

# Form W-4 (2004)

**Purpose.** Complete Form W-4 so that your employer can withhold the correct Federal income tax from your pay. Because your tax situation may change, you may want to refigure your withholding each year.

**Exemption from withholding.** If you are exempt, complete only lines 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 and sign the form to validate it. Your exemption for 2004 expires February 16, 2005. See **Pub. 505**, Tax Withholding and Estimated Tax.

**Note:** You cannot claim exemption from withholding if: (a) your income exceeds \$800 and includes more than \$250 of unearned income (e.g., interest and dividends) and (b) another person can claim you as a dependent on their tax return.

**Basic instructions.** If you are not exempt, complete the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. The worksheets on page 2 adjust your withholding allowances based on itemized

deductions, certain credits, adjustments to income, or two-earner/two-job situations. Complete all worksheets that apply. **However, you may claim fewer (or zero) allowances.**

**Head of household.** Generally, you may claim head of household filing status on your tax return only if you are unmarried and pay more than 50% of the costs of keeping up a home for yourself and your dependent(s) or other qualifying individuals. See line **E** below.

**Tax credits.** You can take projected tax credits into account in figuring your allowable number of withholding allowances. Credits for child or dependent care expenses and the child tax credit may be claimed using the **Personal Allowances Worksheet** below. See **Pub. 919**, How Do I Adjust My Tax Withholding? for information on converting your other credits into withholding allowances.

**Nonwage income.** If you have a large amount of nonwage income, such as interest or dividends, consider making estimated tax payments using

**Form 1040-ES**, Estimated Tax for Individuals. Otherwise, you may owe additional tax.

**Two earners/two jobs.** If you have a working spouse or more than one job, figure the total number of allowances you are entitled to claim on all jobs using worksheets from only one Form W-4. Your withholding usually will be most accurate when all allowances are claimed on the Form W-4 for the highest paying job and zero allowances are claimed on the others.

**Nonresident alien.** If you are a nonresident alien, see the **Instructions for Form 8233** before completing this Form W-4.

**Check your withholding.** After your Form W-4 takes effect, use **Pub. 919** to see how the dollar amount you are having withheld compares to your projected total tax for 2004. See **Pub. 919**, especially if your earnings exceed \$125,000 (Single) or \$175,000 (Married).

**Recent name change?** If your name on line 1 differs from that shown on your social security card, call 1-800-772-1213 to initiate a name change and obtain a social security card showing your correct name.

## Personal Allowances Worksheet (Keep for your records.)

- A** Enter "1" for **yourself** if no one else can claim you as a dependent . . . . . **A** \_\_\_\_\_
- B** Enter "1" if: } • You are single and have only one job; or  
• You are married, have only one job, and your spouse does not work; or  
• Your wages from a second job or your spouse's wages (or the total of both) are \$1,000 or less. . . . . **B** \_\_\_\_\_
- C** Enter "1" for your **spouse**. But, you may choose to enter "-0-" if you are married and have either a working spouse or more than one job. (Entering "-0-" may help you avoid having too little tax withheld.) . . . . . **C** \_\_\_\_\_
- D** Enter number of **dependents** (other than your spouse or yourself) you will claim on your tax return . . . . . **D** \_\_\_\_\_
- E** Enter "1" if you will file as **head of household** on your tax return (see conditions under **Head of household** above) . . . . . **E** \_\_\_\_\_
- F** Enter "1" if you have at least \$1,500 of **child or dependent care expenses** for which you plan to claim a credit . . . . . **F** \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Note: Do not include child support payments. See Pub. 503, Child and Dependent Care Expenses, for details.)*
- G Child Tax Credit** (including additional child tax credit):
- If your total income will be less than \$52,000 (\$77,000 if married), enter "2" for each eligible child.
  - If your total income will be between \$52,000 and \$84,000 (\$77,000 and \$119,000 if married), enter "1" for each eligible child plus "1" **additional** if you have four or more eligible children. **G** \_\_\_\_\_
- H** Add lines A through G and enter total here. **Note:** This may be different from the number of exemptions you claim on your tax return. **H** \_\_\_\_\_
- For accuracy, complete all worksheets that apply. } • If you plan to **itemize or claim adjustments to income** and want to reduce your withholding, see the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet** on page 2.  
• If you have **more than one job** or are **married and you and your spouse both work** and the combined earnings from all jobs exceed \$35,000 (\$25,000 if married) see the **Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet** on page 2 to avoid having too little tax withheld.  
• If **neither** of the above situations applies, **stop here** and enter the number from line H on line 5 of Form W-4 below.

