

QUICKBOOKS DESKTOP 2021 CLIENT TRAINING

Lesson 4

**Work with Bank Accounts** 

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### **About the Author**



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Esther's clients include companies worldwide and accounting professionals who seek her out on behalf of their own clients. She is sought out for her expertise in multicurrency and various countries' editions of QuickBooks Desktop and Online, and for her talent in customizing QuickBooks usage for different industries. She also teaches QuickBooks Core and Advanced certification classes to accounting professionals in Canada.

Esther holds a BSc from the University of Toronto in Actuarial Science and Mathematics, and an MBA in Marketing and Finance from York University's Schulich School of Business.

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# **Lesson Objectives**

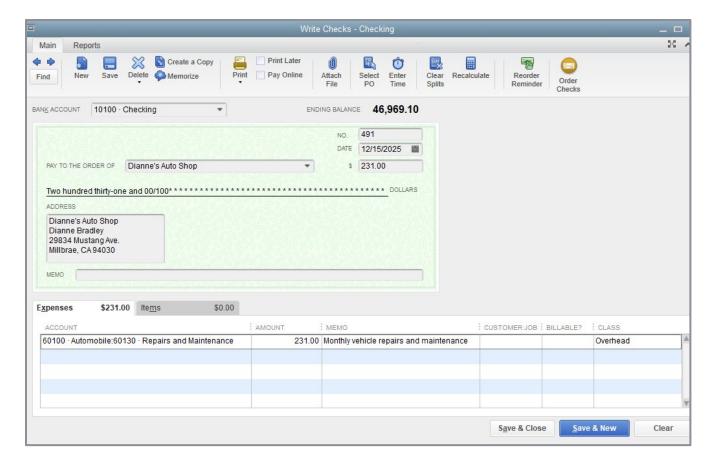
- Learn how to work with registers for QuickBooks bank accounts
- Demonstrate how to open a register
- Learn the features common to all registers
- Learn when and how to make entries directly in the register
- Demonstrate how to reconcile a QuickBooks bank account

### Write a QuickBooks Check



# Step-by-Step: Write a Check

1. In the Banking area of the Home page, click **Write Checks** (or from the Banking drop-down menu, select **Write Checks**, or alternately select **CTRL+w**).



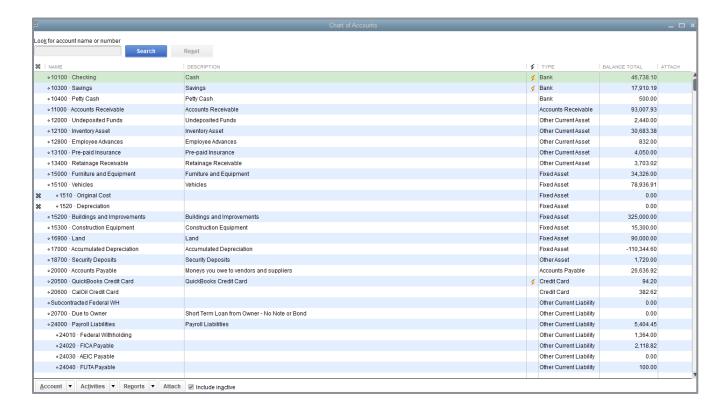
- 2. In the Pay to the Order of field, choose the name of the vendor you wish to pay.
  - If the Check for Bills window (indicating that there are unpaid bills outstanding for this vendor) pops up, you may choose the option to **Go to Pay Bills** instead.
- 3. Complete the remaining information on the check.
- 4. Click Save & Close.

