

The Business Owner's Tax Savings Playbook

5 Proven Strategies to Reduce Taxes and Keep More of What You Earn



Introduction

For most business owners, taxes are the single largest expense — bigger than payroll, rent, or even reinvestment. Yet many owners unknowingly overpay because they don't have a proactive strategy.

With the right planning, you can **legally reduce your tax burden, free up cash flow, and accelerate wealth creation outside the business.**

This playbook highlights **five proven strategies** every entrepreneur should consider.

1 Optimize Your Business Structure

The Problem: Many companies start with the wrong entity structure. Over time, that choice can lead to unnecessary payroll taxes, double taxation, or missed deductions.

The Fix: Review whether your business should operate as:

- **S-Corp** → Avoids self-employment tax on distributions
- **C-Corp** → Ideal for reinvestment-heavy firms & QSBS eligibility
- **LLC** → Flexible, but often exposes owners to higher payroll/self-employment taxes

 *Impact: Structure optimization can save \$10K–\$100K+ annually.*

2 Align Owner Compensation Strategically

The Problem: Paying yourself “wrong” either risks IRS scrutiny (too little) or triggers excessive payroll taxes (too much).

The Fix: Blend **salary + distributions** for maximum efficiency.

- Too much salary → Overpaying payroll taxes
- Too little salary → IRS red flags

 *Impact: Strategic compensation can save tens of thousands every year.*

3 Leverage Advanced Retirement Plans

The Problem: Standard 401(k)s cap out too quickly for high-income entrepreneurs.

The Fix: Upgrade to advanced plans:

- **Cash Balance Plans**
- **Defined Benefit Plans**

- ✓ Contribute \$100K–\$250K+ per year
- ✓ Large current-year deductions
- ✓ Accelerated wealth building outside the business

 *Impact: High-earning owners can shelter six figures annually from taxes.*

4 Use Smart Deductions & Incentives

The Problem: Many owners underutilize available deductions and credits.

The Fix: Proactively explore:

- **Section 199A deduction (20% QBI)**
- **R&D Tax Credit** (applies to more industries than you think)
- **Bonus Depreciation / Accelerated Write-Offs**
- **Captive Insurance Arrangements** (in select industries)

 *Impact: These strategies can offset hundreds of thousands in taxable income.*

5 Plan Ahead for Exit & Liquidity Events

The Problem: Too many owners think about taxes *after* the sale or succession — when it's too late.

The Fix: Start planning **3–5 years in advance** with tools like:

- **QSBS Exclusion** (up to \$10M tax-free)
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRTs)**
- **Installment Sales** to spread gains across years

 *Impact: Proactive exit planning can preserve millions in after-tax wealth.*

Next Steps

Taxes are complex — but the key is **proactivity**. The earlier you plan, the more wealth you keep.

At **Unbound Capital Advisors**, we help \$2M+ business owners:

-  Reduce taxes & protect cash flow
 -  Create liquidity outside the business
 -  Prepare for a profitable exit
 -  Build generational wealth with purpose
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Call to Action

Ready to keep more of what you've earned?

👉 Schedule your free **Business Owner Tax Strategy Session** today with Mike@
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