



## Taxes for Artists: Quick Guide

### 1. Your Income

- Art sales
- Services / commissions
- Grants & honorariums (often T4A)
- **All income is taxable—even if no tax was taken off.**

### 2. Your Job + Art Income

- Your T4 (job) + artist income = TOTAL income
- Your tax is based on the combined total

### 3. HST Rule (Very Important)

- Register for HST if your artist income exceeds \$30,000
- Counts: art sales, services, freelance work
- Does NOT count: employment income (T4), most grants

### 4. What You Need to File

- T4 (job)
- T4A (if applicable)
- Sales/invoice records
- Payment history (PayPal, e-transfer, etc.)
- Receipts (materials, rent, travel)

### 5. How Taxes Work

- Total income – expenses = net income (what gets taxed)

### 6. Filing (TurboTax / StudioTax)

- Enter T4 (job)
- Enter T4A (if applicable)
- Add artist income (self-employment)
- Enter expenses
- The software calculates everything for you

### 7. Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Ignoring T4A income
- Not tracking small payments
- Mixing personal & art finances



- Not saving for taxes

## 8. Pro Tips

- Set aside 25–30% for taxes
- Keep receipts
- Track income monthly
- Use a separate bank account

**Final Reminder:** You don't need to be perfect—just consistent.