

## Sample article for organizations to use to reach customers (639 word count)

*Customize and post the following article on your websites and/or use in other communication vehicles on the top ten ways to get help from The IRS.*

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### Top 10 ways to get help from the IRS

When you're looking for tax information, you want to find it as quickly and easily as possible, and the best way to find that information is by visiting [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov). Here are the top 10 reasons to visit IRS.gov:

- 1. Get 24/7 Access.** Whether you do your taxes during the day or burn the midnight oil, IRS.gov has the tax forms and answers you need, when you need them. It's accessible all day, every day. The [Interactive Tax Assistant](#) is a helpful tool that will answer many of your tax law questions. Several other tools, tax forms, publications and information are also available in different languages.
- 2. Use Free File.** If you made \$57,000 or less, you qualify to use free tax software. Offered exclusively at IRS.gov, [Free File's](#) brand name software or fillable forms do the work for you. If your income is more than \$57,000 or you feel comfortable preparing your own tax return, use [Free File Fillable Forms](#). This option provides the electronic versions of IRS paper forms.
- 3. Try IRS e-file.** Whether you do your own taxes or hire a preparer, IRS [e-file](#) is the safest, easiest and most popular way to complete and file an accurate tax return. Since 1990, taxpayers have e-filed more than one billion returns. If you owe taxes, IRS *e-file* gives you options to file early and pay by the tax deadline. If you're due a refund, you can generally expect the IRS to issue your refund in less than 21 calendar days after they've received your tax return.
- 4. Check Your Refund Status.** You can track your refund using the enhanced [Where's My Refund?](#) tool. The tool includes a tracker that displays the progress of your return in three stages while it's processed. Once IRS approves your refund, *Where's My Refund?* will give a personalized refund date. There's no need to call the IRS unless *Where's My Refund?* tells you to do so. You can start checking on the status of your refund within 24 hours after the IRS has received your e-filed return or 4 weeks after you mail a paper return. *Where's My Refund?* is updated every 24 hours — usually overnight — so you don't need to check more than once a day.
- 5. Make Payments Electronically.** [Electronic payment options](#) are a convenient, safe and secure way to pay taxes. You can authorize an electronic funds withdrawal, use a credit or debit card or enroll in the U.S. Treasury's *Electronic Federal Tax Payment System*.
- 6. Use the EITC Assistant.** The [Earned Income Tax Credit](#) is a tax credit for working people who earned less than \$50,270 in 2012. The credit can be worth as much as \$5,891. Check your eligibility using the [EITC Assistant tool](#). You may be among the millions of eligible workers who get the EITC this year.
- 7. Get Tax Forms and Publications.** You can view and download tax forms and publications any time. It's the easiest way to get [IRS forms and publications](#).
- 8. Figure the Right Withholding.** The [IRS Withholding Calculator](#) will help to ensure you don't have too much or too little income tax withheld from your pay.

9. **Request a Payment Agreement.** Paying all your taxes on time avoids penalties and interest. However, if you cannot pay your taxes in full, you may be eligible to use the [Online Payment Agreement Application](#) to request an installment agreement.
10. **Get the Latest Tax Law Changes.** Learn about tax law changes that may affect your tax return. Special sections of the website highlight changes that affect [individual](#) and [business](#) taxpayers.

The address of the official IRS website is [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). Don't be misled by sites that claim to be the IRS but end in .com, .net or .org. Some thieves use these phony websites to gain your personal and financial information to commit identity theft or other illegal activities.

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#### **Additional IRS Resources:**

- [1040 Central](#)
- [IRS Free File](#)
- [IRS E-file](#)
- [EITC Assistant](#)
- [First time Homeowners Credit Look- p Tool](#)

#### **IRS YouTube Videos:**

- All About IRS.gov - [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- File Your 1040EZ Using Free File - [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- How to Get 1040 Forms - [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)
- Earned Income Tax Credit - [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [ASL](#)

#### **On Twitter? Send these tweets:**

##### **Free File**

Anyone can use #Free File Fillable Forms, the electronic version of #IRS paper forms. <http://go.usa.gov/rP6B> #tax #taxes

##### **Free Tax Help**

Need help with your #taxes? The #IRS is here for you with many #free options. Check them out at <http://go.usa.gov/rfx> #tax

##### **Tax information in different languages**

#IRSTaxTip - #IRS has basic tax information in Chinese, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Spanish. <http://go.usa.gov/rwvA> #refund

#### **On TUMBLR – follow us on TUMBLR**

[Free Tax Help](#)

[Free Self help tax preparation services](#)

[Access to FREE Fillable tax forms](#)