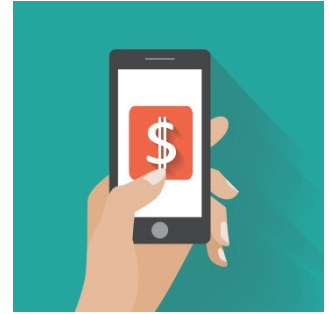


Smartphone Apps for Tax Recordkeeping

It's easy to forget to track your mileage... it's easy to lose a receipt... or not document charitable contributions... etc, etc, etc. Smartphone apps can help by saving the information while it is still fresh in your mind.

Important note: This fact sheet is not about which specific apps are best. Rather, it is a general overview of how apps can help you with recordkeeping. It is up to you to find your favorite app(s) that work with your type of smartphone. Most apps have a free trial so you can test them before spending any money.



Mileage Tracking: Most mileage tracking apps use your smartphone's GPS to record the trips you make and then let you categorize them by business, medical, or charity trips.

- Some mileage apps automatically track every trip you take while others have you manually start-and-stop at the beginning and end of each trip.
- Some mileage tracking apps use a photo of your odometer instead of GPS (*AutoKept* is the name of one that does this). This is a better choice for those that keep their GPS turned off for privacy reasons.

What are some mileage app choices? AutoKept, MileIQ, MagicalMiles, TripLog, TaxMileage, MileBug, TOUR... and more (search for "mileage tracking" in your smartphone's app marketplace)

Business Income & Expense: Most business tracking apps use your phone's camera, text, and voice recognition capability to capture and save income and expenses as they occur (for example... taking a picture of a receipt and using the voice recorder to document the business purpose of the expense).

- Many business tracking apps also feature mileage tracking.
- Many business tracking apps also feature time tracking to keep track of hours worked.
- Many business apps help you to categorize (and sub-categorize) your expenses.
- Some business apps sync with your credit card statements to put all transactions into one place (credit card, cash, check, other)

What are some business app choices? BizXpense Tracker, Concur, Expensify, Shoeboxed, Smart Receipts, and more (search for "business tracker" in your smartphone's app marketplace).

Charity and Itemized Deductions: Charity tracking apps are particularly helpful for non-cash contributions. Let's face it, most folks don't do a good job of documenting the goods they give to charity. Simply taking a photograph of each item would be a huge improvement.

- Most charity tracking apps also help taxpayers estimate the fair market value of each contribution.
- Most charity apps also track cash contributions and charitable mileage as well.
- Some apps cover all types of deductions (including medical) rather than just charity.

What are some charity app choices? ItsDeductible, iDonatedIt, Donation Assistant, and more (search for "donation tracker" in your smartphone's app marketplace).

PLUS... Aside from these specific areas there are general recordkeeping apps like EverNote and Google Keep that allow you to capture information and custom categorize it however it makes sense to you. The possibilities are endless.