

# STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS FOR ST-455 (Rev. 10/14/09)



**Please read this section before completing your form.**

If you have a retail license or use tax registration you are **required to file a tax return even if there is NO TAX DUE** for the period.

WHEN FILING "NO SALES" RETURNS, please enter zeroes on Lines 1, 1A, and 3 of Column A and B only on the ST-455.

**COMPLETE THE SALES AND USE TAX WORKSHEETS ON THE BACK OF THE ST-455 BEFORE MAKING ENTRIES ON LINES 1 THROUGH 10.**

**IMPORTANT:** If it is determined that no entry is needed on a line, PLEASE LEAVE LINE BLANK. Do not write on the lines that do not pertain to you.

All entries must be typed or hand printed. If using a **non-preprinted form**, see the introduction section under **Essential Information** for form ST-455 for instructions.

The state sales tax rates 5%, 6% and local tax rates must be separately reported on the appropriate tax forms.

## STEP 1

### COMPLETING SALES AND USE TAX GROSS PROCEEDS WORKSHEET #1

#### Lines 1 through 3

##### Line 1: Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rentals and Withdrawals for Own Use

Enter the total amount of all sales (taxable and nontaxable), leases and/or rentals of tangible personal property made by the business for the reporting period. Included in this worksheet are charges made for all items subject to a maximum tax (i.e., motor vehicles, aircraft, boats, and other items subject to a maximum tax), sales of prepared or unprepared foods and all other charges otherwise subject to tax. **DO NOT INCLUDE THE AMOUNT OF SALES TAX COLLECTED.**

You must also report purchases of tangible personal property (merchandise, equipment, etc.) purchased tax free at wholesale, but used by you and/or your employees.

##### Line 2: Out-of-State Purchases Subject to Use Tax

Enter the total purchases of tangible personal property purchased from an out-of-state retailer for use, storage, or consumption in this state if an equal or greater amount of sales tax or use tax was not paid in the other state at the time of purchase. If the tax rate in your county is greater than the tax rate paid out-of-state, contact SCDOR for additional information.

##### Line 3: Total

Add Lines 1 and 2. Enter total here and on Line 1 on the front of ST-455.

## STEP 2

### COMPLETING THE 6% SALES AND USE TAX WORKSHEET #2

#### SALES AND USE TAX WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONS

#### Lines 4 through 12

##### Line 4: Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rentals and Withdrawals of Inventory for Own Use

Enter the total amount of all sales, leases and/or rentals of tangible personal property made by the business (taxable and nontaxable) for the reporting period occurring on or after June 1, 2007 (i.e., charges made for repair parts, food - prepared or unprepared, etc.). However, sales of items subject to a maximum tax (i.e., motor vehicles, aircraft, boats, and other items subject to a maximum tax) are excluded from this worksheet. Items subject to a maximum tax are reported on Worksheet #3. Note: For accounts that report other than monthly (i.e., quarterly, special, and annual filers), sales made prior to June 1, 2007, are reported on Worksheet #3. Nontaxable sales are to be itemized on Line 7 and deducted on Line 8. **DO NOT INCLUDE THE AMOUNT OF SALES TAX COLLECTED.**

You must also report purchases of tangible personal property (merchandise, equipment, etc.) purchased tax free at wholesale, but used by you and/or your employees.

##### Line 5: Out-of-State Purchases Subject to Use Tax

Enter the total purchases of tangible personal property purchased from an out-of-state retailer for use, storage or consumption in this state on or after June 1, 2007 (not otherwise excluded), if an equal or greater amount of sales tax or use tax was not paid in the other state at the time of purchase.

##### Line 6: Total

Add Lines 4 and 5. Enter total here and on Line 1A, Column A on the front of ST-455.

##### Line 7: Sales and Use Allowable Deductions

To claim a deduction relating to a sale, the sales transaction must be reported on Line 1, 2 and 4 of this worksheet. Enter the type of deduction (see list below) and the dollar amount of the sale. South Carolina law provides for a deduction from gross proceeds of sales those items specifically exempt from tax. The list below is used to identify some of the items to be shown as a deduction. Any amount claimed as a deduction on your return must be itemized in this worksheet. You are required to maintain records that will support all deductions claimed on this return. **A further explanation of deductions is available by obtaining a copy of the South Carolina Sales and Use Tax Code of Laws by contacting the Department's Main Office, the Taxpayer Service Centers or visit our website: [www.sctax.org](http://www.sctax.org)>Law and Policy**

**Examples of Allowable Deductions: (Not all inclusive)**

- Sales for resale
- Out-of-state sales
- Exemptions:
  - Manufacturing
  - Agriculture
  - Federal Government
  - Medicine and prosthetic devices (by prescription)
  - Diabetic Supplies (by written authorization)
  - Gasoline sales

Installation charges (separately state on invoice)

**Line 8: Total Amount of Deductions**  
(Total amount of deduction and enter here)

**Line 9: Subtotal**  
(Line 6 minus Line 8) If local tax is applicable, enter this amount on Line 1 of ST-389 worksheet.

