your total income will be less than $\$ 61,000$ ( $\$ 90,000$ if married), enter " 2 " for each eligible child; then less " 1 " if you have three or more eligible children.
- If your total income will be between $\$ 61,000$ and $\$ 84,000$ ( $\$ 90,000$ and $\$ 119,000$ if married), enter " 1 " for each eligible child plus " 1 " additional if you have six or more eligible children.
H Add lines A through $G$ and enter total here. (Note. This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return.) $\mathbf{H}$

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G
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For accuracy, ( - If you plan to itemize or claim adjustments to income and want to reduce your withholding, see the Deductions complete all worksheets that apply.
and Adjustments Worksheet on page 2.

- If you have more than one job or are married and you and your spouse both work and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed $\$ 18,000$ ( $\$ 32,000$ if married), see the Two-Earners/Multiple Jobs Worksheet on page 2 to avoid having too little tax withheld.
- If neither of the above situations applies, stop here and enter the number from line H on line 5 of Form $\mathrm{W}-4$ below.

Cut here and give Form W-4 to your employer. Keep the top part for your records.

## Fom W-4

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

## Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate

- Whether you are entitled to claim a certain number of allowances or exemption from withholding is subject to review by the IRS. Your employer may be required to send a copy of this form to the IRS.


Note. Use this worksheet only if you plan to itemize deductions or claim certain credits or adjustments to income.

1 Enter an estimate of your 2010 itemized deductions. These include qualifying home mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, medical expenses in excess of $7.5 \%$ of your income, and miscellaneous deductions

1 \$
2 Enter: $\left\{\begin{array}{l}\$ 11,400 \text { if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) } \\ \$ 8,400 \text { if head of household } \\ \$ 5,700 \text { if single or married filing separately }\end{array}\right\}$
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1. If zero or less, enter "-0-"
4 Enter an estimate of your 2010 adjustments to income and any additional standard deduction. (Pub. 919) .
5 Add lines 3 and 4 and enter the total. (Include any amount for credits from Worksheet 6 in Pub. 919.)
6 Enter an estimate of your 2010 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest)
7 Subtract line 6 from line 5. If zero or less, enter "-0-"
2 \$

8 Divide the amount on line 7 by \$3,650 and enter the result here. Drop any fraction
9 Enter the number from the Personal Allowances Worksheet, line H, page 1
10 Add lines 8 and 9 and enter the total here. If you plan to use the Two-Earners/Multiple Jobs Worksheet, also enter this total on line 1 below. Otherwise, stop here and enter this total on Form W-4, line 5, page 1

10

## Two-Earners/Multiple Jobs Worksheet (See Two earners or multiple jobs on page 1.)

Note. Use this worksheet only if the instructions under line H on page 1 direct you here.
1 Enter the number from line H, page 1 (or from line 10 above if you used the Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet)
1
2 Find the number in Table 1 below that applies to the LOWEST paying job and enter it here. However, if you are married filing jointly and wages from the highest paying job are $\$ 65,000$ or less, do not enter more than "3."

2
3 If line 1 is more than or equal to line 2, subtract line 2 from line 1. Enter the result here (if zero, enter
"-0-") and on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. Do not use the rest of this worksheet
3
Note. If line 1 is less than line 2 , enter " -0 -" on Form $W-4$, line 5 , page 1 . Complete lines $4-9$ below to figure the additional withholding amount necessary to avoid a year-end tax bill.
4 Enter the number from line 2 of this worksheet . . . . . . . . . 4
5 Enter the number from line 1 of this worksheet . . . . . . . . . 5
6 Subtract line 5 from line 4
5

7 Find the amount in Table 2 below that applies to the HIGHEST paying job and enter it here
8 Multiply line 7 by line 6 and enter the result here. This is the additional annual withholding needed
7

9 Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods remaining in 2010. For example, divide by 26 if you are paid every two weeks and you complete this form in December 2009. Enter the result here and on Form W-4, line 6 , page 1 . This is the additional amount to be withheld from each paycheck $\qquad$ 9 \$

| Table 1 |  |  |  | Table 2 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Married Filing Jointly |  | All Others |  | Married Filing Jointly |  | All Others |  |
| If wages from LOWEST paying job are- | Enter on line 2 above | If wages from LOWEST paying job are- | Enter on line 2 above | If wages from HIGHEST paying job are- | Enter on line 7 above | If wages from HIGHEST paying job are- | Enter on line 7 above |
| \$0-87,000 - | 0 | \$0-\$6,000- | 0 | \$0-\$65,000 | \$550 | \$0-\$35,000 | \$550 |
| 7,001 - 10,000 - | 1 | 6,001-12,000 - | 1 | 65,001-120,000 | 910 | 35,001 - 90,000 | 910 |
| 10,001 - 16,000 - | 2 | 12,001-19,000 - | 2 | 120,001-185,000 | 1,020 | 90,001-165,000 | 1,020 |
| 16,001-22,000 - | 3 | 19,001-26,000 - | 3 | 185,001-330,000 | 1,200 | 165,001-370,000 | 1,200 |
| 22,001-27,000 - | 4 | 26,001-35,000 - | 4 | 330,001 and over | 1,280 | 370,001 and over | 1,280 |
| 27,001 - 35,000 - | 5 | 35,001-50,000- | 5 |  |  |  |  |
| 35,001 - 44,000 - | 6 | 50,001-65,000- | 6 |  |  |  |  |
| 44,001 - 50,000 - | 7 | 65,001 - 80,000 - | 7 |  |  |  |  |
| 50,001 - 55,000 - | 8 | 80,001 - 90,000 - | 8 |  |  |  |  |
| 55,001-65,000 - | 9 | 90,001-120,000 - | 9 |  |  |  |  |
| 65,001 - 72,000 - | 10 | 120,001 and over | 10 |  |  |  |  |
| 72,001 - 85,000 - | 11 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 85,001 -105,000 - | 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 105,001 -115,000 - | 13 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 115,001-130,000 - | 14 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 130,001 - and over | 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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The average time and expenses required to complete and file this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. For estimated averages, see the instructions for your income tax return.
If you have suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. See the instructions for your income tax return.

