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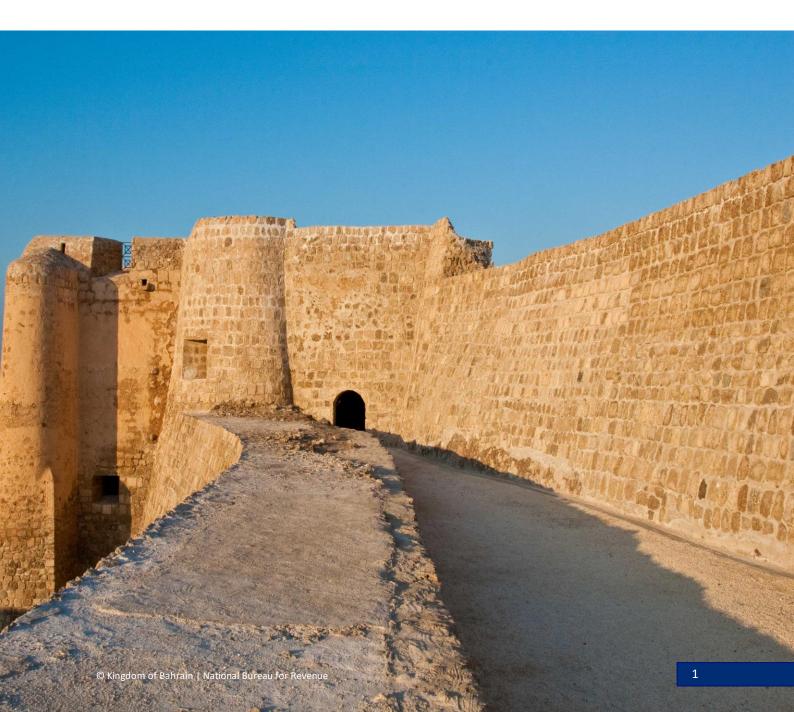


1. MANUAL OVERVIEW

The purpose of this Manual is to provide VAT payers with:

- An overview of the VAT rules and procedures in the Kingdom of Bahrain in relation to the VAT return process; and
- The necessary guidance to help them navigate the National Bureau for Revenue (NBR) online portal and forms for VAT return filing, payment submission and obtaining refunds.

This Manual is intended to provide general information only and does not represent exhaustive or legally binding guidelines. For additional information, kindly refer to "Guidelines" on the NBR website. You can also contact NBR's Contact Center via email or the VAT hotline, details of which can be found under "Contact us" on the NBR website.





2. WHAT IS A VAT RETURN?

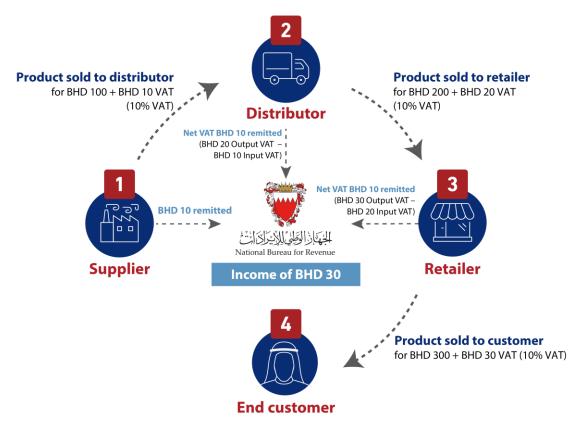
A VAT return is the official document submitted by the VAT payer to NBR summarizing the total output VAT due and input VAT recoverable for a given VAT period.

OUTPUT VAT

The VAT amount charged by a VAT payer on supplies (sales) of goods or services subject to VAT (including deemed supplies and those subject to the reverse charge mechanism); this should then be paid back to NBR.

INPUT VAT

The VAT incurred by a VAT payer on any goods or services subject to VAT purchased or imported for the purpose of their business.



Input VAT: VAT paid on all purchases **Output VAT:** VAT collected on sales

Kindly refer to **Section 12.1** of the **VAT General Guide** for additional information on output VAT, recoverable input VAT and the calculation of a VAT payer's net VAT position.



3. WHO SHOULD FILE A VAT RETURN?

Every VAT payer registered for VAT purposes in the Kingdom of Bahrain is required to assess their net VAT position for a given VAT period; this information should then be reported on a periodic base in a VAT return.

Even if a VAT payer has not made any purchases, imports or supplies during a given VAT period, it is required to submit a nil VAT return if registered for VAT with NBR.

The VAT return should only be submitted by the VAT payer or, if applicable, another person who has been authorized by NBR to act on the VAT payer's behalf (i.e. a registered VAT Agent or VAT Representative).





