

EU VAT number formats

Once a company has received approval for an VAT number, see our [EU VAT Number Registration](#) briefing, it will receive a VAT number.

Each EU member country has a slightly different format for their VAT number system, featuring a variation of numbers and letters. It is important that companies take close care in using the correct format as the numbers are frequently checked against the [VIES](#) system, and errors may create delays or even fines. Country codes, two letters, are inserted before the VAT number if the company is using the number for the purposes of intra-community trade.

Below is a summary of the standard formats for each EU country, plus: Norway; Switzerland; and UK.

EU VAT number formats

Country	Country code	Format	Characters	Notes
Austria	AT	U12345678	9 characters	9 characters the first character is always a 'U'
Belgium	BE	1234567890	10 characters	Prefix with zero '0' if the customer provides a 9 digit VAT number
Bulgaria	BG	123456789, 1234567890	9 or 10 characters	
Croatia	HR	12345678901	11 characters	
Cyprus	CY	12345678X	9 characters The last character must always be a letter	
Czech Republic	CZ	12345678 123456789 1234567890	8, 9 or 10 characters If more than 10 characters are provided delete the first 3	
Denmark	DK	12345678	8 characters	



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[Get started](#)
Notes

[MENU](#)

Estonia	EE	123456789	9 characters	
Finland	FI	12345678	8 characters	
France	FR	12345678901 X1234567890 1X123456789 XX123456789	11 characters May include alphabetical characters (any except O or I) as first or second or first and second characters.	
Germany	DE	123456789	9 characters	
Greece	EL	123456789	9 characters	
Hungary	HU	12345678	8 characters	
Ireland	IE	1234567WA (companies) 1234567FA (individuals)	8 or 9 characters Includes one or two alphabetical characters (last, or second and last, or last 2)	
Italy	IT	12345678901	11 characters	
Latvia	LV	12345678901	11 characters	
Lithuania	LT	123456789 123456789012	9 or 12 characters	
Luxembourg	LU	12345678	8 characters	
Malta	MT	12345678	8 characters	
Netherlands	NL	123456789B01 or 123456789B02	12 characters. The 10th character is always B	Companies forming a VAT Group have the suffix BO2
Norway (non-EU)		123456789MVA	9 digits and the letters 'MVA' to indicate VAT registration	Last (ninth) digit is a MOD11 checksum digit.[20]
Poland	PL	1234567890	10 characters	
Portugal	PT	123456789	9 characters	
Romania	RO	1234567890	10 characters	
Slovakia	SK	1234567890	10 characters	
Slovenia	SI	12345678	8 characters	



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[Get started](#)
Notes[MENU](#)

Spain	ES	X12345678 12345678X X1234567X	9 characters Includes 1 or 2 alphabetical characters (first or last or first and last)	
Sweden	SE	123456789012	12 characters	
Switzerland (non-EU)	CHE	123.456.789	9 numbers plus MWST/TVA/IVA	German part: MWST French part: TVA Italian part: IVA
United Kingdom (non-EU)	GB	123456789	9 characters	

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Menu

[EU VAT registration](#)

- [EU VAT registration thresholds](#)
- [EU VAT number formats](#)

[EU VAT returns](#)[Distance Selling](#)[EU VAT digital services MOSS](#)**ABOUT AVALARA**[About Avalara](#)[Careers](#)[Customer insights](#)[Partner program](#)[Support](#)**PRODUCTS & SERVICES**[Avalara VAT Reporting](#)[VAT Registration & Returns](#)[AvaTax Calculation software](#)[MTD Cloud](#)[E-invoicing](#)**RESOURCES**[VATLive blog](#)[Webinars](#)[Whitepapers](#)[Get EU VAT number](#)[Help with VAT returns](#)**CONTACT US**[+44 \(0\) 1273 022400](#)[Monday – Friday](#)[8:00am – 6:00pm](#)[Chat with us](#)[Monday - Friday](#)[8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. GMT](#)[Europe \(English\)](#)[Terms](#)[Cookies](#)[Privacy](#)[Anti-Slavery Disclosure](#)

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