



## 101 Hot Dog Cart Business Deductions

Even if you are only selling hot dogs part time, you can still use many of these deductions to lower your tax bill at the end of the year. Your hot dog business will allow you to write off many expenses that you would have incurred anyway, such as the cost of digital cameras, memory sticks, video cameras, printer ink, computer hardware and software, etc. What a great advantage!

You will notice that a lot of these pertain to website expenses, business education, and subscriptions. These are expenses that I'm willing to bet you are currently overlooking.

You will also notice some expenses that fall under the Cost of Goods Sold category, such as hot dogs, buns, chips, soda, etc. These are expenses that you are probably already deducting, but I thought they were worth mentioning just the same.

Of course, you need to be able to prove these expenses. That means keeping your receipts and entering everything in your Cash Tracker. In the event of an audit you need to be able show that everything is in order. This is where Cash Tracker really shines.

Also, your expenses should be reasonable. Don't go claiming bogus deductions because when your expenses are higher than your income, you can bet the IRS will be curious as to why. The one exception to this is if you started your business close to the end of the year. Your start up costs may very well outweigh your income in this situation. Don't be afraid to take all the deductions you legally can

Here they are folks, 101 ways to save money at tax time.

1. Industry books & periodicals, including audio books
2. Other books and periodicals used for research, training or education
3. Library book charges
4. DVDs and CDs related to your hot dog cart business
5. Cost of hot dogs
6. Cost of buns
7. Business magazine subscriptions
8. Industry relevant sites that require a subscription
9. Further education classes
10. Webinars
11. Business podcasts
12. Business-related websites
13. Memberships to professional clubs and affiliations

14. Internet access fees
15. Public internet access fees (Internet café's, airports etc)
16. Stock photo purchases for your website
17. Search Engine Optimization services and fees
18. Paid site submissions
19. Website hosting fees
20. Website design and/or maintenance fees
21. Website/blog templates
22. Domain name cost(s) and renewals
23. Blog expenses (e.g. WordPress additions)
24. Film & Digital cameras
25. Web cameras
26. Handheld video recorders
27. Digital memory cards
28. Recordable CDs and DVDs
29. Zip drives
30. Photo printouts
31. Film & film processing
32. Printer ink and copier toner
33. Phone charging stations (e.g. at the airport)
34. Second phone line for your business/fax machine
35. Long distance charges related to business
36. Cost of phone/fax/scanner/copier equipment
37. Cell phone & PDA expenses (bills, equipment, accessories)
38. Personal voice recorders and memo machines
39. Business equipment rental
40. Computer equipment & peripherals
41. Computer hardware upgrades (RAM, etc)
42. Depreciation costs of computer equipment
43. Data storage (both online and external HDDs)
44. Any business related software (not games)
45. Software licensing fees
46. Anti-virus and anti-spam subscriptions
47. Unpaid invoices. If you do some catering work for someone and you get stiffed on the bill, you can write off your loss.
48. Fees for temp workers. If you get overwhelmed and pay a friend or relative to help out, any money you pay that person for their assistance is a tax deduction.
49. Tax and accounting software (Cash Tracker)
50. Tax preparation fees
51. Business incorporation costs
52. Costs for Trademarks or Copyrights.
53. Business logos and graphic design fees
54. Business cards, letterhead and other stationery (even stuff you print yourself)
55. Office supplies (everything from paper to paper clips)
56. Home office expenses. You can deduct the part of your home you use exclusively for office space as an expense, including a portion of the rent, water, heating bills and so on.
57. Percentage of your home insurance (for your home office)
58. Online self-promotion fees (that includes banners and Adwords costs)
59. Trade show fees