4. WHEN SHOULD A VAT RETURN BE SUBMITTED?

The volume of a VAT payer's annual supplies subject to VAT determines when they are required to register for VAT and begin filing returns, as well as the frequency of those filing obligations.



VAT PERIOD

The time period in which economic activities (i.e. sales and purchases) are conducted and net VAT due is calculated and submitted through VAT return, and for which VAT payers are required to keep a record of all their VAT activities and report them in the appropriate filing period.



FILING PERIOD

The month following the end of each VAT period, during which a VAT payer is required to submit their VAT return and pay any liabilities to NBR.

A VAT payer would be required to:

- Report the output VAT due and input VAT recoverable for that VAT period to NBR;
- · Pay output VAT due to NBR if in a debit position; and
- Claim recoverable input VAT from NBR or carry forward the excess for subsequent VAT periods if in a credit position.



FILING/PAYMENT DUE DATE

The last day of the filing period month. If a VAT payer submits their returns or has unpaid dues after the due date, they will begin to incur late filing and/or payment penalties.

NBR will send the VAT payer reminders during the filing period to help avoid such penalties. However, it remains the responsibility of each VAT payer to comply with the VAT rules and regulations.

Please note that if the due date falls on an official holiday, then it will be extended to the next working day.



4.1. VAT returns during the transitional period

To facilitate the compliance process during the first year of VAT, VAT periods in the year 2019 have been different from those in subsequent years. Please refer to Section 19.2 of the VAT General Guide to understand which VAT periods have been applied when submitting VAT returns for 2019.

After December 31, 2019, these transitional VAT periods will no longer be applicable and VAT payers will be required to follow the VAT periods prescribed below.

4.2. VAT returns from the year 2020

If the value of a VAT payer's annual supplies exceeds BHD 3 million, they will have monthly VAT periods corresponding to the Gregorian calendar months. Otherwise, they will have VAT periods corresponding to Gregorian calendar quarters.

Monthly Filing (Annual supplies > 3 Million BHD)

VAT period	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Filling Period	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Filling Deadline	Feb 29	Mar 31	Apr 30	May 31	June 30	July 31	Aug 31	Sept 30	Oct 31	Nov 30	Dec 31	Jan 31

Quarterly Filing (Annual supplies ≤ 3 Million BHD)

VAT period	Jan-Mar	Apr-June	July-Sept	Oct-Dec
Filling Period	Apr	July	Oct	Jan
Filling Deadline	Apr 30	July 31	Oct 31	Jan 31

The above VAT periods shall apply, unless:

- A VAT payer is notified by NBR to use an adjusted VAT period (e.g. a shift from quarterly to monthly VAT periods). In this case, they will be notified of the change within three months prior to the effective date of change.
- A VAT payer, whose annual supplies do not exceed BHD 3 million but requests an amendment to their VAT periods by increasing their filing frequency from quarterly to monthly. If NBR accepts the request, the VAT payer will be notified of the date on which the change will go into effect.



5. HOW SHOULD A VAT RETURN FORM BE SUBMITTED?

All VAT returns must be submitted online through the NBR online portal. Please refer to the steps below when filing a VAT return.

Accessing the VAT return form

VAT payer should access the Login page on the NBR website using the following link: www.nbr.gov.bh.

Note: The portal should be accessed via Google Chrome for optimal utilization.

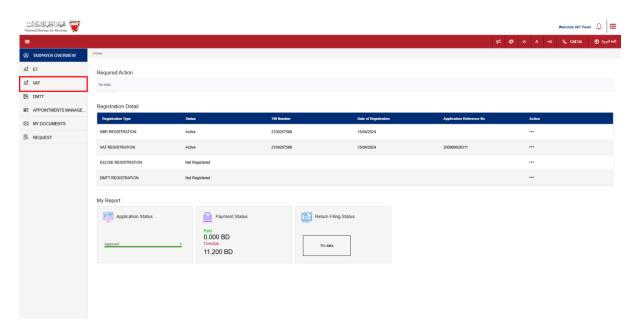


Log in to the portal using your designated User ID and Password (used during registration).

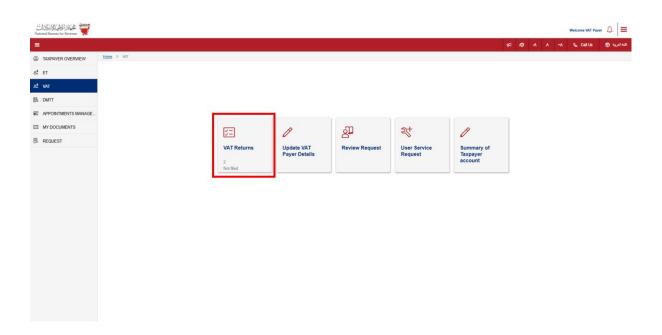




Select "VAT" from the list available on the left of the page.



