

# Fiscal Year vs Calendar Year

## Comparison Table

Characteristics	Fiscal year	Calendar year
Definition	Is a 12 month period whereby businesses choose the preferred start and end of the period	Is a set period of 12 consecutive months that follows the structure of the standard calendar that begins on January 1 and ends on December 31
Common use	Is useful in businesses in the establishment of consistent accounting practices and easy tax reporting	Is useful in normal life activities
Year period	Can run from any time in the year provided it has 365 days	Runs from 1st January to 31st December.
		