



Sales and Use Tax on Amusement Machines

GT-800020

R. 10/24

General Information for Owners and Operators of Coin-Operated Amusement Machines

Charges for the use of coin-operated amusement machines, except coin-operated amusement machines owned and operated by churches or synagogues, are subject to sales tax at the rate of **4%** plus any applicable discretionary sales surtax. The operator of a coin-operated amusement machine is responsible for calculating and paying the tax due on receipts from the amusement machine.

A **coin-operated amusement machine** is any machine operated by coin, slug, token, coupon, or other similar device for entertainment or amusement purposes, such as:

- Arcade games or video games
- Billiard or pool tables
- Coin-operated radios or televisions or moving picture viewers
- Jukeboxes or music machines
- Mechanical rides
- Pinball machines
- Shooting galleries
- Telescopes

The **amusement machine operator (operator)** is the person who possesses a coin-operated amusement machine (machine) for the purpose of generating sales through the machine, and who is responsible for removing the receipts from the machine.

Determining the Operator

When the owner of the business where the machines are located is also the owner of the machines, the business owner is the operator.

When the owner of the business where the machine is located is not the owner of the machine, a written agreement may specify whether the business owner or the machine owner is the operator. In the absence of an agreement specifying who will be the operator, the owner of the business where the machine is located is deemed the operator.

Registration

Operators are required to register with the Department of Revenue (Department) to collect, report, and remit Florida sales and use tax for each county where one or more machines are located for operation. To register or obtain information about registering, visit floridarevenue.com/taxes/registration.

To obtain the required annual *Amusement Machine Certificates* (DR-18C), submit an *Application for Amusement Machine Certificate* (Form DR-18), available at floridarevenue.com/forms. In addition, operators are required to annually purchase and display an **Amusement Machine Certificate (Form DR-18C)** for every location where coin-operated amusement machines are operated. The annual cost is \$30 per machine at each location. The certificate will specify the number of machines authorized for each location. Amusement machine certificates are valid for a period of one year, July 1 to June 30. **Operators must renew amusement machine certificates before June 30.** The Department will mail renewal notices to operators 30 to 60 days before the certificate's expiration date.

A penalty of \$250 per machine may be imposed on the amusement machine operator for failure to obtain and properly display a current *Amusement Machine Certificate*, or when the number of amusement machines shown on the *Amusement Machine Certificate* is less than the number of machines at that location. A \$250 per machine penalty may also be imposed on the business where any amusement machine is operated without a current *Amusement Machine Certificate*.

Calculating Tax Due

Surtax Rate	Amusement Divisor
No surtax	1.040
0.5%	1.045
1.0%	1.050
1.5%	1.055
2.0%	1.060
2.5%	1.065

Example
The total amount of receipts from amusement machines located in a county with a combined 4.5% sales tax and surtax rate on amusement machines is \$100. The amusement machine tax rate divisor is 1.045.
$\$100 \div 1.045 = \95.69 (gross sales) $\$100 - \$95.69 = \$4.31$ (sales tax and surtax due)
$\$95.69 \times 0.005 = \0.48 (discretionary sales surtax) Report \$0.48 surtax for this transaction on Line 15(d), Form DR-15, <i>Sales and Use Tax Return</i> .

To calculate the sales tax plus any applicable surtax due:

1. Divide the **total receipts** from charges for the use of coin-operated amusement machines by the tax rate divisor (see table above) for the county where the machines are located to compute **gross sales**.
2. Subtract **gross sales** from the **total receipts** to compute the amount of sales tax and surtax due.

Note: When computing the tax and surtax due on amusement machine receipts, a deduction is not allowed for any amount paid for the lease or license of the machine or the space (real property) to operate a machine.

