



## Question

I lost my refund check. How do I get a new one?

## Answer

### If you lost your refund check, you should initiate a refund trace:

- Use [Where's My Refund](#), call us at [800-829-1954](tel:800-829-1954) and use the automated system, or speak with an agent by calling [800-829-1040](tel:800-829-1040) (see [telephone assistance](#) for hours of operation).
- However, if you filed a married filing jointly return, you can't initiate a trace using the automated systems. Download and complete the [Form 3911, Taxpayer Statement Regarding Refund](#) [PDF](#) or the IRS can send you a Form 3911 to get the replacement process started.

Your claim for a missing refund is processed one of two ways:

- If the check **wasn't** cashed, you'll receive a replacement check once the original check is canceled.
- If the refund check **was cashed**, the [Bureau of the Fiscal Service](#) [↗](#) (BFS) will provide you with a claim package that includes a copy of the cashed check. Follow the instructions for completing the claim package. BFS will review your claim and the signature on the canceled check before determining whether they can issue you a replacement check. The BFS review can take up to six weeks to complete.

**Category:** [IRS procedures](#)

**Sub-Category:** [Refund inquiries](#)

*Page Last Reviewed or Updated: 03-Jul-2024*