## VAT considerations for a small business for example a local baker or cafe owner

Is there VAT on chocolate covered gingerbread men? I wish VAT was easier.

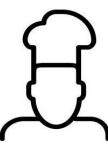


Fred's cafe over the road is almost the same size as mine, but he doesn't have to charge VAT. How can that be fair?



It isn't always easy to find the answer on the HMRC website.





What if I find a mistake in my records? Will I get a penalty?



If I register for VAT will I need an accountant or an accounting package?



What if I rent out the rooms above my cafe? Can I still get back all the VAT on my expenses?

