

# Planning for Business Succession Checklist

## Planning for Business Succession Checklist

General information	Yes	No	N/A
1. Has relevant personal information been gathered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal details</li> <li>• Family details</li> <li>• Name of other participants in the business</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Has personal financial situation been assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income</li> <li>• Expenses</li> <li>• Assets</li> <li>• Liabilities</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. If business is a separate entity, has its financial situation been assessed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type of entity (e.g., corporation, partnership)</li> <li>• Income</li> <li>• Expenses</li> <li>• Assets</li> <li>• Liabilities</li> <li>• Owners' equity</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Has professional team been assembled? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accountant</li> <li>• Attorney</li> <li>• Insurance professional</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes:			
Business succession planning basics	Yes	No	N/A
1. Are there other owners of the business?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Is there a legal, written business succession plan in place?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Has a short-term contingency plan been prepared that maps out procedure for the continuation of business operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Has a successor management team been chosen?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Have methods of retaining key employees during transition been discussed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Has plan been discussed with family members and key employees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Has equalizing estate distributions to children been discussed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. If no business succession plan is in place, have various strategies and goals been discussed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notes:			
<b>Selling a business interest</b>			
1. Is selling the business to family an option?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. If selling the business to family is an option, have financing options been considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Private annuity</li> <li>• Installment sale</li> <li>• Self-canceling installment note</li> <li>• Buy-sell agreement</li> <li>• Coordinate sale with gifts</li> <li>• Family limited partnership</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Is selling the business to nonfamily an option? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selling shares or assets</li> <li>• Using a buy-sell agreement to sell to nonfamily</li> <li>• Selling to another corporation</li> <li>• Selling to an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes:			
<b>Lifetime gifting</b>			
1. Has transferring the business with lifetime gifts been considered? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outright gifts</li> <li>• Trusts</li> <li>• Charitable remainder trusts</li> <li>• Transfer using another entity</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes:			
<b>Other strategies</b>			
1. Have other transfer strategies been discussed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grantor retained trusts</li> <li>• Retained interest</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Notes:

**Buy-sell agreements**

**Yes No N/A**

1. Is a buy-sell agreement an option?

- Entity purchase
- Cross purchase
- Wait and see
- Section 302 stock redemption
- Section 303 stock redemption
- One-way
- Trusteed cross purchase

2. If a buy-sell agreement is an option, have ways to fund the agreement been discussed?

- Life insurance
- Disability insurance
- Cash
- Borrowings

Notes:

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