

It's inevitable. When you sit down to do your taxes you wish you would have done a better job staying organized. You might have bags of receipts and a notebook or dayplanner. So you spend an entire spring weekend pulling it all together.

It can be easier. With tech and a few apps. I'm looking at some of the tools you'll be glad you used, for next year.

TRT 133  
STD OUT

## **SUPER**

0-8 Jamey Tucker

### **ON-CAMERA TEASE**

Have you started working on your taxes? It's a frustrating mess isn't it? I'm Jamey Tucker, coming up with some tech that can save you time and money the next time you have to do this.

### **ANCHOR INTRO**

THE TAX DEADLINE IS NOT FOR A COUPLE OF MONTHS BUT YOU MAY BE GETTING STARTED ORGANIZING ALL OF THE PAPERWORK YOU SAVED LAST YEAR.

RECEIPTS, MILEAGE, AND DONATIONS CAN ADD UP TO A LOT OF DEDUCTIONS. IF YOU HAVE A RECORD OF IT. AS OUR CONSUMER TECHNOLOGY REPORTER JAMEY TUCKER EXPLAINS, TECH MAKES IT EASIER TO BE ORGANIZED IF YOU GET STARTED NOW.

### **PACKAGE**

Do you still save paper receipts and keep track of other tax deductions by writing them down on paper? If you do, it can take days to compile and organize it all. There is a better way and all you might need is your smartphone.

There are plenty of apps to snap receipts. Most work like the app SimplyWise. You frame up a receipt like you're taking a photo. The app scans the receipt and then extracts the important details. You can add other information such as a category. Simply Wise can also connect to your Amazon to keep track of those purchases. At the end of the year, share the report with your tax preparer.

If you pay for Evernote download the app Scannable to save receipts as PDFs, and organize them within Evernote folders

You can do this using the free Apple and Android apps. Apple Notes and Google Keep.

You'll just need to set up a few folders and save snapshots or scans as you get them. You can organize them using hashtags and a 2024 tax folder. You'll still need to total everything up yourself, but you won't have cluttered paperwork to sort through.

If you drive your car for work, you can deduct 67 cents a mile when you file taxes next year. Mile IQ is an app that detects when you're driving, so you don't have to remember to open it. It'll log mileage as personal or business and next year when you're working on taxes, Mile IQ will generate a report for the IRS with information on every drive.

Mile IQ, Evernote, and SimplyWise are not free, but you should be able to write them off as a business expense.

That's What the Tech? I'm Jamey Tucker

## ANCHOR TAG

THIS YEAR'S FEDERAL TAX DEADLINE IS MONDAY APRIL 15TH. THE IRS SAYS TAXPAYERS WHO FILE THEIR TAXES ELECTRONICALLY CAN EXPECT REFUNDS WITHIN 21 DAYS.

## WEB STORY

Tech That Can Make Tax Season Easier

Tax season is upon us once again, and if you're like most people, you're probably feeling a little overwhelmed. There's just so much paperwork to gather and organize, and it can be easy to make mistakes.

But what if there was a way to make tax season easier? What if you could use technology to help you stay organized and on track?

One of the most time-consuming parts of tax season is gathering and organizing your receipts. But with a receipt scanning app, you can easily digitize your receipts and save them in one place.

Some popular receipt-scanning apps include:

- **SimplyWise:** SimplyWise is a free app that lets you scan receipts, track mileage, and organize your tax documents. It also integrates with Amazon to keep track of your purchases.
- **Scannable by Evernote:** Scannable is a paid app that lets you scan receipts as PDFs and organize them within Evernote folders.
- **Apple Notes:** If you have an iPhone or iPad, you can use the built-in Notes app to scan receipts.
- **Google Keep:** Google Keep is a free app that lets you scan receipts and organize them with notes and labels.

Apps for Tracking Mileage

If you use your car for work, you can deduct the mileage you drive from your taxes. But keeping track of your mileage can be a pain. That's where a mileage tracking app comes in.

Some popular mileage-tracking apps include:

- **MileIQ:** MileIQ is a paid app that automatically tracks your mileage and logs it as personal or business.
- **Everlance:** Everlance is a free app that lets you track your mileage, expenses, and receipts.
- **TripLog:** TripLog is a paid app that lets you track your mileage, expenses, and fuel costs.

Apps for Organizing Your Tax Documents

Once you've gathered all of your receipts and other tax documents, you need to organize them so you can easily find them when you need them. A tax document organizer app can help you do just that.

Some popular tax document organizer apps include:

- **Shoebboxed:** Shoebboxed is a paid service that lets you scan, store, and organize your tax documents in the cloud.
- **TaxAct:** TaxAct is a paid tax preparation software that includes a document organizer.
- **TurboTax:** TurboTax is a paid tax preparation software that includes a document organizer.

Tax season doesn't have to be a nightmare. By using the right tech tools, you can stay organized and on track, and make the process much easier.