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Sep. 29, 2005

From the October 2005 [Review of W-2/1099 Software](#)

1099 Express offers two programs: 1099 Express and W-2 Express. 1099 Express supports preparation of all Form(s) 1099, 1098 and 5498-IRA, as well as combined Federal/State filing. W-2 Express supports preparation of Form(s) W-2 and W-3. 1099 Express costs \$199 for the first year, and W-2 Express costs \$149 for the first year. Both programs are \$95 for subsequent years.

Usability/Navigation — 4 Stars

The 1099Express/W-2 Express programs feature a spreadsheet-like interface with the look and feel of Excel. However, they are stand-alone programs (not templates) and do not require Excel or any other programs in order to operate. The programs open to a client-specific spreadsheet list of payees and a toolbar with icons. The spreadsheet features sortable columns for each of the lines on the selected tax form (1099, W-2, etc.), which provides somewhat of a crowded view but does lend itself to a full and complete view of all data on-screen without having to actually open the payee form. Columns can be re-sized to view user-specific data more easily.

Client/Payer information is entered into an on-screen window. Navigation is via the Tab key. Users can access and edit existing clients, open a different one or add new clients. When a company database is selected, its payees appear in the spreadsheet listing. Double-clicking the payee record opens to the recipient form. Data entry is performed directly into on-screen replicas of actual forms, a feature that enables new users to quickly learn the programs' methodology. 1099 Express and W-2 Express provide solid features, including an audit report, search tools, the ability to print on plain or preprinted paper, and the ability

to copy and paste data directly from external spreadsheets. Toolbar icons include

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program contains sample Excel spreadsheets to assist the user with getting up to speed on the file import process. 1099 Express and W-2 Express report import data errors and allow editing directly on the on-screen form. The programs support all Windows-compatible printers and can be used to print on preprinted forms or can also print approved laser-generated forms on plain paper.

Support For Paperless Transmission — 4 Stars

1099 Express and W-2 Express support electronic and magnetic media filing with the SSA and IRS. The programs guide users through the process of creating electronic and magnetic media files and saving to disk or uploading the files. A service bureau is also available through which 1099 records can be filed electronically.

Help/Training — 3.5 Stars

The programs include a “back of the book” Help index, production-focused Help capabilities such as mouse-over information, and right-click menus for cutting and pasting, and support. The company supplies sample data files to help explain many of the processes. Free traditional telephone support is also included.

2005 Overall Rating — 4 Stars

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