

# How to Get More Money Back on Your Tax Refund

Without Spending Hours on Your Tax Return

CHEAT SHEET: 6 WAYS TO INCREASE YOUR REFUND



**TAXDRAGON**  
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Here at TaxDragon we get it – you want to maximise your refund and you don't want to spend time trying to work out all of the details. And we also hazard a guess that maybe you haven't been entirely diligent in keeping your receipts this year. Right?

## The good news is – you can still probably get a tax refund.

Here's the most common legal tax deductions and how you can benefit from them with as little fuss as possible.

Disclaimer: As usual, we must tell you that this is general advice and you will need to speak to your Tax Accountant for your own personal circumstances. If you'd like to speak to us at TaxDragon, hit reply to our email!

## Car Expenses

You can claim the cost of any car expenses related to driving required for work. This does not include to and from your work place. The easiest way to claim this is by using the cents per kilometre method. You don't need to have written evidence, but you do need to be able to show how you worked out your claim (like a diary with where the trips were taken). In the 2017-2018 Financial Year the deduction is 66c per kilometre and you can claim up to 5,000 kilometres.

## Clothing & Uniform Expenses

If you use specific clothes for your work you can claim up to \$150 in cleaning expenses without a receipt. If your uniform is distinctive (that is that it defines you as an employee of that company) you can also claim for the purchase of the uniform.

## Donations

If you donated to charitable organisations without receiving a benefit (like a pen, or chocolates) you can claim up to \$10 without receipts.

## Home Office

If you use your home, or personal devices for work, you can claim for the work-related portion of the expenses, like your phone calls, internet expenses and equipment. To claim internet or phone calls, you must be able to show how you came to the amount claimed. Let's look at a mobile phone for example:

If your phone bill is \$90 per month and you go through a month's bill and see that 45% of the calls are work related, you can claim 45% (\$40.50) of your \$90 back per month. This is a \$486 deduction. Keep your highlighted phone bill for evidence.

Use this same method for internet expenses, any lighting, heating or cooling you use for your home office.

There are more deductions for equipment purchases, however it's recommended you speak to your Tax Professional about these.

## Self-Education Expenses

If you are undertaking a course that is related to your employment you can claim for the course fees, office fees, parking and any other fees associated with achieving that qualification. The easiest deduction is the course fee itself, however if you want to maximise your return talk to TaxDragon about how you can claim for these.

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## Tools & Equipment

If you have had to purchase equipment (ranging from calculators and office equipment right through to power tools) for work, these are claimable if you have kept the receipts. If you don't have the receipt and you remember where you purchased from and roughly when, contact the company you purchased from to get a copy of your receipt.

If you use the equipment for both home and work, you need to apportion the % of work time to the purchase like in the home office example.

## BONUS: The ones that get missed!

There are a few deductions that we see get missed all the time and these are: claiming for your fees related to submitting your tax return (so the \$49 you would pay for us to submit your return hassle free would also be a deduction); union fees if you're part of a union and membership or association fees (for example, with an industry board required for your role).

Do you think these small deductions don't matter? With only using Donations, Your Mobile Phone and Clothing expenses in these examples you reduce your income by approximately \$650. Let's say you're earning \$50,000 per year that deduction puts an extra \$200 onto your refund for about 20 minutes work. Weekend away anyone?

These simple deductions could mean the difference between \$0 and a free weekend away!

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If you'd like TaxDragon to help you with these simple deductions plus extra occupation specific deductions, so you can get more money back in July with no hassle – hit reply to our email or visit [taxdragon.com.au](http://taxdragon.com.au) and start your quick return today.

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