**Line 10: Unprepared Food Sales** Effective November 1, 2007 sales of unprepared foods (previously taxed at 3%) are exempt of the State sales and use tax rate and must be entered here. However, local taxes still apply to sales of unprepared foods unless the local tax law specifically exempts such sales. As a result, sales that are subject to a local tax must be entered here on line 10 and on Form ST-389 (local sales tax worksheet). Sales reported for a period beginning October 1, 2006 and prior to November 1, 2007, must be entered here and on section 5 of Form ST-389 plus the ST-389 worksheet.

**Line 11: Total Deductions and Subtractions**  
(Add lines 8 and 10, enter total here and Line 2, Column A on front of return)

**Line 12: Net Sales and Purchases**  
(Line 6 minus Line 11.)

**STEP 3 COMPLETING THE 5% SALES AND USE TAX WORKSHEET #3**

**SALES AND USE TAX WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONS**  
Lines 13 through 21

**Line 13: Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rentals and Withdrawals for Own Use**

Enter the total amount of all sales, leases and/or rentals of tangible personal property made by the business (taxable or nontaxable) for (1) sales, leases, and rentals made prior to June 1, 2007, by quarterly, annual and other special filers; (2) sales of items subject to the maximum tax; and (3) any other sales, leases or rentals subject to tax at a rate of 5% instead of 6%. Sales, leases, and rentals subject to the tax at a rate of 6% must be reported on Worksheet #2. Nontaxable sales are to be itemized on Line 16 and deducted on Line 17. DO NOT INCLUDE THE AMOUNT OF SALES TAX COLLECTED.

**Line 14: Out-of-State Purchases Subject to Use Tax**

Enter the total purchases of tangible personal property purchased from an out-of-state retailer for use, storage or consumption in this state prior to June 1, 2007, if an equal or greater amount of sales tax or use tax was not paid in the other state at the time of purchase.

**Line 15: Total Gross Proceeds at 5%**

Add Lines 13 and 14. Enter total here and on Line 1A, Column B on the front of ST-455.

**Line 16: Sales and Use Tax Allowable Deductions**

To claim a deduction relating to a sale, the sales transaction must be reported on Line 13 or 14 of this worksheet. Enter the type of deduction (see list below) and the dollar amount of the sale. South Carolina law provides for a deduction from gross proceeds of sales those items specifically exempt from tax. The list below is used to identify some of the items to be shown as a deduction. Any amount claimed as a deduction on your return must be itemized on this worksheet. You are required to maintain records that will support all deductions claimed on this return. **A further explanation of deductions is available by obtaining a copy of the South Carolina Sales and Use Tax Code of Laws by contacting the Department's Main Office, the Taxpayer Service Centers or visit our website: [www.sctax.org](http://www.sctax.org)>Law and Policy**

**Types of Allowable Deductions: (Not all inclusive)**

- Sales to the Federal Government
- 1% tax reduction for purchases made by individuals age 85 and older for their own use  
**NOTE:** This 1% tax reduction does not apply to 2% accommodations or local tax calculation.

**Line 17: Total Amount of Deductions**

Enter total of deductions.

**Line 18: Net Sales and Purchases Subtotal**

(Line 15 minus Line 17)

If local tax and/or tax on unprepared food is applicable, prior to June 1, 2007, add this amount on Line 1 of the ST-389 worksheet.

**Line 19: Unprepared Food Sales**

Effective November 1, 2007 sales of unprepared foods (previously taxed at 3%) are exempt of the State sales and use tax rate and must be entered here. However, local taxes still apply to sales of unprepared foods unless the local tax law specifically exempts such sales. As a result, sales that are subject to a local tax must be entered here on line 19 and on Form ST-389 (local sales tax worksheet). Sales reported for a period beginning October 1, 2006 and prior to November 1, 2007, must be entered here and on section 5 of Form ST-389 plus the ST-389 worksheet.

**Line 20: Total Deductions and Subtractions**

(Add Lines 17 and 19, enter total here and Line 2, Column B on front of return.)

**Line 21: Net Sales and Purchases**

(Line 15 minus Line 20.)

- Trade-ins
- Excess over tax cap
- Manufactured Home (35% of exemption)
- Food purchased with food stamps
- Sales Tax Holiday exempt sales
- 1% tax reduction for purchases made by individuals age 85 and older for their own use

**NOTE:** This 1% tax reduction does not apply to local tax calculation.

**STEP 4****Transferring Sales Tax Worksheet Information to the Front of the ST-455****Lines 1 through 2****Line 1: Column A, Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rental, Use Tax and Withdrawals of Tangible Personal Property.**

Enter the total amount of all sales (taxable and nontaxable), leases and/or rentals made by the business for the reporting period subject to sales tax and use tax. Enter the total from Line 3 of your Worksheet #1. DO NOT INCLUDE SALES TAX COLLECTED IN THIS AMOUNT.

**Line 1A: Column A, Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rentals and Withdrawals for Own Use Subject to 6%.**

Enter the total amount of all sales (taxable and nontaxable) leases and/or rentals made by the business for the reporting period subject to the 6% tax rate requirements (Total from Line 6 of Worksheet #2).

