

Subject: **IRS Tax Tip 2018-139: Taxpayers should check out these helpful tax tools**

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Issue Number: Tax Tip 2018-139

Taxpayers should check out these helpful tax tools

Questions about taxes could come up any time of the year. Whether it's about tracking a refund or paying a bill, taxpayers can find answers to their questions on IRS.gov. Here are some of the most popular IRS tools:

- **IRS Free File.** Taxpayers who filed an extension can use [IRS Free File](#) to prepare and e-file a federal tax return. Free File is available at no cost for anyone with income below \$66,000. Free File is available through Oct. 15 to file a 2017 tax return. IRS Free File is available through IRS.gov or the IRS2Go mobile app.
- **Direct Deposit.** [Direct Deposit](#) is the best and fastest way for taxpayers to get their tax refund electronically deposited for free into their financial account. Combining direct deposit with electronic filing is the fastest way for a taxpayer to receive their refund.
- **Where's My Refund?** Taxpayers can use "[Where's My Refund?](#)" at IRS.gov or the [IRS2Go mobile app](#) to check the status of a refund within 24 hours after the IRS receives the e-filed return or four weeks after a mailed paper return. The IRS2Go app is free and available on Google Play, the Apple App Store or Amazon App Store.

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- **Paying a Tax Bill.** IRS [Direct Pay](#) is free and taxpayers can pay directly from a checking or savings account. They can choose to receive email notifications about their payments each time they use Direct Pay. There are five simple steps to pay in a single online session and it's also available with the [IRS2Go mobile app](#). Other payment options are available at [IRS.gov/payments](#).
- **Tax Account Information Online.** At [IRS.gov/account](#) individual taxpayers can view their balance and payment history. They can also pay with their bank account, a debit or credit card or apply for an installment agreement. They can view, print or download tax records, and view their most current tax return information as originally filed. First time users must authenticate their identity through the [Secure Access](#) process. Taxpayers who already have a user name and password from Secure Access for their tax account, Get Transcript Online or Identity Protection PIN, may use the same username and password.
- **Online Payment Agreement.** Taxpayers who can't pay their taxes in full can apply for an [Online Payment Agreement](#). Using the Direct Debit payment plan option is a lower-cost, hassle-free way to make monthly payments.
- **Interactive Tax Assistant.** Taxpayers can use this tool to find answers to their tax questions. This tax law resource asks a series of questions and provides instant answers on a variety of tax topics, including general filing questions, deductions, credits and income.
- **Tax Map.** The [IRS Tax Map](#) integrates web links, tax forms, instructions and publications into one search result. Taxpayers can quickly find forms, publications, frequently asked questions and news by topic.

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