

Self Assessment Fines, Surcharges & Penalties – for tax years to 2010.

There is a well established fines and penalties system for late submission of Self Assessment returns.

Penalties

Failure to file a return by the due date (31st January after the April of date issued) and make a payment.

Penalty £100

Failure to file a return by the next payment date or make a payment (31st July).

Penalty £100

These fines will continue adding up until a self assessment is filed. If nothing is received before 28th February then an automatic surcharge of 5% can also be applied.

If, when the tax return is finally filed, the tax due is less than the penalties, the penalties are reduced to the amount of tax unpaid, making the fine effectively 100% of the tax due.

In extreme cases, where the tax office has information to suppose that the return will not be filed, they can apply to the Appeal Commissioners for a penalty rate of *£60 per day*.

The filing deadlines MAY NOT apply where new returns have been sent out by a tax office for an individual case, and another filing date may be applied to allow for records to be collated, check with the issuing tax office.

Details can be found at

<http://www.hmrc.gov.uk/about/new-penalties/>

A client can appeal against a fine or penalty, if certain circumstances have led to a delay in filing, but there are no set rules, and each case is dealt with separately.