Access the outstanding filing obligations by clicking on "VAT Returns". The number displayed at the bottom of this push button (i.e. "1 not filed") represents the outstanding filing obligations to date.



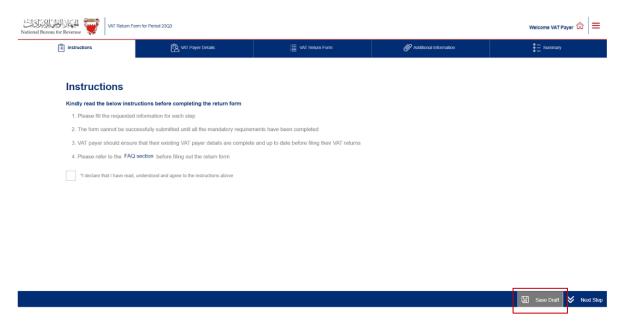
Filter the "VAT Return Forms" by selecting "Not Filed" from the drop-down menu at the top right corner of the screen. To initiate the return, select the appropriate VAT return form from the list of outstanding filing obligations.





Filling in the VAT return form

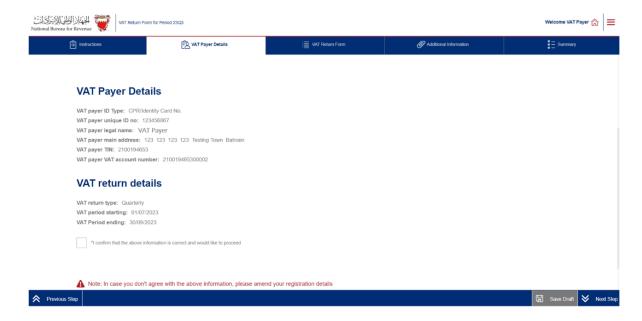
After reviewing the conditions of submitting the VAT return form, VAT payer must confirm and agree with the instructions; only then can you move forward with the form. Please remember to save your progress by clicking the "Save Draft" button at the bottom right corner.



VAT payer should then review and, where necessary, amend the VAT payer and return details before continuing with the form. If any adjustments to these details need to be done, please proceed to "Update VAT Payer Details" on the homepage of the portal. If unable to make the necessary changes to your details via the portal, please contact NBR for assistance through one of the contact channels stated on the NBR website.

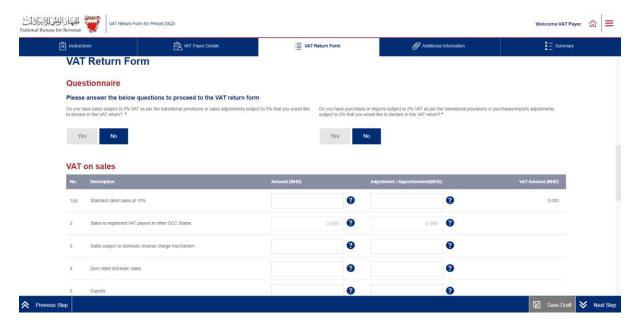




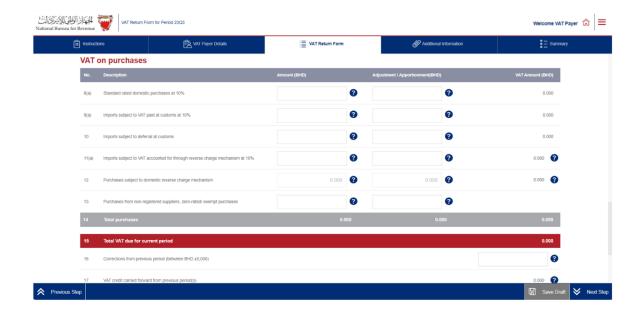


Fill in the "VAT Return Form" section using the appropriate amounts applicable to the return period. For additional guidance, click on the tooltips (question marks) and a hover box will appear to further explain the line items.

Note that the VAT amount is auto calculated and is based on the classification highlighted in the tooltips. If the VAT treatment of these values does not match those in your accounting books, please revise your classifications.