**Line 1A: Column B, Gross Proceeds of Sales/Rentals and Withdrawals for Own Use. Items Subject to a Maximum Tax in this Total.**

Enter the total amount of all sales subject to a 5% tax requirements and be sure to include charges for items subject to a maximum tax if sold. (Total from Line 15 of Worksheet #3).

**Line 2: Column A, Total Amount of Deductions.**

Enter the total amount of deductions from sales tax worksheet (back of return) to the front of return as follows: Enter total from Line 11 of Worksheet #2 (back of return) to Line 2 of Column A (front of return): Line 20 of Worksheet #3 (back of return) to Line 2 of Column B (front of return).

**STEP 5****CALCULATION OF TAX ON FRONT OF ST- 455****Lines 3 through 8****Line 3: Net Taxable Sales**

Line 2 minus Line 1A of Column A and/or B.

**Line 4: Tax Due**

Multiply Line 3 amount by the tax rate shown at the head of each column and enter results on Line 4 of proper column. (i.e., Column A equals 6% and B equals 5%.)

**Line 5: Taxpayer's Discount**

A taxpayer's discount may be claimed when the return is filed and the tax due is paid in full on or before the due date of the return. **No discount** is allowed if the return or payment is received after the due date. The discount is computed as follows:

If your combined tax liability (Line 4, Columns A and B of ST-455 and Line 2, Column B last page of ST-389) is less than \$100, the discount rate is 3% (.03) of Line 4 for each column. If the total is \$100 or more, the discount rate is 2% (.02) of Line 4 for each column, Columns A and B. Deduct this percentage (%) amount from Line 4, Columns A and B.

**Note:** Discounts are not allowed to exceed \$3,000 per taxpayer (for all locations) during any one South Carolina fiscal year, which covers payments made from July 1 through June 30. This includes all returns which become due during this period (returns for June through May). The \$3,000 maximum includes the total discounts for sales/use, accommodation tax and local taxes. Taxpayers who file and pay electronically are allowed a \$3,100 maximum discount.

**Line 6: Balance Due**

Line 4 minus Line 5 of Column A and B.

If your tax return is late (filed and/or paid) complete Line 7 through 8. If not late, complete Line 8 of each column that applies.

**Line 7: Penalty**

Enter the total Penalty for each column, from calculations below or visit our website: [www.sctax.org](http://www.sctax.org)>Penalty and Interest Calculator

**PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE A RETURN:** Five percent (.05) of the amount of tax due (from Line 4 for each column on the front of the return) for each month or fraction of a month of delinquency, not to exceed twenty-five percent (.25) of the amount of tax due.

**PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO PAY TAX DUE:** The penalty is one-half of one percent (.005) of the amount of tax due (the total of Line 4 for each column on the front of the return) for each month or fraction of a month of delinquency, not to exceed a total of twenty-five percent (.25) of the amount of tax due. The penalty for failure to file and pay must be combined and entered as a total on Line 7.

**Line 7A: Interest**

Enter calculations of interest for each column. Visit our website, [www.sctax.org](http://www.sctax.org) to use our online P and I Calculator.

Interest is assessed in accordance with Sections 6621 and 6622 of the Internal Revenue Code. Rates are based on the prime rate, subject to change quarterly and are compounded daily.

**Line 7B: Penalty and Interest**

Enter the total Penalty and Interest (Line 7 and 7A) for each Column (A and B.)

**Line 8: Amount Due**

Enter the total of Line 6 and Line 7B for each Column (A and/or B).

**Line 8A: Total Due**

Enter the combined total of Line 8, Columns A and B.

**STEP 6****ENTERING TAX FROM ST-389 TO ST-455**

**REMINDER:** ST-389 must be completed and attached for all additional taxes. If this section does not apply, go to line 10 of the ST-455.

**Line 9: Tax Due from ST-389** Enter total of Column D from Line 5 of ST-389.

**STEP 7****ST-455 - DETERMINE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE**

**Line 10: Total Amount Due** Enter total of line 8A and line 9.

**STEP 8****ST-455 - SIGNATURE**

Sign and date your return on the back of the ST-455.

**DON'T FORGET** Returns are past due after the 20th of the month.

If you are not using preprinted forms and it is necessary to use blank forms, be sure to include your social security number or Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) in the label section.

**Social Security Privacy Act Disclosure**

It is mandatory that you provide your social security number on this tax form. 42 U.S.C 405(c)(2)(C)(i) permits a state to use an individual's social security number as means of identification in administration of any tax. SC Regulation 117-201 mandates that any person required to make a return to the SC Department of Revenue shall provide identifying numbers, as prescribed, for securing proper identification. Your social security number is used for identification purposes.

**The Family Privacy Protection Act**

Under the Family Privacy Protection Act, the collection of personal information from citizens by the Department of Revenue is limited to the information necessary for the Department to fulfill its statutory duties. In most instances, once this information is collected by the Department, it is protected by law from public disclosure. In those situations where public disclosure is not prohibited, the Family Privacy Protection Act prevents such information from being used by third parties for commercial solicitation purposes.