## RECORD RETENTION SCHEDULE When Can I Throw This Away?

RECORD OR DOCUMENT TYPE	RETENTION PERIOD
ACCIDENT REPORTS/CLAIMS (SETTLED CASES)	7 yrs
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE LEDGERS AND SCHEDULES	7 yrs
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE LEDGERS AND SCHEDULES	7 yrs
AUDIT REPORTS	Indefinitely
BANK RECONCILIATION AND STATEMENTS	7 yrs
Capital stock and bond records; ledgers, transfer registers, stubs showing issues, record of interest coupons, options, etc.	Indefinitely
CHARTS OF ACCOUNTS	Indefinitely
CHECKS (CANCELED - SEE EXCEPTION BELOW)	7 yrs
CHECKS - CANCELED FOR IMPORTANT PAYMENTS (I.E., TAXES, PURCHASES OF PROPERTY, SPECIAL CONTRACTS, ETC). CHECKS SHOULD BE FILED WITH THE PAPERS PERTAINING TO THE UNDERLYING TRANSACTION.	Indefinitely
Contracts, mortgages, notes and leases (expired)	7 yrs
Contracts, mortgages, notes and leases (still in effect)	Indefinitely
CORRESPONDENCE (ROUTINE) WITH CUSTOMERS AND/OR VENDORS	1 yrs
Correspondence (general)	3 угѕ
Correspondence (legal and important matters only)	Indefinitely
DEEDS, MORTGAGES AND BILLS OF SALE	Indefinitely
DEPRECIATION SCHEDULES	Indefinitely
DUPLICATE DEPOSIT SLIPS	l yrs
EMPLOYEE APPLICATIONS	3 угѕ
EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL RECORDS (AFTER TERMINATION)	7 yrs
EXPENSE ANALYSIS/EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION SCHEDULES	7 угѕ
financial statements (year-end, other months optional)	Indefinitely
GARNISHMENTS	7 угѕ
GENERAL LEDGERS (YEAR-END, TRIAL BALANCE)	Indefinitely
I-9 FORMS	3 yrs after date of hire or 1 yr following termination (whichever is later)
INSURANCE POLICIES (EXPIRED)	3 yrs
Insurance records, current accident reports, claims, policies, etc.	Indefinitely
Internal audit reports (in some situations, longer retention periods may be desirable)	3 yrs
Internal reports	3 yrs
INVENTORIES OF PRODUCTS, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	7 yrs
Invoices (to customers, from vendors)	7 yrs



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RECORD OR DOCUMENT TYPE	RETENTION PERIOD
minute book of directors, stockholders, by-laws and charter	Indefinitely
NOTES RECEIVABLE LEDGERS AND SCHEDULES	7 yrs
option records (expired)	7 yrs
OSHA EXPOSURE RECORDS	30 yrs
PATENTS AND RELATED PAPERS	Indefinitely
PAYROLL RECORDS AND SUMMARIES	7 yrs
PETTY CASH VOUCHERS	3 yrs
PHYSICAL INVENTORY TAGS	3 yrs
Property appraisals by outside appraisers	Indefinitely
PROPERTY RECORDS, INCLUDING COSTS, DEPRECIATION RESERVES, YEAR-END TRIAL BALANCES, DEPRECIATION SCHEDULES, BLUEPRINTS AND PLANS	Indefinitely
PURCHASE ORDERS (EXCEPT PURCHASING DEPARTMENT COPY)	l yr
Purchase Orders (Purchasing department COPY)	7 угѕ
receiving sheets	l yr
RETIREMENT AND PENSION RECORDS	Indefinitely
requisitions	l yr
SALES COMMISSION REPORTS	3 угѕ
SALES RECORDS	7 yrs
SCRAP AND SALVAGE RECORDS (INVENTORIES, SALES, ETC.)	7 yrs
STOCK AND BOND CERTIFICATES (CANCELED)	7 yrs
STOCKROOM WITHDRAWAL FORMS	l yr
SUBSIDIARY LEDGERS	7 yrs
TAX RETURNS AND WORKSHEETS, REVENUE AGENTS; REPORTS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATING TO DETERMINATION OF INCOME TAX LIABILITY	Minimum of 3 years or up to 10 years in certain circumstances
TIMECARDS	7 yrs
Trademark registrations and copyrights	Indefinitely
TRAINING MANUALS	Indefinitely
UNION AGREEMENTS	Indefinitely
VOUCHERS FOR PAYMENT TO VENDORS, EMPLOYEES, ETC. (INCLUDES ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EMPLOYEES, OFFICERS, ETC. FOR TRAVEL AND ENTERTAINMENT EXPENSES)	7 yrs
WITHHOLDING TAX STATEMENTS (W-2'S, ETC)	7 yrs