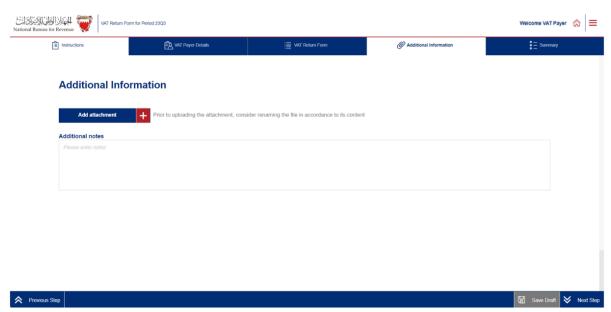






Please refer to the FAQs in Section 9 of this Manual for additional information regarding the VAT return and/or contact your VAT Relationship Manager or NBR's Contact Center.

After filling the VAT return, you will be redirected to the "Additional Information" section (optional), where supplementary information can be submitted (e.g. invoices, payment information or customs declarations) to NBR. If deemed necessary, NBR reserves the right to request additional information.

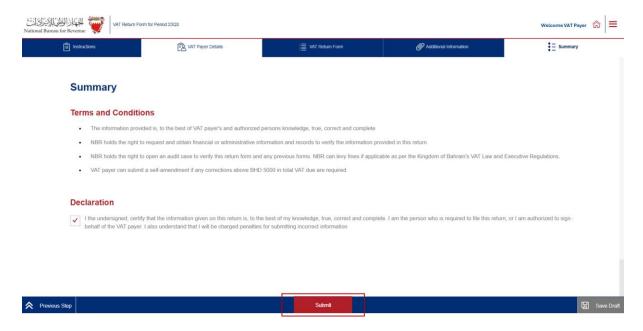


Note that if submitting a modification of the VAT return, it may be required to upload relevant documents.



Submitting the VAT return form

Once the return form is completed and agreed to the declaration, VAT payer will be able to review and submit the form. Note that if the draft form is not submitted within 45 days, it will be automatically erased from the portal.

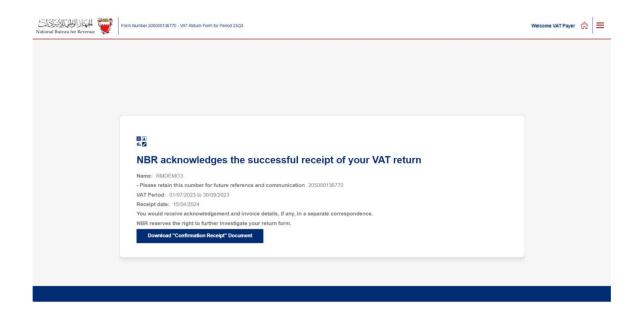


Once the form is submitted, you will be redirected to a page confirming the successful submission of the form. The submission can be viewed and "Confirmation receipt" may be accessed, which is an acknowledgement letter of successful submission. VAT payer should also expect to receive an SMS and email confirming the submission.

Kindly note that if the VAT payer has filed a debit return, then a bill breaking down with the liability should be received. If the VAT payer has excess credit from a previous period, and that credit was used to offset the filed debit (in full or in part), then an offsetting letter should be expected to be received under "My documents" on the portal.



How should a VAT return form be submitted?





Confirmation receipt of your VAT return



الرقم المرجعي: Ref. Number : 205000136060

تاريخ الرسالة : 13/05/2024 : تاريخ الرسالة



Confirmation Receipt Of VAT Return

تأكيد استلام إقرار القيمة المضافة

اسم الخاضع للقيمة المضافة: VAT Payer

vat payer address: Flat/Shop No. 123, Building 123, عنوان الشخص الخاضع للقيمة المضافة: Road/Street 123, T Town, Block 123,

Bahrain

رقم البطاقة السكانية/ الهوية: 123456180 123456180

Dear VAT Payer,

You have successfully submitted your VAT return Ref. No.: 205000136060 for VAT period starting 01/03/2023 and ending 31/03/2023 of amount BHD 565,476.700.

Please note that a late payment penalty of BHD 101,785.806 has been imposed.

عزيزى VAT Payer،

لقد قمت بتقديم إقرار القيمة المضافة الخاص بك والذي يحمل الرقم للرجعي: 205000136060 لفترة القيمة المضافة من 01/03/2023 الى 31/03/2023 من 65,476.700 الى 31/03/2023

يُرجى العلم بأنه تم فرض غرامة للتأخر في السداد بقيمة 101,785.806 دينار بحريني.

For further information, please contact the National Bureau for Revenue on 80008001.

This document is extracted from the automated system and does not need to be signed.

لمزيد من المعلومات ، يرجى الاتصال بـالجهاز الوطني للإيرادات على 80008001. يتم استخراج هذه الوثيقة من النظام الآلي ولا تحتاج للتوقيع.



