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Almost every form and publication also has its own page on IRS.gov. For example, the Form 1040 page is at [IRS.gov/Form1040](https://www.irs.gov/Form1040); the Publication 17 page is at [IRS.gov/Pub17](https://www.irs.gov/Pub17); the Form W-4 page is at [IRS.gov/W4](https://www.irs.gov/W4); and the Schedule A (Form 1040) page is at [IRS.gov/ScheduleA](https://www.irs.gov/ScheduleA). If typing in a link above instead of clicking on it, be sure to type the link into the address bar of your browser, not in a Search box. Note that these are friendly shortcut links that will automatically go to the actual link for the page.

If you wish, you can submit comments about draft or final forms, instructions, or publications at [IRS.gov/FormsComments](https://www.irs.gov/FormsComments). We cannot respond to all comments due to the high volume we receive. Please note that we may not be able to consider many suggestions until the subsequent revision of the product.

# Form W-4 (2018)

**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 2018 expires February 15, 2019. See Pub. 505, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

**Note:** If another person can claim you as a dependent on his or her tax return, you can't claim exemption from withholding if your total income exceeds \$X,XXX and includes more than \$XXX of unearned income (for example, interest and dividends).

**Exceptions.** An employee may be able to claim exemption from withholding even if the employee is a dependent, if the employee:

- Is age 65 or older,
- Is blind, or
- Will claim adjustments to income; tax credits; or itemized deductions, on his or her tax return.

The exceptions don't apply to supplemental wages greater than \$1,000,000.

**Basic instructions.** If you aren't 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 can 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. 505 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. 505 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. 505 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. 505 to see how the amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tax for 2018. See Pub. 505, especially if your earnings exceed \$XX,XXX (Single) or \$XXX,XXX (Married).

**Future developments.** Information about any future developments affecting Form W-4 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) will be posted at [www.irs.gov/FormW4](http://www.irs.gov/FormW4).

## Personal Allowances Worksheet (Keep for your records.)

<b>A</b>	Enter "1" for <b>yourself</b> if no one else can claim you as a dependent . . . . .	<b>A</b> _____
<b>B</b>	Enter "1" if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You're single and have only one job; or</li> <li>• You're married, have only one job, and your spouse doesn't work; or</li> <li>• Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$X,XXX or less. )</li> </ul>	<b>B</b> _____
<b>C</b>	Enter "1" for your <b>spouse</b> . 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.) . . . . .	<b>C</b> _____
<b>D</b>	Enter number of <b>dependents</b> (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return . . . . .	<b>D</b> _____
<b>E</b>	Enter "1" if you will file as <b>head of household</b> on your tax return (see conditions under <b>Head of household</b> above) . . . . .	<b>E</b> _____
<b>F</b>	Enter "1" if you have at least \$X,XXX of <b>child or dependent care expenses</b> for which you plan to claim a credit . . . . . ( <b>Note:</b> Do <b>not</b> include child support payments. See Pub. 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for details.)	<b>F</b> _____
<b>G</b>	<b>Child Tax Credit</b> (including additional child tax credit). See Pub. 972, Child Tax Credit, for more information. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If your total income will be less than \$XX,XXX (\$XXX,XXX if married), enter "2" for each eligible child; then <b>less</b> "1" if you have two to four eligible children or <b>less</b> "2" if you have five or more eligible children.</li> <li>• If your total income will be between \$XX,XXX and \$XX,XXX (\$XXX,XXX and \$XXX,XXX if married), enter "1" for each eligible child</li> </ul>	<b>G</b> _____
<b>H</b>	Add lines A through G and enter total here. ( <b>Note:</b> This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return.) ▶	<b>H</b> _____

For accuracy, **complete all worksheets that apply.**

- If you plan to **itemize** or **claim adjustments to income** and want to reduce your withholding, see the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet** on page 2.
- If you are **single and have more than one job** or are **married and you and your spouse both work** and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$XX,XXX (\$XX,XXX 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 W-4 below.

