



All American Best Tax Services LLC

How filing status affects your tax

Filing status can affect:

- Whether you must file a return
- How much tax you owe
- Credits you can claim
- The type of form you should file
- Your standard deduction amount
- Whether you get a refund

Five filing statuses

Generally, your filing status is based on your marital status on the last day of the year. You can choose:

- **Single** if you're unmarried,
- **Divorced or legally separated.**
- **Married filing jointly** if you're married or if your spouse passed away during the year.
- **Married filing separately** if you're married and don't want to file jointly or find that filing separately lowers your tax.

NOTE: Most couples save money by filing jointly.

- **Head of household** if you're single and you paid more than half of your living expenses for yourself and a qualifying dependent.

NOTE: Qualifying surviving spouse if your spouse died during the past 2 years and you have a dependent child.

Find details on filing statuses and how to choose them on IRS Website.