

# The SME Director's Bookkeeping Emergency Kit

Immediate steps to take when your books are in a mess, your bookkeeper quits, or SARS is breathing down your neck.



#### **EMERGENCY SCENARIOS & ACTION PLAN**

## If You're in a Bookkeeping Crisis—Do This First

If your bookkeeper's vanished, your VAT deadline is tomorrow, or SARS just sent a letter, don't panic. Here's your immediateaction plan to stabilise the situation.

#### **Triage Checklist - What to Do Right Now**

- 1. Pause transactions temporarily Avoid compounding the chaos.
- 2. Download all bank statements You'll need these to rebuild a trail.
- 3. Secure login credentials Lock down your accounting software, SARS eFiling, and payroll portals.
- 4. Back up all available financial data Pull whatever your ex-bookkeeper left behind.
- 5. Call a professional Don't try to untangle this alone.



#### WHAT DOCUMENTS TO GATHER NOW

### Rebuilding Order: Get These in Place

Whether you're doing a cleanup or prepping for a handover, these are the documents that matter.

Checklist:	
	12 months of bank statements
	SARS login details
	Payroll info (salaries, PAYE submissions)
	Latest VAT return (and any overdue ones)
	Sales invoices (last 6 months)
	Supplier bills & expense slips
	Loan agreements, major contracts, asset purchases
	Accounting system access & reports
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If any of these are missing, don't stress. A good service provider can help you rebuild from what you have.	



#### **HOW BLETCHLEYS CAN HELP**

#### You Don't Have to Fix This Alone

At Bletchleys, we specialise in financial triage. Whether your bookkeeper quit mid-submission or SARS is on your case, we'll stabilise your books, fix past problems, and bring your business back into compliance—fast. Our calm, experienced team parachutes in to:

- Get your accounts up to date
- Submit urgent VAT or tax returns
- Reconcile accounts
- Prepare audit-ready financials
- Keep you compliant going forward



#### **USEFUL LINKS IN AN EMERGENCY**

Don't waste time searching—start here. These official SARS tools and forms can help you take immediate action while we stabilise your books.

#### eFiling & Login

- SARS eFiling Login (Access your profile, submit returns, and track compliance.)
- Register for SARS eFiling

#### **VAT & Compliance**

- Submit a VAT201 Return
- VAT Vendor Search Tool (Check if your supplier is VAT registered.)

#### **Tax Clearance & Status**

- Request a Tax Clearance Certificate
- · Check Your Compliance Status

#### Payroll (PAYE, EMP201, EMP501)

- EMP201 Monthly Submission Guide
- EMP501 Employer Reconciliation

#### **Common Forms Download**

 All SARS Forms (Includes VAT201, EMP201, EMP501, IT14SD, and more.)

#### **Contact & Support**

- SARS Contact Page
- SARS National Call Centre: 0800 00 7277