



OWNER-OPERATOR TRUCKING BUSINESS

Startup Checklist

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If you want to start a trucking business you'll need to:

- ☐ Learn about the trucking industry.
- ☐ Get a commercial driving permit.
- ☐ Go to truck driving school.
- ☐ Write a business plan.
- ☐ Prepare your finances.
- ☐ Get your commercial driver's license.
- ☐ Start an LLC or a Corporation.
- ☐ Get an Employer Identification Number.
- ☐ Get a business bank account.
- ☐ Buy a truck and trailer.
- ☐ Get business insurance.
- ☐ Get state and local business licenses.
- ☐ Fill out [Form 2290](#) and pay the fee.
- ☐ Get [DOT number](#).
- ☐ Become a [trucking authority](#).
- ☐ Join the [International Fuel Tax Association](#).
- ☐ Get an [IRP plate](#).
- ☐ Create a logo.
- ☐ Create a website.
- ☐ Create business cards.
- ☐ Sign up for [datboard](#).
- ☐ Sign up for [truckstop.com](#).
- ☐ Establish contracts.
- ☐ Manage cash flow and fuel costs.
- ☐ Haul loads.
- ☐ Allow the DOT to audit your business.
- ☐ File IFTA's quarterly tax returns.
- ☐ Maintain new or used trucks.