Make business easier

Tools and advice from across government to save you time and help make your business a success

News for business

See our regular updates for small businesses from across government about new services, law changes and more.

View updates (/news/)

Starting a business?

There’s a lot to think about when you’re starting a business, and it can seem overwhelming – but our tips, tools, visual guides and case studies can help.

Get started (/starting-a-business/)

Get set for summer

Getting paid on time. Hiring seasonal staff. Whatever the summer season holds for your business, keep headaches to a minimum with these tips and tools.

Bookmark our summer tips (/get-set-for-summer/)

Is your business name available?

Use ONECheck to see if your business name, web domain, trade mark and social media usernames are available — it only takes one search.

ONECheck (https://www.business.govt.nz/onecheck)

Start-up business plan template (used on tools and templates)

Don’t let the name fool you. This template is useful any time you need a full and thorough business plan.
Customise it to suit — this could mean adding in extra sections, or cutting out ones that you don’t need.

Download [DOCX, 210 KB] (/assets/Uploads/Documents/Businessplantemplate.docx)

Plan for your business

Tips, tools and visual guides to build and test your skills. These will help fine-tune your business — and make life easier and better for everyone.

Find out how to ID your assets, steer clear of risks, and use planning and stats to grow.

Plan for your business, Check it out (/build-your-business-confidence/)

Hiring and managing staff

Tips and tools to help you hire staff with confidence and managing people day-to-day. Check the visual guides, quizzes and the free Employment Agreement Builder.

Find out who to hire and when, how to interview and the costs of taking people on.

Hiring and managing staff, Check it out (/hiring-an-employee/)

Check out some of our tools and advice

More  More

Ten-step guide to starting a business

/ getting-started/taking-the-first-steps/10-step-guide-to-starting-a-business/ Check it out
/ getting-started/taking-the-first-steps/10-step-guide-to-starting-a-business/

What to claim if you work from home

/ tax-and-accounting/reducing-your-tax/claiming-expenses/#e7719 See our visual guide
/ tax-and-accounting/reducing-your-tax/claiming-expenses/#e7719

GST dos and don’ts

/ tax-and-accounting/basic-tax-types/gst/
When to register and deregister for GST, how to pay it and when, plus zero-rated goods and services.

Read on

Basic tips for reducing your tax bill

Check out our guide

Common business milestones

Highs, lows and speed bumps — here are 20 milestones small businesses often face, plus tips and tools to help.

Check it out

Business finance basics

Find out more

Research your market

Knowing about your market and rivals is crucial, whether you’re starting, growing or well established.

Here’s how

Keeping people healthy and safe