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

Form <b>W-4</b> Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">▶ <b>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.</b></p>	OMB No. 1545-0074  <h1 style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">2018</h1>
1 Your first name and middle initial _____ Last name _____		2 Your social security number _____
Home address (number and street or rural route) _____		3 <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Married, but withhold at higher Single rate. <b>Note:</b> If married, but legally separated, or spouse is a nonresident alien, check the "Single" box.
City or town, state, and ZIP code _____		4 If your last name differs from that shown on your social security card, check here. You must call 1-800-772-1213 for a replacement card. ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>
5 Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line H above or from the applicable worksheet on page 2) _____		5 _____
6 Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck _____		6 \$ _____
7 I claim exemption from withholding for 2018, and I certify that I meet <b>both</b> of the following conditions for exemption. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last year I had a right to a refund of <b>all</b> federal income tax withheld because I had <b>no</b> tax liability, <b>and</b></li> <li>• This year I expect a refund of <b>all</b> federal income tax withheld because I expect to have <b>no</b> tax liability.</li> </ul> If you meet both conditions, write "Exempt" here . . . . . ▶		7 _____
Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this certificate and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.		
Employee's signature (This form is not valid unless you sign it.) ▶		Date ▶ _____
8 Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete boxes 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS.) _____		9 Office code (optional) _____
		10 Employer identification number (EIN) _____

### Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet

**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 2018 itemized deductions. These include qualifying home mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, medical expenses in excess of 10% of your income, and miscellaneous deductions. For 2018, you may have to reduce your itemized deductions if your income is over \$XXX,XXX and you're married filing jointly or you're a qualifying widow(er); \$XXX,XXX if you're head of household; \$XXX,XXX if you're single, not head of household and not a qualifying widow(er); or \$XXX,XXX if you're married filing separately. See Pub. 505 for details . . . **1** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2** Enter:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \$XX,XXX \text{ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er)} \\ \$X,XXX \text{ if head of household} \\ \$X,XXX \text{ if single or married filing separately} \end{array} \right\}$  . . . **2** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3** **Subtract** line 2 from line 1. If zero or less, enter "-0-" . . . **3** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 4** Enter an estimate of your 2018 adjustments to income and any additional standard deduction (see Pub. 505) . . . **4** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 5** **Add** lines 3 and 4 and enter the total. (Include any amount for credits from the *Converting Credits to Withholding Allowances for 2018 Form W-4* worksheet in Pub. 505.) . . . **5** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 6** Enter an estimate of your 2018 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest) . . . **6** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 7** **Subtract** line 6 from line 5. If zero or less, enter "-0-" . . . **7** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 8** **Divide** the amount on line 7 by \$X,XXX and enter the result here. Drop any fraction . . . **8** \_\_\_\_\_
- 9** Enter the number from the **Personal Allowances Worksheet**, line H, page 1 . . . **9** \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 \$XX,XXX 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 through 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 . . . **6** \_\_\_\_\_
- 7** Find the amount in **Table 2** below that applies to the **HIGHEST** paying job and enter it here . . . **7** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 8** **Multiply** line 7 by line 6 and enter the result here. This is the additional annual withholding needed . . . **8** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 9** Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods remaining in 2018. For example, divide by 25 if you are paid every two weeks and you complete this form on a date in January when there are 25 pay periods remaining in 2018. Enter the result here and on Form W-4, line 6, page 1. This is the additional amount to be withheld from each paycheck . . . **9** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Table 1**

**Table 2**

Married Filing Jointly		All Others		Married Filing Jointly		All Others	
If wages from <b>LOWEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from <b>LOWEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above	If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above
\$X - \$X,XXX	0	\$X - \$X,XXX	0	\$X - \$XX,XXX	\$XXX	\$X - \$XX,XXX	\$XXX
X,XXX - XX,XXX	1	X,XXX - XX,XXX	1	XX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	X,XXX
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	2	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	2	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX	XX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	3	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	3	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	4	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	4	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	X,XXX	XXX,XXX and over	X,XXX
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	5	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	5	XXX,XXX and over	X,XXX		
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	6	XX,XXX - XX,XXX	6				
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	7	XX,XXX - XXX,XXX	7				
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	8	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	8				
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	9	XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	9				
XX,XXX - XX,XXX	10	XXX,XXX and over	10				
XX,XXX - XXX,XXX	11						
XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	12						
XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	13						
XXX,XXX - XXX,XXX	14						
XXX,XXX and over	15						

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You are not required to provide the information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. Generally, tax returns and return information are confidential, as required by Code section 6103.

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.