

Newlyweds Plans!

Newlyweds have a lot to think about and taxes generally are not on the list, however there are a number of reasons for a couple to consider how the nuptials will affect their tax situation.

Some things to think about during the wedding planning are below:

Report changes in:

Name Changes including hyphenations

When a name changes through marriage it is important to report that change to the Social Security Administration (SSA).

The name on a person's tax return must match what is on file at SSA or the tax returns filed thereafter will most probably be rejected.

To update information file Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card. That form is available at [SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov), or by calling 800-772-1213, or one can visit a local SSA office.

Address Changes

Whether you are getting married, or merely changing your address it is imperative to notify the Internal Revenue Service of any address changes. Both the IRS and U.S. Postal Service need to be notified as to any change in address as there are a number of issues that if you do not notify both government agencies you can be held liable for any penalties, assessments, and other government sanctions if you do not respond to correspondence that may have been sent to your prior address.

The federal and state courts have held for the IRS in many matters where an address change was not provided to the IRS, and they had corresponded with a taxpayer at the prior address which ended in assessments that may not have been correct but the taxpayer had failed to respond due to the fact they never received the original correspondence. It is incumbent upon every citizen to keep the government of their whereabouts.

Use IRS Form 8822, Change of Address to notify the IRS of your address changes.

Changes with the postal service to forward mail by going can be accomplished online at [USPS.com](https://usps.com) or at a local post office.

Consider changing withholding

Newly married couples should provide their employers an updated Form W-4, Employee's Withholding Allowance Certificate, within 10 days of being married.

If both spouses work the probability that they will face a higher tax bracket, and be affected by the Additional Medicare Tax is highly probable.

Decide on a new filing status

Married people can choose to file their federal income taxes jointly or separately each year.

While filing jointly is usually more beneficial it is best to figure the tax both ways to find out which works best.

If a couple is married as of December 31, they are married for the entire tax year for tax purposes.