

# TD Accounting

---

## **ACCOUNTING SOFTWARE – It's time to automate and update!**

In our Christmas newsletter we mentioned the new features of accounting software at both MYOB and Xero. New accounting software has made business bookkeeping a much easier process, allowing you more time to work on, or in your business. The main features that will make your bookkeeping more automated and much easier are: Automatic bank feeds, meaning you no longer have to enter transactions. Cloud based data storage, meaning you no longer have to worry about backups or even sending your file to your Accountant. The new cloud technology allows for your Accountant or Bookkeeper to access your file directly from their computer via the cloud. This is great for troubleshooting and end of year tax, with no need to email or drop in your back up file. Both MYOB and Xero now offer a monthly subscription payment format, rather than an outright purchase of the product, removing the need for a large capital outlay upfront. Prices range from \$10 to \$80 per month, and both offer simple products right through to more expanded products offering payroll and stock options. These software providers also have agents that can assist you to convert your current files to new ones, and guide you through the upgrade process. Please contact our office to discuss your software options.

## **ATO BUSINESS PORTAL – ACCESS YOUR ATO ACCOUNTS AND INFORMATION**

As many of you know, we have access to the ATO via the Tax Agent Portal, where we can view client's tax and BAS accounts, lodge BAS statements electronically and update clients details such as address's. Did you know that as a business owner, you can sign up to the ATO Business Portal, giving you direct access to all your ATO content, and giving you the ability to lodge your BAS statements online, and check your account balance at any time. In order to access the Business Portal, you will need to register and install Auskey software on your computer which allows for secure login to the tax office. With the ATO moving towards paperless lodgement of all BAS and PAYG statements in the near future, we strongly encourage all our clients to register for the ATO Business Portal. To find out more about registering and using the business portal you can visit:

**<https://www.ato.gov.au/Business/Business-Portal/Getting-started>**

## **SMALL BUSINESS \$20,000 IMMEDIATE TAX WRITEOFF**

On Budget night the Government announced an immediate tax write off on all assets valued up to \$20,000 for small businesses with annual turnover of less than \$2 Million. The previous threshold for immediate write off was only \$1,000. Therefore this announcement represents a great opportunity for small business' to reduce their taxable income and save on tax, whilst also stimulating the economy through asset investment. The immediate write off is available from budget night this year until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, so there is still plenty of time to take advantage of this tax saving.

All business's need to carefully consider if this is the right thing for them to do, as spending or financing up to \$20,000 can have effects on business cash flow, and may not always have the desired tax affect you are after. We have spoken to many clients that have had questions regarding this measure, with the main one being vehicle purchases involving trade in's. The immediate write off is ONLY available for assets costing up to \$20,000. If you purchase a vehicle worth \$30,000 and trade in a car worth \$15,000, this would NOT qualify for the immediate write off. Even though the changeover costs are under \$20,000, the ACTUAL cost of the new asset is actually \$30,000. Please feel free to contact our office to discuss if your asset qualifies or the tax consequences of each asset purchase.