

Shopping is so much fun, isn't it? Getting shiny new things, the smell of new cars, the feel of the new sneakers which make you run faster and jump higher?

We buy the things that we can see and feel based on price, quality, looks and research.

What if what you are shopping for is a service? No new car smells here. Well, let's talk about how to find a good service provider- specifically the Tax Preparer.

There are ALWAYS questions to ask. Go into looking for a new preparer thinking that you are doing a job interview, or you are looking at the seams of the pants, the quality of the stitching; the fit of the shoe.

How long have you been preparing taxes?

What level of degree do you have?

Do you have any licenses or designations?

What do you have to do stay licensed?

How do you base your fees?

What is included in the fee: what if I am audited, or what if I get a letter from IRS?

Will you sign the return?

Will you prepare the return or will someone in your office?

Who will review it to make sure it is correct?

Will you explain the situations to me?

Am I paying too much tax?

How can I minimize that?

How can I reach you during off season?

What if I am assessed a penalty or interest?

Hopefully, this will help with the search. It's hard. Finding the right person to do your hair or nails usually entails asking friends and family. Finding the right person to prepare your taxes should start the same. There is a reason that we go to where we do.