----- Cut here and give Form W-4 to your employer. Keep the top part for your records. -----

Form <b>W-4</b> <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>	<b>Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate</b> <b>► Your employer must send a copy of this form to the IRS if: (a) you claim more than 10 allowances or (b) you claim "Exempt" and your wages are normally more than \$200 per week.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1545-0010</small> <b>2004</b>
1 Type or print your first name and middle initial _____ Last name _____		2 Your social security number _____
Home address (number and street or rural route) _____		3 <input type="checkbox"/> Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/> Married, but withhold at higher Single rate. <small>Note: If married, but legally separated, or spouse is a nonresident alien, check the "Single" box.</small>
City or town, state, and ZIP code _____		4 If your last name differs from that shown on your social security card, check here. You must call 1-800-772-1213 for a new card. <input type="checkbox"/>
5 Total number of allowances you are claiming (from line H above or from the applicable worksheet on page 2) _____		5 _____
6 Additional amount, if any, you want withheld from each paycheck . . . . .		6 \$ _____
7 I claim exemption from withholding for 2004, and I certify that I meet <b>both</b> of the following conditions for exemption: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last year I had a right to a refund of <b>all</b> Federal income tax withheld because I had <b>no</b> tax liability <b>and</b></li> <li>• This year I expect a refund of <b>all</b> Federal income tax withheld because I expect to have <b>no</b> tax liability.</li> </ul> If you meet both conditions, write "Exempt" here . . . . . <b>►</b>		
Under penalties of perjury, I certify that I am entitled to the number of withholding allowances claimed on this certificate, or I am entitled to claim exempt status. <b>Employee's signature</b> (Form is not valid unless you sign it.) <b>►</b>		<b>Date</b> <b>►</b>
8 Employer's name and address (Employer: Complete lines 8 and 10 only if sending to the IRS.) _____		9 Office code (optional) _____
		10 Employer identification number (EIN) _____

**Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet**

**Note:** Use this worksheet **only** if you plan to itemize deductions, claim certain credits, or claim adjustments to income on your 2004 tax return.

- 1 Enter an estimate of your 2004 itemized deductions. These include qualifying home mortgage interest, charitable contributions, state and local taxes, medical expenses in excess of 7.5% of your income, and miscellaneous deductions. (For 2004, you may have to reduce your itemized deductions if your income is over \$142,700 (\$71,350 if married filing separately). See **Worksheet 3** in Pub. 919 for details.) . . . **1** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Enter:  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \$9,700 \text{ if married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er)} \\ \$7,150 \text{ if head of household} \\ \$4,850 \text{ if single} \\ \$4,850 \text{ if married filing separately} \end{array} \right\}$  . . . . . **2** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 **Subtract** line 2 from line 1. If line 2 is greater than line 1, enter "-0-" . . . . . **3** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Enter an estimate of your 2004 adjustments to income, including alimony, deductible IRA contributions, and student loan interest **4** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 **Add** lines 3 and 4 and enter the total. (Include any amount for credits from **Worksheet 7** in Pub. 919) . **5** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Enter an estimate of your 2004 nonwage income (such as dividends or interest) . . . . . **6** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 **Subtract** line 6 from line 5. Enter the result, but not less than "-0-" . . . . . **7** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 **Divide** the amount on line 7 by \$3,000 and enter the result here. Drop any fraction . . . . . **8** \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Enter the number from the **Personal Allowances Worksheet**, line H, page 1 . . . . . **9** \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 **Add** lines 8 and 9 and enter the total here. If you plan to use the **Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet**, also enter this total on line 1 below. Otherwise, **stop here** and enter this total on Form W-4, line 5, page 1 . **10** \_\_\_\_\_

**Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet** (See **Two earners/two jobs** on page 1.)

**Note:** Use this worksheet **only** if the instructions under line H on page 1 direct you here.

- 1 Enter the number from line H, page 1 (or from line 10 above if you used the **Deductions and Adjustments Worksheet**) **1** \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Find the number in **Table 1** below that applies to the **LOWEST** paying job and enter it here . . . . . **2** \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 If line 1 is **more than or equal to** line 2, subtract line 2 from line 1. Enter the result here (if zero, enter "-0-") and on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. **Do not** use the rest of this worksheet . . . . . **3** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** If line 1 is **less than** line 2, enter "-0-" on Form W-4, line 5, page 1. Complete lines 4-9 below to calculate the additional withholding amount necessary to avoid a year-end tax bill.

- 4 Enter the number from line 2 of this worksheet . . . . . **4** \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Enter the number from line 1 of this worksheet . . . . . **5** \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 **Subtract** line 5 from line 4 . . . . . **6** \_\_\_\_\_
- 7 Find the amount in **Table 2** below that applies to the **HIGHEST** paying job and enter it here . . . . . **7** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 **Multiply** line 7 by line 6 and enter the result here. This is the additional annual withholding needed . . **8** \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Divide line 8 by the number of pay periods remaining in 2004. For example, divide by 26 if you are paid every two weeks and you complete this form in December 2003. Enter the result here and on Form W-4, line 6, page 1. This is the additional amount to be withheld from each paycheck . . . . . **9** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Table 1: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet**

Married Filing Jointly			Married Filing Jointly			All Others	
If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	AND, wages from <b>LOWEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	AND, wages from <b>LOWEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above	If wages from <b>LOWEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 2 above
\$0 - \$40,000	\$0 - \$4,000	0	\$40,001 and over	31,001 - 38,000	6	\$0 - \$6,000	0
	4,001 - 8,000	1		38,001 - 44,000	7	6,001 - 11,000	1
	8,001 - 17,000	2		44,001 - 50,000	8	11,001 - 18,000	2
	17,001 and over	3		50,001 - 55,000	9	18,001 - 25,000	3
\$40,001 and over	\$0 - \$4,000	0		55,001 - 65,000	10	25,001 - 31,000	4
	4,001 - 8,000	1		65,001 - 75,000	11	31,001 - 44,000	5
	8,001 - 15,000	2		75,001 - 85,000	12	44,001 - 55,000	6
	15,001 - 22,000	3		85,001 - 100,000	13	55,001 - 70,000	7
	22,001 - 25,000	4		100,001 - 115,000	14	70,001 - 80,000	8
	25,001 - 31,000	5		115,001 and over	15	80,001 - 100,000	9
						100,001 and over	10

**Table 2: Two-Earner/Two-Job Worksheet**

Married Filing Jointly		All Others	
If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above	If wages from <b>HIGHEST</b> paying job are—	Enter on line 7 above
\$0 - \$60,000	\$470	\$0 - \$30,000	\$470
60,001 - 110,000	780	30,001 - 70,000	780
110,001 - 150,000	870	70,001 - 140,000	870
150,001 - 270,000	1,020	140,001 - 320,000	1,020
270,001 and over	1,090	320,001 and over	1,090

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The time needed to complete this form will vary depending on individual circumstances. The estimated average time is: **Recordkeeping**, 46 min.; **Learning about the law or the form**, 13 min.; **Preparing the form**, 59 min. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of these time estimates or suggestions for making this form simpler, we would be happy to hear from you. You can write to the Tax Products Coordinating Committee, Western Area Distribution Center, Rancho Cordova, CA 95743-0001. **Do not** send Form W-4 to this address. Instead, give it to your employer.

