

You may only have to file taxes once a year, but there are times when you need to think about it all throughout the year. If you have your taxes taken out of each check, and you just have to file a simple form at the end of the year, you don't have much to worry about. However, many others find that they have to keep records of some things, and they also have to pay taxes each quarter (every three months) so that they don't owe a huge amount of money at the end of the year. It makes things easier all the way around.

When you have our own business, or work for yourself at home, you have to file taxes with many complicated forms. That means you had better think ahead about what deductions you can take, and what type of receipts you must save. Even those that don't work at home and don't own a business may have some expenses that they should track for when it comes time to file taxes. You don't have to take deductions if you don't want to do so, but they can save you money at the end of the year. It's always a good idea.

You don't have to have a sophisticated system when saving things if you don't want to, but it does help to have some type of filing system to keep things straight. Many, myself included, mark receipts I need to save for what they are, write the amount in a ledger, and then put the receipts in a box all together so they are ready when I am ready to file taxes. I could just set them in the box and forget them, but that would mean a scramble to add things up when it comes time to file taxes. I find a few minutes each day saves a lot of time at the end of the year.

If you find that you like to file taxes on your own, but it is getting to be something that you are having a hard time with, you may save yourself some grief by hiring someone else to do it. You may also want to keep doing them on your own, but get some help through web sites and books that are designed to show you want to do, how to do it, and how to save money each year when you file taxes. We often miss deductions on our own, and we could be paying less or getting more back. Make sure you keep up with things so you know you are doing it right.