60. Advertising costs (newspapers, stickers, posters, postcards etc)
61. Photography fees (e.g. headshots, pack shots etc)
62. Photocopying/faxing fees
63. Transportation costs if business related: car mileage; airline tickets; taxis; buses; trains.
64. Highway tolls
65. Parking fees
66. Hotel costs for business trips
67. Cleaning & laundering services when traveling for business.
68. Costs of conferences, plus all related expenses
69. Health insurance costs (if you buy your own insurance)
70. Computer equipment insurance
71. Food and drink purchased on business trips
72. Client entertainment (be reasonable...)
73. Postage costs (Stamps.com is ideal for keeping track of postage, and the service itself is tax-deductible)
74. Credit card fees
75. Post Office Box fees
76. Safe Deposit Box fees
77. Self-storage fees
78. Advice. Any professional advice you pay for that pertains to your business is a tax deduction, and that includes counseling or coaching
79. Membership dues to associations
80. Charity work or donations (this one's tricky. It's limited to your out-of-pocket costs, not the final cost of the product. You can't deduct time spent. But any materials used during your charity work can be deducted).
81. Prizes and giveaways. Here at HotDogProfits.com, we give away some very nice things. Sometimes they are generously given to us as gifts such as the hot dog cart donated by Ben's Carts. But when we go out and spend money on a prize to give away, that can be deducted, as well as the cost to mail it out to you. You can incorporate giveaways in your business as well, and deduct the associated costs.
82. Business furniture. If you use it exclusively for your hot dog business, then anything from a chair or filing cabinet to the whole desk can be written off.
83. Business functions. If you hold a little get-together for clients, even just one or two, then everything from the rental of the room (or golf course...) to food and drink can be deducted.
84. Business lunches. You can't include your own meal, but if you pick up the tab at a power-lunch (or just a meeting with a potential catering customer) you can write off their part of the check.
85. Props. I sometimes use props for photoshoots, and the cost of those props can be deducted.
86. Job search expenses. Any money you spend trying to get work, from postage to travel, is a deductible expense.
87. Alcohol and drug abuse treatment. If the pressure turns you into a Betty Ford patient, you can deduct the expenses of treatment. Let's hope you never have to though.
88. Any losses due to theft. Your laptop gets stolen...write it off.
89. Moving expenses related to your hot dog business.
90. You can deduct 50% of your self-employment tax
91. Home improvements. Turn the basement into a home office, those expenses are deductible.
92. Clothing and accessories. If you have to buy any clothing for a particular job (maybe you needed extra heavy winter clothing) then those costs are also deductible. But don't try and write off your new Rolex watch.
93. Business checking expenses. If you have anything more than free checking, it's a deduction.

94. Business gifts. This is cool. If your mom watched the kids while you went off to do a fair or festival, and you then bought her flowers or chocolates, the gift is tax deductible. Sweet!
95. Annual fees for business credit cards.
96. Physical therapy. Standing for four hours a day doesn't usually cause any problems, but if it does you can usually write off those chiropractor fees. However, medical expenses are a complex beast, and usually need to be a percentage of your income. Check with your accountant for details.
97. Headache pills, eye drops and so on.
98. Wages. Say you pay your kid \$20 a month to empty your office trash can, maybe as a way to earn an allowance. Well, you can deduct that expense.
99. Your dog. No kidding, if you can prove it's a guard dog and is protecting your equipment, you can write-off the doggie expenses.
100. Net operating loss. If your deductions outweigh your earnings, which sometimes happens in your start-up year, you can use that loss to lower your taxes next year.

And one big final deduction you may want to think about:

101. Your car. You can't deduct your car payments and expenses if you are also using it as a personal vehicle, (i.e. taking the 55 cents per mile deduction). However, if you purchase a vehicle strictly for your hot dog business, you can write it off.

Well, there you have it. 101 ways to keep more of the money you work so hard to make. I hope this is useful to you in your business. If you haven't started your hot dog business yet, please keep this report for future use.

Cash Tracker should be one of the first investments you make, simply because it will save you so much money over the course of one year, in addition to making your business a saleable asset. It should be obvious by now that Cash Tracker pays for itself many, many times over.

For more information on the hot dog business, please visit [www.HotDogProfits.com](http://www.HotDogProfits.com)

Thanks for reading this report!

Steve Schaible  
HotDogProfits.com  
Red Arrow Publishing LLC

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