

- CGT is tax on **capital gains** and **statutory income** (ITAA97) – not ordinary income
- **Net = CGT Capital proceeds – cost base**
- **Capital losses cannot be deducted from assessable income (Quarantine)**
- **Capital losses may be carried forward and offset against future capital gains**
- **A capital gain or capital loss you make is disregarded if you acquired the asset before 20 September 1985.**
- **3 Step process to determine if affected by CGT:**
 1. Has a CGT event happened to the taxpayer?
 2. Is the asset a CGT asset?
 3. Does an exception or exemption apply?

- Five-step process to calculate the **NET CAPITAL GAIN** (ie **gains** and **losses** for all events in the income year) in **s 102-5 ITAA97**. Broadly:
 1. **Current year capital gains less current year capital losses (in the order the taxpayer chooses)**
 2. **Remaining capital gains are reduced by any unapplied net capital losses from previous years**
 3. **Reducing any remaining discount capital gains by the discount percentage**
 4. **Apply small business concessions (if available)**
 5. **Add up: any remaining capital gains that are not discount capital gains + any remaining discount capital gains**

Step 1: s 102-20: Has the taxpayer made a CAPITAL GAIN or LOSS? Pg. 306

Capital gain = capital proceeds > cost base

Capital loss = capital proceeds < reduced cost base

Q1: HAS A CGT EVENT HAPPENED TO THE TAX PAYER?

s 102-20: A taxpayer only makes a capital gain or loss **if a CGT event occurs**

s 102-25(1): use the most specific to the situation, more than one CGT event happens

4 main types of CGT events:

CGT event A1 – Disposals – Pg. 307

- **s 104-10 (ITAA97):**
- **(1)** CGT event A1 happens if you **dispose of a CGT asset**
- **(2):** Disposal occurs when you change ownership. A change of ownership does not occur if you stop being the **legal owner** of the asset but continue to be its **beneficial owner**
- **(3)** The **time of the disposal** is **EARLIER** of:
 - **(a)** when you enter into the contract for the disposal; **OR**
 - **(b)** if there is no contract--when the change of ownership occurs

Timing issues:

Disposals:

FCy Sara Lee Household (Pg. 142 ATL):

- Amended original contract – Eg. Purchase price – the timing of CGT – was it the original contract or the amended?
- When there is more than one contract (original and subsequently amended), the **date of disposal** will be **determined by reference to the contract giving rise to the obligation to sell or transfer the asset** – in this case the original contract

Acquisitions:

- McDonald v FCT (1991):** oral contract, enforceable or not, will determine the date of acquisition
- Elms v FCT (1991):** where there is no contract, time of event will be the time of change of ownership to be determined by the facts (eg: handing over keys)

CGT event C1 – End of TANGIBLE property – Pg. 309

- **s 104-20 (ITAA 97)**
- **(1):** CGT event C1 happens if a CGT asset you own **is lost or destroyed.**
- **(2)** The time of the event is:
 - **(a)** when you first **receive compensation** for the loss or destruction; **OR**
 - **(b)** if you receive no compensation--when the loss is discovered or the destruction occurred
- Eg. Building collapsed – you receive compensation for loss of capital asset (permanent v temporary) – is there a capital gain at the end of the life? – will be covered under C1

CGT event C2 – End of INTANGIBLE property – Pg. 309

s 104-25 (ITAA 97)

- (1)** CGT event C2 happens if your ownership of an intangible CGT asset ends by the asset being:
 - **Redeemed, cancelled, released, discharged, satisfied, abandoned, forfeited etc**
- (2)** The time of the event is:
 - When you enter into the contract that results in the asset ending; **OR**
 - If there is no contract--when the asset ends

CGT event D1 – Creating contractual or other rights – Pg. 310

• S 104.35

- (1) CGT event D1 happens if you **create a contractual right** or **other legal or equitable right** in another entity
- (2) The time of the event is when you **enter into the contract** or **create the other right**.
- (3) Capital gain made if: **Capital proceeds > Incidental costs relating to the event**

Eg. Restrictive Covenants (Capital):

- You enter into a contract with the purchaser of your business not to operate a similar business in the same area
- The contract states that \$20,000 was paid for this.
- If you pay a lawyer \$1,500 to draw up the contract: CG = \$20k – 1.5k = 18.5k

Q2. IS THERE A CGT ASSET? Pg. 315

CGT asset defined in **s 108-5(1)** as:

- (a) Any kind of property (tangible or intangible: Eg. buildings and gain on goodwill)
- (b) CGT asset can be a legal or equitable right that is not property (Eg. Right to sue)

s 109-5(1): Time of acquisition of the CGT asset is generally when the taxpayer becomes its owner
Table in s 109-5(2)

Acquisition of CGT Asset: usually when contract is signed - Pg. 320 PoTL

Divide them up in to 3 groups: each with their own special rules

- **CGT assets- ordinary assets**
- **Collectibles**
- **Personal use assets**

CGT Assets

s 108-5 (ITAA 97):

- Land and buildings - Shares in a company - Units in a unit trust - Options - Debts owed to you - Right to enforce a contractual obligations - Foreign currency

Collectibles Pg. 316

s 108-10(2) defined as

- Artwork, jewellery, an antique or a coin or medalion; or a rare folio, manuscript or book; or a postage stamp or first day cover that is used or kept mainly for personal use or enjoyment.