Please note the following:

If a VAT payer's output VAT exceeds their input VAT, they are in a net VAT debit/payable position and must pay the excess output VAT to NBR (i.e. line #17 of the VAT Return Form section will be a positive value). Please refer to Section 6 of this Manual for additional information.

If a VAT payer's input VAT exceeds their output VAT, they are in a net VAT credit/refundable position and are entitled to be reimbursed by NBR (i.e. line #17 of the VAT Return Form section will be a negative value). Please refer to Section 7 of this Manual for additional information.



6. WHAT SHOULD A VAT PAYER DO IF IN A DEBIT/PAYABLE POSITION?

VAT dues, administrative fines, or any other liabilities due to NBR shall be payable electronically in accordance with the mechanism determined by NBR.

There are currently two payment channels to pay any outstanding balance. The first is through Kingdom of Bahrain's National Portal (Bahrain.bh) via Debit, Credit Cards or via Apple Pay, and the second is through "Fawateer" service.

Kingdom of Bahrain National Portal (Bahrain.bh)

A VAT payer can make his payments through Kingdom of Bahrain's National Portal (Bahrain.bh) – VAT/VAT Bills Payment Service. This service allows VAT payers to view their billed amounts and settle payments electronically without the use of cash or a physical card.

The VAT payer will have to enter the bill number and the corresponding VAT account number to view the bill, then VAT payer should enter the amount to be paid, contact details and debit/credit card information.

For more information on Bahrain.bh portal service, VAT payers can refer to the official Kingdom of Bahrain's National Portal website.

"Fawateer" service

There are three ways in which a VAT payer can settle his dues to NBR:



INTERNET BANKING (E-BANKING)

A VAT payer should access their online bank portal or mobile app and input the required information.

If unsure of the amount owed to NBR, the VAT payer will have the option to enquire about the bill amount online before payment.

For more information on the online banking method, VAT payers should reach out to their respective banks.



BENEFITPAY APPLICATION

A VAT payer can also make their payments through the BenefitPay application by downloading it on their smartphone. The app allows the VAT payer to settle payments electronically without the use of cash or a physical card.



If unsure of the amount owed to NBR, the VAT payer will have the option to enquire about the bill amount online before payment.

For more information on BenefitPay and participating banks, VAT payers can refer to the official Benefit Company website. Please note that this app is intended for individuals and not corporations.



BANK BRANCH

A VAT payer also has the option to pay the amount owed to NBR at a bank branch.

The VAT payer must either submit a standard Fawateer form to their branch or submit a written request signed by their authorized signatory. This is dependent on the VAT payer's bank.

For more information, VAT payers can reach out to their respective bank for availability and location.

In any case, the following information (found on a VAT payer's bill as shown in the example below) must be included in the payment:

- · VAT bill number
- VAT account number
- · Payment amounts due





Bill number:

205000136060

رقم الفاتورة:

تاريخ الفاتورة: 13/05/2024 :Date of bill



تفاصيل الفاتورة - Bill breakdown

VAT payer name:

VAT Payer

اسم الخاضع القيمة المضافة:

VAT payer address:

Flat/Shop No. 123, Building 123, Road/ Street 123, T Town, Block 123, Bahrain

عنوان الخاضع القيمة المضافة:

CPR/Identity Card No.:

123456180

رقم البطاقة السكانية/ الهوية:

VAT account no.:

210020486600002

رقم حساب:

Please find below a breakdown of your bill. You may proceed to pay any outstanding balance by the due date using the bill number through available payment channels.⁽¹⁾

الرجاء الإطلاع على تفاصيل الفاتورة المبينة أدناه وسداد المبالغ في تاريخ استحقاق السداد المُحدد باستخدام رقم الفاتورة من خلال قنوات السداد المتاحة. (1)

Bill number قم الفاتورة	Transaction description وصف العملية	Start date of VAT Period تاريخ بداية فترة القيمة المضافة	Period تاريخ نهاية فترة القيمة	date تاريخ استحقاق السداد	Outstanding amount due للبلغ للمُستحق واجب السداد
	VAT	01/03/2023	31/03/2023	30/04/2023	BHD 565,476.700
205000136060	Late Payment Penalty غرامة التأخر في السداد	01/03/2023	31/03/2023	10/01/2024	BHD 99,785.806
	Total amount	1/	16.1	إجهالي المبلغ	BHD 665,262.506

Kindly allow sufficient time for processing of your selected payment method to ensure payments for any outstanding amount are received by NBR by the payment due date to avoid any late payment administrative penalties.

For further information, please contact the National Bureau for Revenue on 80008001. This document is extracted from the automated system and does not need to be signed.