Certificate Number: **Florida**

Sales and Use Tax Return HD/PM Date: / / **DR-15**

	1. Gross Sales	2. Exempt Sales	3. Taxable Amount	4. Tax Due
A. Sales/Services/Electricity	*	*	*	*
B. Taxable Purchases	Include use tax on Internet / out-of-state untaxed purchases →			*
C. Commercial Rentals	*	*	*	*
D. Transient Rentals	*	*	*	*
E. Food & Beverage Vending	*	*	*	*
Surtax Rate:		Reporting Period	5. Total Amount of Tax Due	*
			6. Less Lawful Deductions	*
			7. Net Tax Due	*
			8. Less Est Tax Pd / DOR Cr Memo	*
			9. Plus Est Tax Due Current Month	*
			10. Amount Due	*
			11. Less Collection Allowance	E-file/E-pay Only
			12. Plus Penalty	*
			13. Plus Interest	*
			14. Amount Due with Return	*

Name Address City/St ZIP

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
5050 W TENNESSEE ST
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-0120

On **Line A**, report the amount calculated as gross sales (Column 1) and as taxable sales (Column 3). Report the amount calculated as tax and surtax due in **Column 4, Tax Due**. On **Line 19** (on the back of a paper return), report the amount of taxable sales from amusement machines. On **Line 15(d)**, report the amount of surtax due on sales from amusement machines.

Discretionary Sales Surtax - Lines 15(a) through 15(d)

15(a). Exempt Amount of Items Over \$5,000 (included in Column 3)	15(a).	
15(b). Other Taxable Amounts NOT Subject to Surtax (included in Column 3)	15(b).	
15(c). Amounts Subject to Surtax at a Rate Different Than Your County Surtax Rate (included in Column 3)	15(c).	
15(d). Total Amount of Discretionary Sales Surtax Due (included in Column 4)	15(d).	
16. Florida Tax Credit Scholarship Program Motor Vehicle Sales Tax Credits (included in Line 6)	16.	
17. Taxable Sales/Untaxed Purchases or Uses of Electricity (included in Line A)	17.	
18. Taxable Sales/Untaxed Purchases of Dyed Diesel Fuel (included in Line A)	18.	
19. Taxable Sales from Amusement Machines (included in Line A)	19.	
20. Rural or Urban High Crime Area Job Tax Credits	20.	
21. Other Authorized Credits	21.	

Taxable Purchases

Operators of amusement machines are required to pay sales tax plus any applicable discretionary sales surtax on purchases, rentals, or leases of amusement machines, purchases of parts and repairs to such amusement machines, and items purchased as prizes.

Operators of amusement machines who lease or obtain licenses to use space (real property) from another person (lessor) for the purpose of placing and operating amusement machines are required to pay sales tax, plus any applicable discretionary sales surtax, to the lessor. Operators of amusement machines may apply for a *Sales and Use Tax Direct Pay Permit* to self-accrue and pay sales tax, plus applicable surtax, directly to the Department on the rental consideration paid. To apply for a permit, submit an *Application for Self-Accrual Authority/Direct Pay Permit – Sales and Use Tax* (Form DR-16A), available at floridarevenue.com/forms.

Family Amusement Games Act

The Family Amusement Games Act (section 546.10, Florida Statutes) requires the Department of Revenue to annually adjust the maximum value on the redemption value of a coupon or a point for purposes of defining an amusement game or machine.¹ The adjusted maximum value becomes effective the following January 1.

Effective Dates	Adjusted Maximum
January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025	\$6.90
January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024	\$6.75
January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023	\$6.50
January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022	\$6.00
January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021	\$5.70
January 1, 2020, through December 31, 2020	\$5.60
January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2019	\$5.50
January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018	\$5.35
July 1, 2015, through December 31, 2017	\$5.25

¹The maximum value is adjusted annually by the rate of inflation for the 12 months preceding September 1, rounded to the nearest 5 cents, by multiplying the previous maximum value by 1 plus the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, U.S. City Average, all Items (not seasonally adjusted), as calculated by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Other Helpful Publications and Resources

The following publications and others are available at floridarevenue.com/forms:

- *Sales and Use Tax on the Rental, Lease, or License to Use Commercial Real Property* (GT-800016)
- *Sales and Use Tax on Concession Sales* (GT-800003)
- *Sales and Use Tax on Vending Machines* (GT-800041)
- *Business Owner's Guide* (GT-300015)
- *Discretionary Sales Surtax* (GT-800019)
- *Florida Sales and Use Tax* (GT-800013)
- *Filing and Paying Taxes Electronically* (GT-800001)
- *Florida eServices Calendar of Electronic Payment Deadlines* (Form DR-659)

Tutorials on topics such as how to complete your sales and use tax return and how to electronically file and remit your taxes are available at floridarevenue.com/taxes/education.

Tax forms are available at floridarevenue.com/forms.

To speak with a Department of Revenue representative, call Taxpayer Services at 850-488-6800, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

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