

Understanding Your Property Assessment Notice

Use this example worksheet to help you better understand the property tax calculations.

The numbers provided do not reflect your property assessment.

How Property Taxes Are Calculated								
Property Value x Tax Rate = Taxable Value x Mill Levy = Tax								
						Calculate an estimate using the information from <i>your</i> property assessment here	Using the example property below	
To estimate property tax based on last year's mill levy (each taxing jurisdiction calculates a mill levy annually):								
Enter the 2010 mill levy							545.65	
Multiply the 2010 mill levy by 0.001 (one mill = one-tenth of a cent)							0.54565	
Enter the total current year taxable value (total of column N in the sample below)							1,226.00	
Multiply line 2 by line 3							\$668.97	
How Mill Levies Are Calculated								
Taxing Jurisdiction Budget ÷ Total Taxable Value of Taxing Jurisdiction = Mill Levy								
Properties may be subject to locally assessed fees or charges in addition to property tax for such things as solid waste, lighting, and special or rural improvement districts.								
Example of Property Assessment Notice								
A. Owner(s): John Doe		B. 2011 Personal Property Assessment Notice Property Subject to Taxation Example County 100 Main Street Anywhere, MT 59000			C. Date: 3/31/2011 D. Assessment Code: 11111 E. School District: 111 F. 2010 Mill Levy: 545.65			
THIS IS NOT A TAX BILL. For details about your property taxation values, please visit your local Department of Revenue Office or call <County Phone>								
G. Property ID	H. Property Classification	I. Taxable Percent	J. Quantity	K. Market Value		M. Taxable Value		N.
				Previous Year	Current Year	Previous Year	Current Year	
05-0000077994-001	5001 - All Horses & Mules, 9 Months & older		2.00					
	6111 - Agricultural Implements & Machinery	3.000%	1.00	56,466	38,005	1,694	1,140	
	6511 - Heavy Equipment & SM Equipment	3.000%		4,140	2,875	124	86	
Totals				60,606	40,880	1,818	1,226	

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Explanation of Information on Personal Property Assessment Notice

A.	Owner(s) – Lists as many of the owner(s) and contract purchaser(s) as space allows.
B.	Tax Year and County Name – Indicates the year of the assessment notice and the name of the county where the property was assessed.
C.	Date – The date is important because of the statutes regarding the taxpayer's right to appeal the value. The printed date is at least 7 days later than the day the assessment notices are initially produced to allow for processing and mailing time.
D.	Assessment Code – This is a unique number that identifies one or more properties for the county tax billing process.
E.	School District – This is the county described school district.
F.	Mill Levy – Each taxing jurisdiction calculates a mill levy annually. A consolidated levy is the total levies of taxing authorities that have the right to tax a property within a defined geographic area.
G.	Property ID – The property ID is a unique property identifier used by the property assessment computer program.
H.	Property Classification – A brief description of the type of property being assessed. These may be abbreviated due to limited space.
I.	Taxable Percent – The tax rate for each type of property is established by the legislature. Personal property, business equipment, is taxed at 3% of its assessed value.
J.	Quantity – The number of livestock or other personal property. Some items will not display a quantity.
K.	Market Value Prior Year – This is the assessed market value of the described property in the prior year. If the property was determined to be exempt or was not assessed in the prior year, this value will be blank.
L.	Market Value Current Year – This is assessed market value of the described property for the current tax year. If the property was determined to be exempt this value will be blank.
M.	Previous Year Taxable Value – This is the value that was used to determine the amount of tax due last year. If the property was determined to be exempt or was not assessed in the prior year, this value will be blank.
N.	Current Year Taxable Value – This is the value that will be used to determine the amount of property tax due on the property for the current tax year. The taxable value multiplied by the mill levy (set by local government) equals the amount of property tax due. If the property was determined to be exempt this value will be blank.