

Checklist for SMEs: 2025 annual accounts and 2026 planning

This checklist will help to ensure that nothing is forgotten in the year-end rush and the new year gets off to a successful start.

Note:

The list is not exhaustive and can be supplemented depending on the sector and company size.

**Financial statements and accounting**

- Have all relevant documents ready for the fiduciary office
- Check whether all business transactions have been recorded by 31 December 2025
- Reconcile bank and cash accounts and provide the relevant receipts
- Create an overview of outstanding customer receivables and unpaid supplier invoices
- Check outstanding customer receivables and consistently send reminders for late payments
- Plan payments to suppliers and take advantage of discounts, where possible
- Ensure that all social security and tax documents are complete (OASI, UVG, OPA, salary statements, VAT statement)

**Projects and sales**

- Complete ongoing projects and invoice them correctly
- Take advantage of final revenue potential – such as Christmas business, sales or other targeted marketing campaigns

**Liquidity and payment planning**

- Assess the 2025 financial year and take stock of successes and challenges
- Analyse cash flow and ensure that sufficient funds are available for taxes, invoices, 13th monthly salary and bonuses
- Reserve sufficient liquidity for the first quarter of 2026
- Plan advanced training in the team
- Reviewing succession or proxy arrangements
- Define growth or innovation projects for 2026

[More on managing liquidity](#) | [More on investing liquidity](#)

**Planning and strategy**

- Create a realistic budget for 2026 with different scenarios
- Define strategic goals and prioritize measures to increase efficiency
- Analyse the economic situation (exchange rate, inflation, energy prices) and assess risks
- Plan investments in infrastructure, digitization and sustainability
- Automate recurring tasks to simplify processes and save resources



Staff and organization

- Hold annual appraisals and agree on goals for 2026
- Plan holidays, working hours and additional or seasonal staff
- Communicate salary rounds and bonus payments transparently
- Thank the team for their commitment and promote motivation and cohesion



Customers and business partners

- Cultivate contacts and express thanks
- Negotiate conditions for 2026



Legal and administrative matters

- Review contracts with suppliers, service providers and partners for terms, notice periods and conditions
- Update commercial register entry if company form, registered office or management changes
- Check insurance policies for coverage, premiums and possible adjustments
- Monitor data protection and IT security – especially for customer data
- Renew licences and software subscriptions to avoid interruptions

