Do I Owe Tax?

Your Self Assessment report

You need to register and file a Self Assessment return

- You bought items specifically to sell them on.
- You sell regularly, not just as a one-off.
- You took £4,200 from selling in the 2025-26 tax year. That's over the £1,000 you can earn from trading before HMRC needs a return, so you'll need to file one.
- Your costs of £1,900 come to more than the £1,000 trading allowance, so we've taken those off instead - you can only claim one or the other, not both.
- That leaves a profit of £2,300, taxed on top of your other income of £12,571 to £50,270.
- You gave us a range for your other income rather than a figure, so we've worked the tax out as if it were £31,420 - the middle of the range you picked. If your other income is higher than that, more of this profit is taxed at the higher rate and you'll owe more.
- The platforms you sold on have to pass your details to HMRC - that kicks in at 30 sales of goods in a calendar year, or about £1,700 (2,000 euros), whichever comes first. Being reported isn't the same as owing tax: it just means HMRC has the same figures you do.

Your Self Assessment figures

These are the figures to copy into the short Self-Employment (SA103S) pages of your tax return:

Box	HMRC label	Value	Note
9	SA103S box 9 - your turnover	**£4,200**	
20	SA103S box 20 - total allowable business expenses	**£1,900**	
21	SA103S box 21 - net profit	**£2,300**	Box 9 minus the expenses in box 20. You're claiming your actual costs rather than the trading income allowance, so box 10.1 stays empty.
28	SA103S box 28 - net business profit for tax purposes	**£2,300**	Same as box 21 - there's no trading income allowance to take off as well.
31	SA103S box 31 - total taxable profits	**£2,300**	
1	SA103S box 1 - description of business	**-**	You fill this in - a short description of what the business does.
5	SA103S box 5 - business start date	**-**	You fill this in - only needed if the business started during this tax year.

Estimated Income Tax and Class 4 National Insurance

Income Tax	£460
Class 4 National Insurance	£0
Total estimated to be due	**£460**

This is worked out from the gross takings and other-income band you gave the checker: the trading allowance (or your costs, if higher) is deducted from your takings, and the profit that's left is taxed across the Income Tax and Class 4 National Insurance bands for your tax year. It's an estimate to help you budget, not a bill - your actual liability is whatever HMRC calculates from your full tax return.

SAMPLE - fictional seller

Key deadlines

Register for Self Assessment	5 October 2026
Paper return	31 October 2026
Online return and payment	31 January 2027

Registering for Self Assessment and getting your UTR

Based on your verdict, here's what registering and filing actually involves.

1. Register in good time

You must tell HMRC by 5 October following the end of the tax year you're registering for - for example, by 5 October 2026 for the 2025-26 tax year - if this is the first time you've needed to file, or you didn't file last year. Registering late can mean a penalty even if you don't end up owing any tax.

2. Register online

Go to gov.uk and search for "register for Self Assessment", or go straight to gov.uk/register-for-self-assessment/self-employed. If you don't already have a Government Gateway user ID, you can create one as part of registering; you'll need your National Insurance number to hand.

3. What you get back

HMRC issues a ten-digit Unique Taxpayer Reference (UTR) - the number that identifies your Self Assessment account. You'll use it, alongside your Government Gateway login, every year you file and whenever you pay.

4. When it arrives

HMRC usually posts your UTR around 15 days after you register (longer if you live overseas), so register well ahead of the filing deadline rather than leaving it to the last fortnight.

5. Keep it safe

Store your UTR somewhere you'll find it again. Losing it doesn't lose your tax record, but you'll need it to file, to pay, and to talk to HMRC about this account.

Source: GOV.UK, gov.uk/register-for-self-assessment/self-employed and gov.uk/find-utr-number, checked 23 September 2026.

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