

start-up costs

Template

Initial costs - Equipment & assets

Extra equipment, e.g., vehicles	
Extra office equipment, e.g., computers	
Fitting out, e.g., interior and exterior	

Initial costs - Other "one-off" costs

Advisor fees, e.g., accountant	
Franchise and other fees	
Lease payments, e.g., new equipment	
Promotion costs, e.g., website & signs	
Initial stock	
Insurance	
License fees	
Purchase cost of existing venture	
Office supplies	
Training costs & subscriptions	

Total Initial costs

Working capital - Your monthly costs

Accounting	
Bank Fees	
Communications	
Freight and postage	
Insurance	
Interest	
Loan repayments	
Motor vehicle expenses	
Power	
Rent	
Repairs and maintenance	
Salaries and employee expenses	
Stationery	
Subscriptions	
Tax payments	
Web site hosting, Internet costs	

Total monthly costs

In the first few months many businesses need a surplus of cash to cover overheads, as the initial profit from sales doesn't cover all the monthly expenses.

How many months cover do you think you need?

Your start-up costs

Total initial costs

Total start-up funds required

Total monthly costs

Months to cover overheads

x

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start-up costs

Template

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Use our template to calculate your initial costs to identify the amount of capital you'll need to get started.

What does the template do?

Most businesses start up successfully because they have sufficient cash to last until they become profitable – a mistake easily remedied with our simple start-up costs calculator.

This tool helps you determine how much money you need to start your business (initial costs and working capital) to identify if you need additional funding.

Initial costs

These costs include expenses associated with starting your business such as needing to buy equipment, vehicles, office equipment, technology and one-time costs set-up costs which can include franchise fees, rent deposits, initial lease payments, legal fees, and initial stock.

Don't forget to include any wages and salaries you may be paying before you go live.

Working capital

You'll most probably need some cash in the bank for several months as a float before you break-even and make a profit. This extra cash in the bank is called working capital to cover the running costs you'll incur regardless of whether you make a sale or not.

Examples of running costs include rent, insurance, finance fees, advertising, marketing, digital, utilities (power, phone), internet services, hosting, salaries, payments and the minor monthly costs that can add up (stationary, freight, office expenses).

The start-up costs template prompts you to enter both initial (or capital) costs and your monthly running costs. You'll also need to make an estimate of the time you think it will take before your business becomes profitable. This helps to calculate an estimate of the amount of cash you'll need to cover your running costs.

Once you've entered your estimated costs and revenue figures, the calculator presents you with a summary estimating how much money you need to get started, how much money you'll need to run your business monthly, and how much cash you'll need to survive until the business becomes profitable.

Why use the start-up costs template?

The start-up costs template can save you a great deal of money and heartache if you don't have sufficient reserves to survive the crucial start-up period. Wouldn't you rather work it out on paper than find out the hard way?

It will also help you make your case should you seek a small business loan or a relationship with private investors.