# **Use Bank Account Registers**

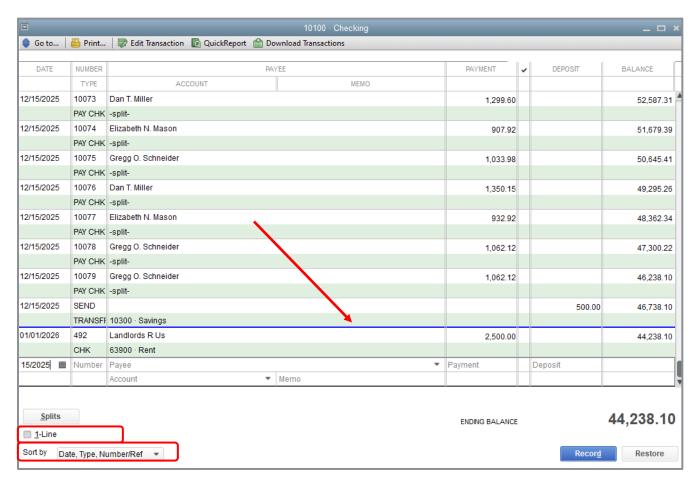


## Step-by-Step: Open a Register (when no form is open)

1. From the Lists menu, choose **Chart of Accounts**. (If you don't see all the columns here, right-click on any column header and select **Customize Columns** to add, remove, or reposition the columns as you see fit.)



2. In the Chart of Accounts, double-click the balance sheet account whose register you wish to view (this will work for all balance sheet accounts except for Retained Earnings).



- 3. Review features common to all registers:
  - The register displays every transaction that affects an account's balance and lists them in chronological order (unless another order is chosen in the Sort by drop-down box in the lower left corner of the register window)
  - The columns in the register give specific information about the transaction
  - On every transaction line, QuickBooks displays the account's running balance
  - The Ending Balance for a register is the account's running balance for all dates after all transactions have been entered, even post-dated transactions, including checks, whether they have been printed or not
  - The register may be changed from a 2-line-per-transaction display, as in the example shown, to a 1-line-per-transaction display by putting a checkmark next to **1-Line** in the bottom left corner of the register window. The 1-line display is easier on the eyes but provides less detailed information.

- A horizontal blue line separates all transactions entered for this register up to and including today (today is recognized according to your calendar in Windows; the exception is for any of the sample files, for which "today" is set at December 15 several years into the future) from transactions that are post-dated
- 4. Close the register window.
- 5. Close the Chart of Accounts.

### **Enter a Handwritten Check**

Sometimes you need to write a check by hand on the spot for items or services you did not plan to purchase. QuickBooks lets you write the check, then enter it later in the checking account register or on the check form.



# Step-by-Step: Enter a Handwritten Check in the Checking Account Register

- 1. From the Banking drop-down menu choose Write Checks.
- 2. Ensure the proper bank account is selected in the **Bank Account** drop-down at the top of the check.
- 3. Click in the **No.** (check number) field in the blank transaction and enter the number from the handwritten check. (If the No. field is populated with To Print, uncheck the **Print Later** box on the toolbar at the top of the check in the Main tab of the ribbon.)
- 4. Enter the information from the handwritten check and assign it to the corresponding expense account.
- 5. Save & Close.

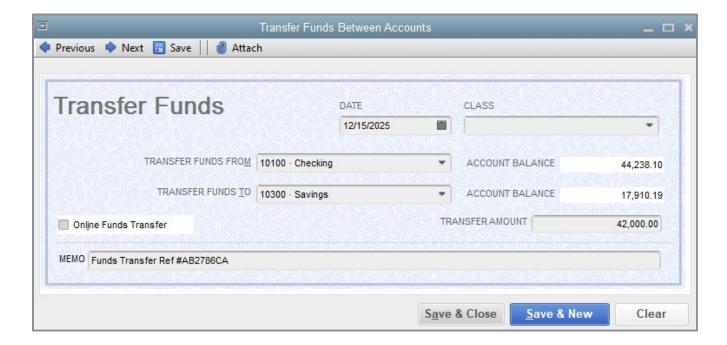
# **Transfer Money Between Accounts**

The Transfer Funds feature in QuickBooks allows you to move money from one balance sheet account to another. These transactions may reflect funds transfers from one bank account to another, movement of money from a bank to an asset account, or even payment against a credit card or liability account. (This feature is especially useful in a multicurrency environment when transferring funds between accounts of different currencies and the bank has assigned a specific exchange rate to the transfer.)



## Step-by-Step: Transfer Money

1. From the Banking menu, choose **Transfer Funds**.



- 2. In the Transfer Funds From field, choose the account from which you are transferring the money.
- 3. In the Transfer Funds To field, choose the account to which the money is being transferred.
- 4. in the Transfer Amount field, enter the amount you wish to transfer.
- 5. If this were a multicurrency situation, you would also choose the currency of the Transfer Amount and the exchange rate given to you by the bank. (The example here is not a multicurrency situation and therefore you do not see those fields in this screen capture.)

