Checklist: setting up as self-employed

To set yourself up as self-employed there are several things you must do. Make sure that you:



Register straight away for Self Assessment with HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) so they can set up your tax and National Insurance records
Obtain any permits and planning permission that you may need from your local authority
Contact Land and Property Services to find out whether you need to pay business rates
Contact HMRC to register for VAT if you expect to have turnover of more than £85,000 a year
Register with HMRC for PAYE (Pay As You Earn) if you employ staff
Register with HMRC if you are a contractor or subcontractor in the construction industry
Set up a financial record-keeping system
Put your name on all your business stationery, including letters, invoices, receipts and cheques