# Record Keeping Quick Reference

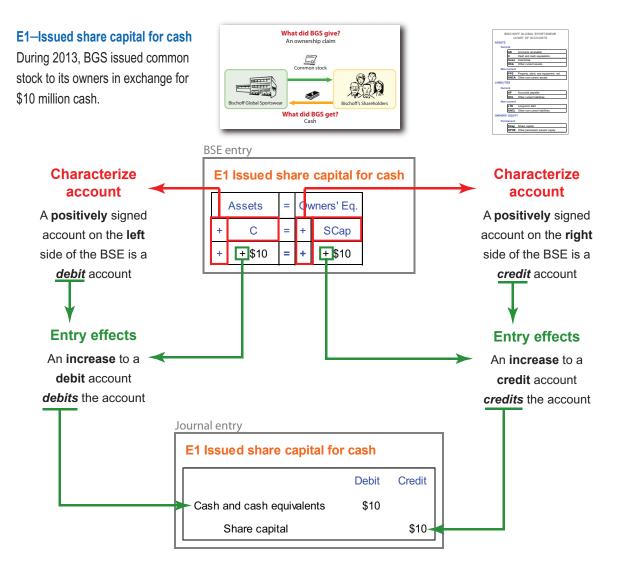
This Quick Reference is for recording entries using the balance-sheet-equation (BSE) and journal entry (JE) approaches and creating T-Accounts.

## Comparison of Record-Keeping and Reporting Using the Balance-Sheet-Equation and Journal Entries

	Step	Task	Balance-Sheet Equation (BSE)	Journal Entries	Converting BSE to Debits/Credits
Recording Entries	1	Determine what happened	Describe business activity in terms of the primary balance sheet classes		
	2	Identify the accounts	Search the chart of accounts, starting with the primary balance-sheet classes to identify the accounts affected		
	3	Characterize the accounts	Determine the accounts' signs	Determine whether the accounts are debit or credit accounts (noun)	An account on the <u>left</u> side of the balance-sheet equation with a <u>positive</u> account sign is a <i>debit</i> account.  Changing one (two) <u>underlined</u> words above causes the <i>italicized</i> word to change to a credit (stay a debit)
	4	Determine entry affects on accounts	Determine the entry signs — how the entry affected the accounts	Determine whether the accounts are debited or credited (verb)	An <u>increase</u> to a <u>debit</u> account debits the account.  Changing one (two) <u>underlined</u> words above causes the <i>italicized</i> word to change to credits (stay debits)
	5	Record entries	Record the entry using a BSE equation	Record the entry using a journal entry	
			Does the entry reflect what happend?  Does each number have two signs?	Does the entry reflect what happend?	
	6	Check quality	Does the account sign (first sign from the left) reflect how the account affects its primary class?	Are the debits and credits properly indicated with the accounts debited listed first?	
			Does the entry sign (second sign from the left) reflect how the entry affects the account?  Does the equation balance		
			mathematically?		
		View period account activity	Column in the BSE matrix	T-Account	An <u>increase</u> to a <u>debit</u> T-account is recorded on the <i>left</i> side of the T-account.  Changing one (two) bold words above causes the <i>italicized</i> word to change to right (stay left)



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## Four cases

- A positively signed account on left side of BSE is a debit account.
- · A positively signed account on right side of BSE is a credit account.
- A negatively signed account on left side of BSE is a credit account.
- A **negatively** signed account on **right** side of BSE is a *debit* account.

## Four cases

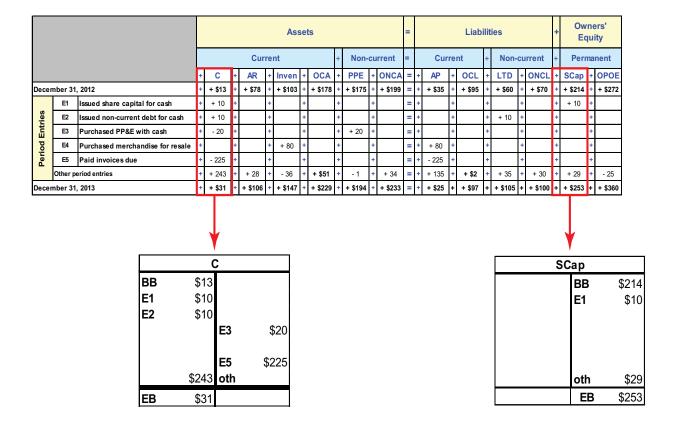
- An increase to a debit account debits the account.
- An increase to a credit account credits the account.
- An decrease to a debit account credits the account.
- · An decrease to a credit account debits the account.

#### **Memory helper**

Changing one (two) **bold** words in the first case causes the *italicized* word to change to a credit (stay a debit) in the other cases.

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Changing one (two) **bold** words in the first case causes the *italicized* word to change to credits (stay debits) in the other cases.



Cash is a debit account so its T-account balances and account increases are on the debit (left) side of the T-account. Share capital (Scap) is a credit account so its
T-account balances and account increases are on the credit (right) side of the T-account.

Also watch the *Navigating Accounting* videos:

# "Framing Record Keeping and Reporting"

http://www.navigatingaccounting.com/video/express-framing-record-keeping-and-reporting

# "Recording Entries with Balance-Sheet Equations"

http://www.navigatingaccounting.com/video/express-recording-entries-balance-sheet-equation

# "Recording Journal Entries" (includes creating T-Accounts)

http://www.navigatingaccounting.com/video/express-recording-journal-entries