الرجاء مباشرة عملية السداد قبل وقت كافي لاستكامل الإجراءات اللازمة لطريقة السداد التي ق<mark>مت باختيارها.</mark> والتأكد من استلام الجهاز الوطني للإيرادات لأي مبلغ مستحق في تاريخ استحقاق السداد لتجنب فرض أي غرامات إدارية للتأخر في السداد. لمزيد من المعلومات، يرجى الاتصال بالجهاز الوطني للإيرادات على 8000801. هذه الوثيقة مستخرجة من النظام الأي ولا تحتاج للتوقيع.

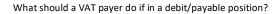
) يتمين عليك صداد مستحقات من خلال الدفع عبر Bahrain.bh أو باستخدام خدمة فواتي من خلال الخدمات المصرفية الإلكترونية أو فرع البنك الخاص بك أو تطبيق BernofitPoy

Page 1 of 1

(1) You may pay through payment services at Bahrain.bh, or Fawateer services available through your e-banking, bank branches or BenefitPay app

Kindly note that if a VAT payer inputs incorrect details (i.e. VAT bill number or VAT account number) or an amount which is greater than the amount due, the transaction will be rejected.

Once the payment is submitted, the VAT payer will receive a notice of successful payment via SMS and email. An official letter of receipt can also be found under "My Documents" on the NBR portal.





For all the above methods, the amount owed can be paid in full or in part. If the amount owed was paid in full, the VAT payer will receive an updated bill of amount zero. If the amount owed was partially paid, the VAT payer will receive a new bill on the NBR portal with the remaining amount owed.

If a VAT payer faces any issues with the above payment methods (including foreign VAT payers without access to these channels), they should contact NBR through their dedicated Relationship Manager (RM) or through the Contact Center, details which can be found under "Contact us".

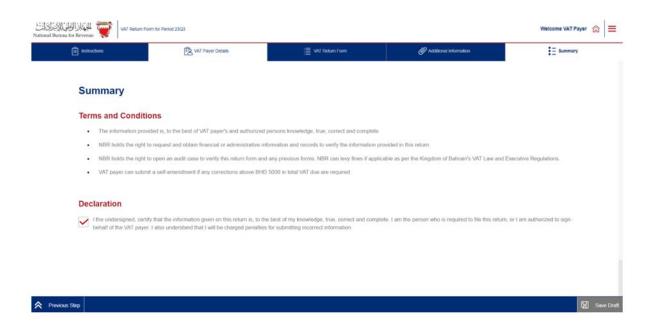


7. WHAT SHOULD A VAT PAYER DO IF IN A CREDIT/REFUND POSITION?

If the VAT payer is in a credit position, they have the right to request a refund of the excess amount from the NBR, and the option "Refund Information" will appear in the "Summary" section.

A VAT payer will then have the below options:

- Yes Request a refund of this excess from NBR (the VAT payer will also be required to specify
 the receiving IBAN), when there is a need to add a new IBAN number, the VAT payer must go to
 "Update VAT Payers Details" on the main page of NBR portal, or;
- 2. No Carry forward this excess and use it as a credit to offset VAT liabilities in future VAT periods.



A VAT payer can submit a refund request as necessary to claim back any excess VAT that they previously chose to carry forward.

Also note that NBR has the right to offset excess recoverable input VAT against any administrative fines or VAT due until the excess is depleted. NBR also has the right to prevent the use of the credit balance in carrying out any offset. This may occur if NBR requests additional information to verify the returns of the VAT payer.



8. FILING SCENARIO EXAMPLES

Please refer to the following examples for a better understanding of how purchase and sale values can be recorded in the "VAT Return Form" section of the return filing form.

8.1. Example 1: A retail store

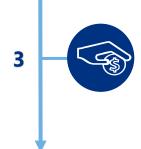
The following VAT scenario concerns a retail Shop, selling only standard-rated goods to domestic customers. The shop uses only domestically supplied goods as expenses.



