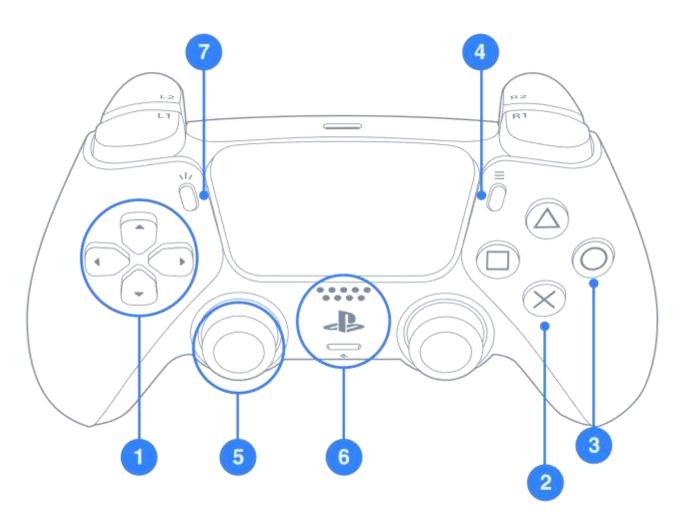
7 basic internal controls





1. Separation of duties

No one person should have complete control over all aspects of a financial transaction.

Ideally, no single individual should be able to:

- ✓ Authorize a transaction,
- ✓ Account for the transaction, and
- ✓ Have custody of the asset relating to the transaction.



2. Authorization

- ✓ Transactions to be authorized and executed by persons with relevant authority.
- ✓ Authorization to be obtained in advance.
- ✓ Approvers should review supporting information to validate the transactions



3. Documentation

- ✓ Have clear documentation which is readily available for examination.
- ✓ Include sufficient detail to support the transaction and any amendments.
- ✓ Sequentially numbered to ensure that all documents can be accounted for.
- ✓ Voided/spoiled documents to be retained.



4. Reconciliation and review

- ✓ Reconciliation: The process of comparing accounting data with the underlying items they represent.
- ✓ Review: An inspection or examination that takes place for the purpose of evaluating something.



5. Monitoring

- ✓ Is the internal control system effective?
- ✓ Ongoing, integrated in the business process
- Managerial and supervisory reviews



6. Information systems security

- ✓ Information stored and sent via computers and mobile devices is at risk of disclosure or modification.
- ✓ Data and record protection
- ✓ Physical & virtual access controls
- ✓ Protection of network, database, applications



7. Protection of assets

- ✓ Access to assets and records should be limited to authorized individuals.
- ✓ Accountability for custody and use of resources should be assigned and tracked.





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