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Tax identification number (TIN)

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In short: A tax identification number (TIN) identifies a taxpayer to the tax authority. Companies usually receive one at or soon after registration, for example a UTR in the UK, an EIN in the US, a NIP in Poland or a Steuernummer in Germany. Banks must record the TIN of account holders under international reporting rules.

A TIN is different from a VAT number, although in some countries the two are linked. Under the OECD Common Reporting Standard and US FATCA, banks ask for the tax residence and TIN of companies and their controlling persons and report accounts to tax authorities, which exchange the information internationally. The European Commission publishes the format of each EU country's TINs and an online check module.

See also

- VAT number
- Tax residence certificate

References

1. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) . European Commission, Taxation and Customs Union. Accessed November 2026.
2. Tax identification numbers (TINs) . OECD. Accessed November 2026.

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