Equipment Lease Quote Worksheet

Price your own quote, line by line, before you sign anything

Use this worksheet with any equipment leasing quote. There is no universal rate to look up, so this sheet walks the numbers on your own quote, backs the real interest rate out of the payment, and flags the tax question your structure creates. Full guide, calculator, and official sources: clearlegaltips.com/equipment-leasing-rates/

EQUIPMENT LEASE QUOTE WORKSHEET

Section A. The equipment and the ask

Equipment (make / model / year): ____

New or used, and approximate age: ____

Sticker or purchase price: ____

How long you actually need it (months): ____

At the end, do you want to own it or hand it back?: ____

Section B. The quote, line by line

Lessor (company name): ____

Monthly payment quoted: ____

Term (number of months): ____

Down payment and any advance payments: ____

Residual or buyout amount at the end: ____

End-of-lease structure (circle one)
Return / Fair-market-value buyout / $1 (nominal) buyout: ____

Fees (write in each amount, or 0)
Documentation fee: ____

Filing fee: ____

Inspection fee: ____

End-of-term fees (wear, return freight, purchase-option): ____

Any other fee named on the quote: ____

Personal guarantee required? (yes / no): ____

Section C. The implied-rate check

Enter these on the calculator at clearlegaltips.com/equipment-lease-calculator/ and read back the interest rate that fits. That is your implied rate, the true cost of the financing hiding in the payment.

Equipment price entered: ____

Down payment entered: ____

Term entered: ____

Residual or buyout entered: ____

Monthly payment entered: ____

Implied rate the calculator returned: ____

Does it match the rate you were quoted? (yes / no / no rate was stated): ____

Section D. Questions for the lessor

What term, rate, and residual produce this exact payment?: ____

Is this every fee, front to back, including anything due at return?: ____

Is the buyout fair-market or nominal, and is it fixed in writing?: ____

What does the payment look like one term-tier shorter?: ____

Section E. The tax note for your CPA

Structure decides the tax treatment, so note what you have and take it to a tax professional. A true lease is generally deducted as rent; a $1-buyout deal is generally treated as a purchase, which opens the Section 179 conversation.

My structure (true lease / $1 buyout / other): ____

Likely treatment to confirm (rent deduction / Section 179 purchase): ____

CPA follow-up date: ____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

This worksheet is general information, not legal or tax advice. There is no universal equipment leasing rate; the quote in front of you controls, so price that deal rather than trusting an advertised range. The implied rate is the interest rate baked into your payment, which you can back out with the calculator. Structure changes both the price and the tax line, so a true lease is generally deducted as rent on Schedule C, line 20a, while a $1-buyout lease is generally treated as a purchase, which can open Section 179. Section 179 dollar caps shown in the guide are for tax years beginning in 2025 and are inflation-adjusted in later years, so confirm the current figure and your eligibility with a CPA before you file. Keep the quote, this worksheet, and the signed lease together. Full guide and official sources: clearlegaltips.com/equipment-leasing-rates/