- A retail store sells various household items, all of which are subject to VAT rate of 10%.
- The store buys products from a wholesaler for BHD 2,000.
- The store pays BHD 200 VAT on the purchase



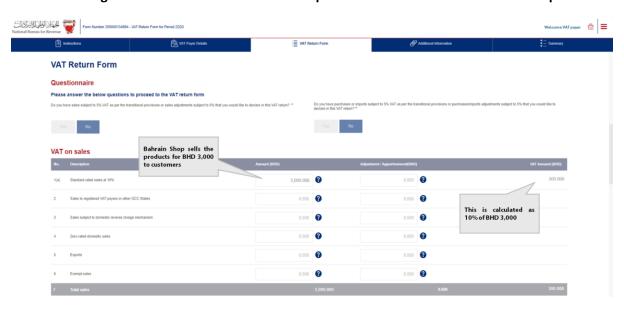
- The store then sells household items for BHD 3,000 to its customers.
- The store collects BHD 300 of VAT on the sale

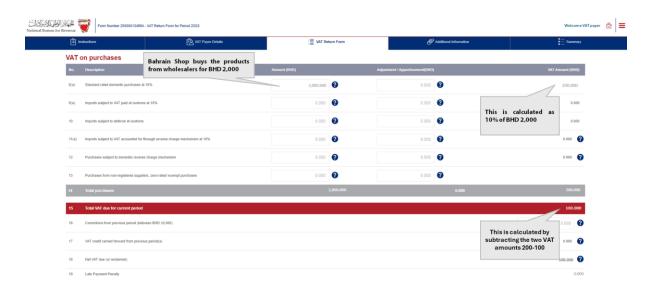


- Overall, the store has BHD 300 output VAT and BHD 200 input VAT, so VAT due is BHD 300 - BHD 200 = BHD 100.
- The store submits the VAT return to NBR and pays the VAT due



The below image shows how the store would complete the VAT return form on the NBR portal:

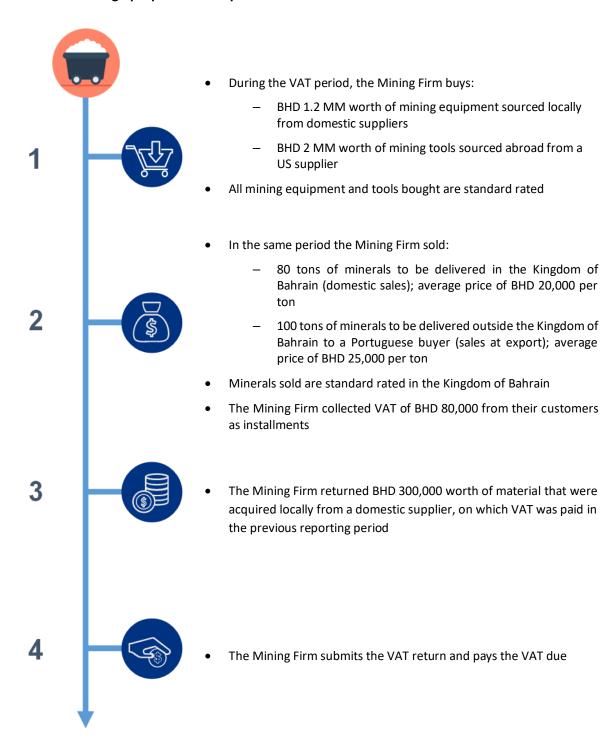






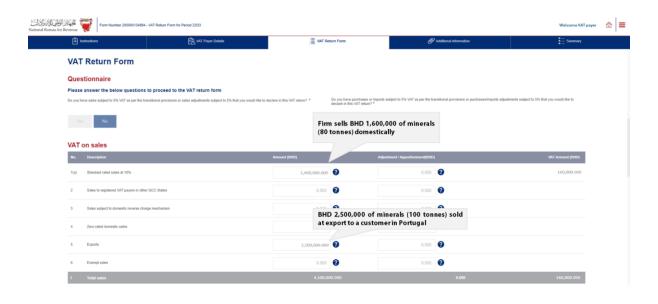
8.2. Example 2: Mining Firm

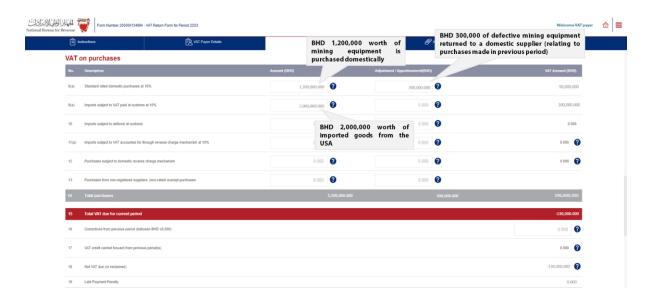
The following VAT scenario concerns the Mining Firm, a firm which sells goods domestically and abroad. It has both imported and domestically-supplied goods as expenses. It is also eligible for a refund due to a high proportion of exported sales.





