

Form W-4 (1997)

Want More Money In Your Paycheck?

If you expect to be able to take the earned income credit for 1997 and a child lives with you, you may be able to have part of the credit added to your take-home pay. For details, get Form W-5 from your employer.

Purpose. Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct amount of Federal income tax from your pay. Form W-4 may be completed electronically, if your employer has an electronic system. Because your tax situation may change, you may want to refigure your withholding each year.

Exemption From Withholding. Read line 7 of the certificate below to see if you can claim exempt status. *If exempt, only complete lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, and sign the form to validate it.* No Federal income tax will be withheld from your pay. Your exemption expires February 17, 1998.

Note: You cannot claim exemption from withholding if (1) your income exceeds \$650 and includes unearned income (e.g., interest and dividends) and (2) another person can claim you as a dependent on their tax return.

Basic Instructions. If you are not exempt, complete the Personal Allowances Worksheet. Additional worksheets are on page 2 so you can adjust your withholding allowances based on itemized deductions, adjustments to income, or two-earner/two-job situations. Complete all worksheets that apply to your situation. The worksheets will help you figure the number of withholding allowances you are entitled to claim. However, you may claim fewer allowances than this.

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.

Nonwage Income. If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, you should consider making

estimated tax payments using Form 1040-ES. Otherwise, you may find that you owe additional tax at the end of the year.

Two Earners/Two 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 W-4. This total should be divided among all jobs. Your withholding will usually be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the W-4 filed for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed for the others.

Check Your Withholding. After your W-4 takes effect, use **Pub. 919, Is My Withholding Correct for 1997?**, to see how the dollar amount you are having withheld compares to your estimated total annual tax. Get Pub. 919 especially if you used the Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet and your earnings exceed \$150,000 (Single) or \$200,000 (Married). To order Pub. 919, call 1-800-829-3676. Check your telephone directory for the IRS assistance number for further help.

Sign This Form. Form W-4 is not considered valid unless you sign it.

Personal Allowances Worksheet

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

B Enter "1" if: } } **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 \$1,000 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 (this may help you avoid having too little tax withheld) **C** _____

D Enter number of **dependents** (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return **D** _____

E Enter "1" if you will file as **head of household** on your tax return (see conditions under **Head of Household** above) **E** _____

F Enter "1" if you have at least \$1,500 of **child or dependent care expenses** for which you plan to claim a credit **F** _____

G Add lines A through F and enter total here. **Note:** This amount may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your return ▶ **G** _____

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** and your combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$32,000 OR if you are **married** and have a **working spouse or more than one job**, and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$55,000, see the Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet on page 2 if you want to avoid having too little tax withheld.
- If **neither** of the above situations applies, **stop here** and enter the number from line G on line 5 of Form W-4 below.

----- Cut here and give the certificate to your employer. Keep the top portion for your records. -----

Form W-4 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate ▶ For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see reverse.	OMB No. 1545-0010 1997
1 Type or print 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. Note: 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 on your social security card, check here and call 1-800-772-1213 for a new card ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>
5 Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line G above or from the worksheets on page 2 if they apply)		5 _____
6 Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck		6 \$ _____
7 I claim exemption from withholding for 1997, and I certify that I meet BOTH of the following conditions for exemption: • Last year I had a right to a refund of ALL Federal income tax withheld because I had NO tax liability; AND • This year I expect a refund of ALL Federal income tax withheld because I expect to have NO tax liability. If you meet both conditions, enter "EXEMPT" here ▶		7 _____

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that I am entitled to the number of withholding allowances claimed on this certificate or entitled to claim exempt status.

Employee's signature ▶ _____	Date ▶ _____, 19 _____	
8 Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS) _____	9 Office code (optional) _____	10 Employer identification number _____

Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet

Note: Use this worksheet only if you plan to itemize deductions or claim adjustments to income on your 1997 tax return.

1 Enter an estimate of your 1997 itemized deductions. These include qualifying home mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes (but not sales taxes), medical expenses in excess of 7.5% of your income, and miscellaneous deductions. (For 1997, you may have to reduce your itemized deductions if your income is over \$121,200 (\$60,600 if married filing separately). Get Pub. 919 for details.) 1 \$
2 Enter: \$6,900 if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) \$6,050 if head of household \$4,150 if single \$3,450 if married filing separately 2 \$
3 Subtract line 2 from line 1. If line 2 is greater than line 1, enter -0- 3 \$
4 Enter an estimate of your 1997 adjustments to income. These include alimony paid and deductible IRA contributions 4 \$
5 Add lines 3 and 4 and enter the total 5 \$
6 Enter an estimate of your 1997 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest) 6 \$
7 Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter the result, but not less than -0- 7 \$
8 Divide the amount on line 7 by \$2,500 and enter the result here. Drop any fraction 8
9 Enter the number from Personal Allowances Worksheet, line G, on page 1 9
10 Add lines 8 and 9 and enter the total here. If you plan to use the Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet, also enter this total on line 1 below. Otherwise, stop here and enter this total on Form W-4, line 5, on page 1 10

Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Note: Use this worksheet only if the instructions for line G on page 1 direct you here.

1 Enter the number from line G on 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 2
3 If line 1 is GREATER 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, on 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, on page 1. Complete lines 4-9 to calculate 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 amount needed 8 \$
9 Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods remaining in 1997. (For example, divide by 26 if you are paid every other week and you complete this form in December 1996.) 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: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Table with 4 columns: Married Filing Jointly (If wages from LOWEST paying job are—, Enter on line 2 above) and All Others (If wages from LOWEST paying job are—, Enter on line 2 above). Rows show wage brackets and corresponding line 2 values.

Table 2: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet

Table with 4 columns: Married Filing Jointly (If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—, Enter on line 7 above) and All Others (If wages from HIGHEST paying job are—, Enter on line 7 above). Rows show wage brackets and corresponding line 7 values.

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The time needed to complete this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: Recordkeeping 46 min., Learning about the law or the form 10 min., Preparing the form 69 min. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Forms Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. DO NOT send the tax form to this address. Instead, give it to your employer.