There are two limbs to this definition

- **1) Item must be one of the kind listed**
- **2) Asset must be used or kept mainly for personal use or enjoyment**

Special Rules

s108 ITAA 97

1. Capital gains and capital losses are disregarded when the **first element** of a collectible's **cost base is less than \$500** (Collectible = Set)
2. **Cost base** of a collectible: **disregard 3rd element (non-capital costs of ownership)**
Eg. interest on money borrowed to purchase CGT asset
3. ***Quarantining** i.e. **capital losses from collectibles can only be used to reduce capital gains from collectibles** (Can't offset losses from other types of CGT assets Only collectibles)
4. **If you own collectibles as part of a set, they are treated as a single collectible**

Personal use assets Pg. 317

s 108-20(2)

- CGT asset (other than a collectible) that is used or kept mainly for personal use or enjoyment
- Eg. Boats, yachts, expensive TV's, Stereo's (>\$10k)

s 108-20(3)

- Does not include land or building, or assets considered a collectible

s108-20(1)

- Personal use asset capital loss always disregarded

Special Rules

1. Capital gains and capital losses are **disregarded** when the **first element** of a personal use asset's **cost base is less than \$10k**
2. **Cost base** of a personal use asset: **disregard 3rd element (noncapital costs of ownership)**
3. **Capital losses from personal use assets are disregarded**
(Can't offset it against anything – unlike collectibles where can offset losses against other collectibles)

Separate CGT Assets Pg. 318

- Special rules in **S 108-D 97**
- Not a separate group (out of the 3)
- Arises with unique circumstances
- Provides exception to common law rule of: what is attached to the land is part of the land
- **Can separate land and buildings as two separate CGT assets or capital improvements**
- **s 108-55(2) 97: Pre-CGT and post-CGT buildings**
- **s 108-55(2):** Land acquired **before 20 September 1985**, a building or structure constructed on land is taken to be a separate CGT asset
 - Time of construction must be after that day or if no contract – time construction commenced
- You bought a block of land with a building on it on **10 August 1984**. On **1 December 1999** you construct another building on the land. The other building is taken to be a separate CGT asset from the land
- **(s 108-70): Capital Improvement**
- A capital improvement is a separate asset to the land if a *balancing adjustment* applies to the improvement
- **If land acquired post-CGT**
 1. Cost base of the capital improvement (or related capital improvements) is greater than the improvement threshold; **AND**
 2. More than 5% of the capital proceeds from the event.
- **Improvement threshold** is \$43,392 (for year ended 30 June 2016) (TD 2015/13)

Q3: ARE THERE ANY EXEMPTIONS OR EXCEPTIONS? Pg. 321

*Will disregard the gain all together, don't forget about 20th September 1985 exception too

1. Exempt gains and losses on certain assets

- **S 118-5:** Cars, Motor Cycles and Valour Decorations
- **S 118-10:** Collectables < \$500; Personal Use Assets < \$10,000
- **S 118-12(1):** Assets used to produce exempt income
- **S 118-24(1):** Depreciating Assets
- **S 118-25:** Trading Stock

2. Exempt of loss denying transactions

- **Compensation:** capital gain or loss disregarded if made of **compensation or damages for: wrong, injury or illness suffered** – **S 118-37(1)(a) & (b)**
- **Gambling and Competitions with Prizes:** capital gain or loss disregarded if made from gambling or competition with prizes – **S 118-37(1)(c)**
 - However, exemption WILL NOT APPLY to capital gains or losses where taxpayer is considered **to be in the business of gambling under ordinary income concepts**

3. Anti-overlap provisions

s 118-20(1): Reduces a capital gain **to the extent (partially)** the amount included in the taxpayer's assessable income. If amount is considered ordinary/statutory income under another provision of ITAA 1936 that amount excluded from the capital gain

4. Main residence exemption Pg. 326

- Disregard capital gains or loss as a result of a CGT event happening to a taxpayer's **main residence**
 - Only apply where the residence was the main residence during the **whole of the ownership period** and it was **not used for the purposes of producing assessable income**
- **ITAA97 S118-110 (1)** A capital gain or capital loss you make from a CGT event that happens in relation to a CGT asset that is a **dwelling** or your ownership interest in it is disregarded if:
 - **(a)** you are an **individual**; **AND**
 - **(b)** the dwelling was your **main residence throughout your ownership period**; **AND**
 - **(c)** the interest DID NOT pass to you as a **beneficiary** in, and you did not acquire it as a **trustee** of, the estate of a deceased person
- **S 118-115(1) Dwelling:** includes a unit of accommodation that is a building which consists wholly or mainly of residential accommodation, a caravan, houseboat or mobile home and the land immediately under the accommodation

Rules that may EXTEND the main residence exemption Pg. 328:

- **S 118-135 97:** Main residence exemption may be extended from time of acquisition to time the taxpayer moved in
- **S 118-140**
(1) **Changing residences:** where the taxpayer acquires a new dwelling intended to be their main residence, the old dwelling may be retained for up to 6 months
- **(2) Extension only applies** if original main residence was taxpayer's main residence for a continuous period of at least 3 months in the 12 months before it was disposed of and not used to produce income
- **Absence – S 118-145 (97)**
> Dwelling may be used for income producing purposes where the taxpayer is absent for up to six years.
- > No other dwelling can be treated as a main residence.
Eg. gone overseas to work – can produce income (rent) but still be treated as a main residence (CGT exemption)

Rules that may LIMIT the exemption Pg. 329:

May be partially exempt:

s 118-190

- Dwelling used for the purpose of producing assessable income (eg, a room in the dwelling was rented out – business purposes)

s118- 185

- Partial exemption for a CGT event that happens where main residence was for part of the ownership period.

** There is more to this topic that has been intentionally left out