The below image shows how the Mining Firm's would complete the VAT return form on the NBR portal:

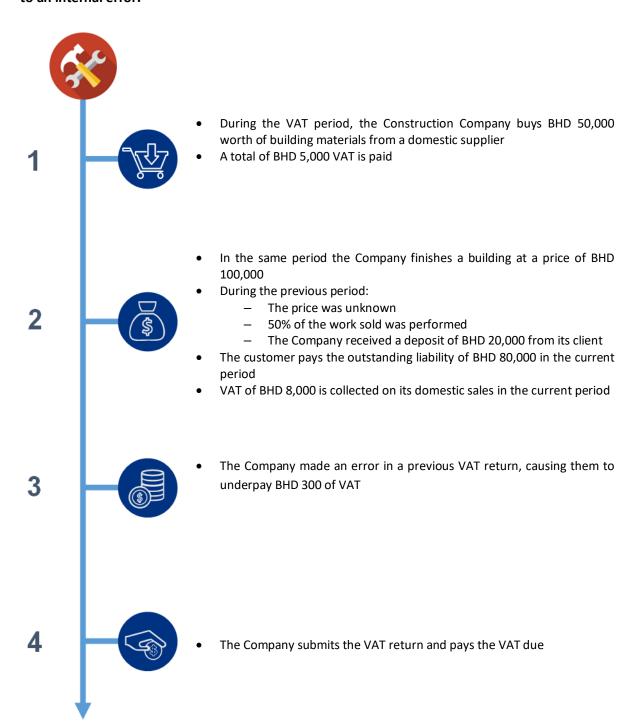






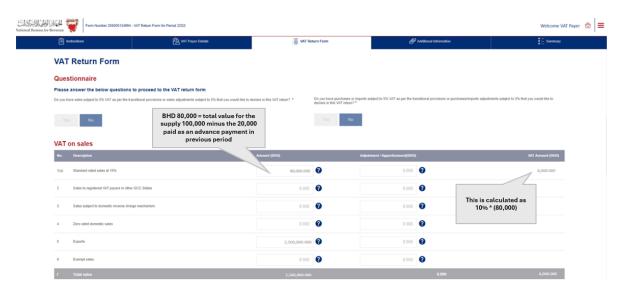
8.3. Example 3: Construction Company

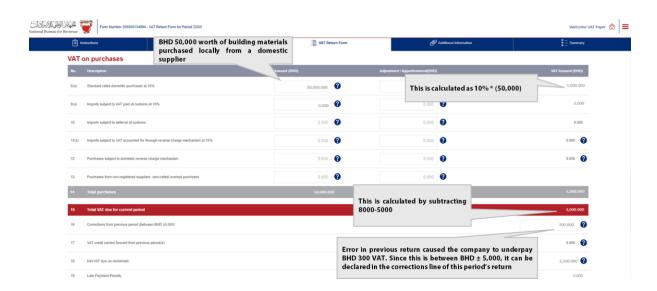
The following VAT scenario concerns Construction Company, a company which provides services to domestic customers and has only domestically supplied goods as expenses. The Company also has an adjustment resulting in an increase of sales from a previous period, as well as a correction due to an internal error.





Completed "VAT Return Form" section of Bahrain Construction Company's return filing form on the NBR portal:







FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

9.1. Which return form does the VAT payer have to file?

All VAT returns which the VAT payer is required to file can be found in the "VAT returns" section of the online portal. In the online portal, each VAT returns' due date is clearly marked.

9.2. Can a VAT payer submit a zero return?

In periods where no activity subject to VAT has taken place, a VAT return should still be filed even if zero transactions are reported. This so-called 'Nil' return is still subject to the standard filing deadlines.

9.3. What is the purpose of drop down above returns list?

To allow searching for a return by its filing status.

9.4. How can a VAT payer amend the VAT returns that are submitted?

Submitted VAT Returns are available for amendment under the following path on the NBR Portal.

VAT Payer Login > VAT returns > Filter for Billed returns > Open relevant VAT return > Click on 'Amend' on the bottom right.

9.5. Can the VAT payer view or download the attachments of a submitted VAT return?

Yes, the VAT payer can view and download previously uploaded attachments by clicking on "Add Attachments" and then click on the name of the attached file.

9.6. Can the VAT payer view or download the PDF notifications after submitting the VAT return?

Yes, the VAT payer can view or download the notifications in PDF format after submitting the return by clicking on the desired file name from the "My Documents" page on the homepage.

9.7. What is the VAT return reference number?

It is an identifier (a number composed of 12 digits shown at the top of the return) for NBR correspondence related to that VAT return.



9.8. What is the basic information page at the beginning of each VAT return; how may the VAT payer change it?

This is the VAT Payer profile information. If it is incorrect, VAT payer will need to amend it through the "Update VAT payer details" tile on the homepage of the VAT payer account.

