

# HOW TO AVOID AN IRS TAX AUDIT?

Nobody likes to see the tax man knocking on their door, so here are some ways to reduce your chances of an IRS audit.

1. Make sure all the math calculations on your return are correct.
2. Compare your deductions to averages for others in your income bracket. If some of the items you claim significantly exceed the average, attach an explanation or copies of documents to support them.
3. If you file Schedule C (for self-employed), your chances of being audited rise sharply.
4. Taking a home-office deduction will increase your chances of an audit.
5. Be prepared to substantiate your return with complete records.
6. If you can't file your taxes by the filing deadline, be sure to file for an extension.
7. If you report income differently than it was reported to you on a form 1099, attach an explanation.
8. Be sure to sign your return.
9. Be pro-active. If you have a large deduction such as medical expenses, attach copies of the bills to your return.

#### Tips:

1. Most audits are generated randomly, so if you do get an audit notice, don't panic.
2. Keep your records organized during the year instead of waiting until it's time to file your return.

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**Correct  
calculation**



**Attach  
copies of  
document**



**Sign your  
return**