- 6. In the Memo field, enter the alphanumeric confirmation code given to you by the financial institution to reference this transfer transaction.
- 7. Click Save & Close.
- 8. If you see a message warning you this transfer is taking place only in QuickBooks and is not directly connected to the bank, select **OK** to confirm (you still have to enter this in the bank if this is a real company).

## **Reconcile Bank Accounts**

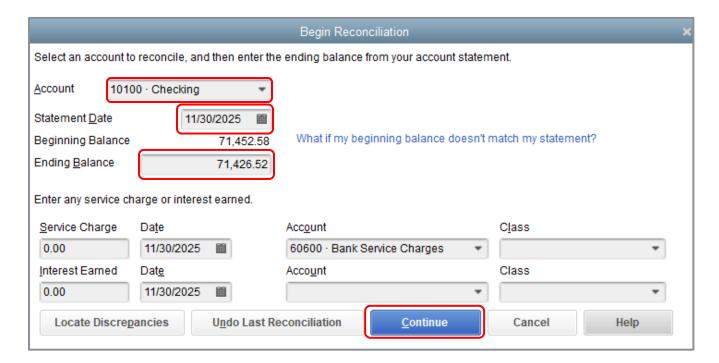
Your bank sends you a statement for each of your accounts each month (or you can view it online using your online banking credentials). The statement shows all the activity in your account since the previous statement:

- Opening balance
- Ending balance
- Amount of interest earned
- Service charges
- Checks and other withdrawals that have cleared the bank
- Deposits made
- Other transactions affecting the balance of the account



# Step-by-Step: Reconcile a Checking or Savings Account Statement

- 1. From the Banking drop-down, choose **Reconcile**.
- 2. In the Account drop-down, choose the appropriate bank account from the list.



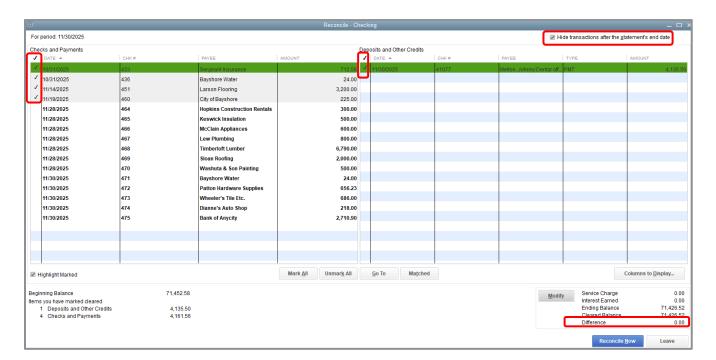
- 3. In the Statement Date field, enter the closing date of the statement you wish to reconcile.
- 4. In the Ending Balance field, enter the ending balance on the statement you wish to reconcile.
- 5. Click **Continue**. Proceed to next exercise.

### **Mark Cleared Transactions**



### Step-by-Step: Mark Transactions as Cleared

- 1. Place a checkmark in the box next to **Hide transactions after statement's end date** to show only transactions dated up to and including the statement end date.
- 2. In the Checks and Payments section of the window on the left side, match the transactions with the checks and payments on your statement. Place a checkmark next to each transaction in QuickBooks that appears on your statement. This marks the transaction as cleared in your QuickBooks register.
- 3. In the Deposits and Other Credits section of the window on the right side, place a checkmark next to each transaction that matches your statement to mark the deposits as cleared in the register.
  - You can open a transaction to view it and make changes, if necessary, by double-clicking on the transaction in the reconciliation window.
- 4. When you are done with this process, the Difference in the bottom right corner should be zero. When this difference is zero, and only when this difference is zero, click **Reconcile Now**.



In the Select Reconciliation Report window, you can choose to display or print your reconciliation reports. It is important to print both the Summary and Detail reports, and a best practice to save them as PDFs for future reference.



**NOTE:** If you are using QuickBooks Desktop Pro, you will not have access to any reconciliation reports prior to the most recent one. QuickBooks Desktop Premier and Enterprise will provide you access to all previous periods' reconciliation reports.

# **View Cleared Checks in the Register**

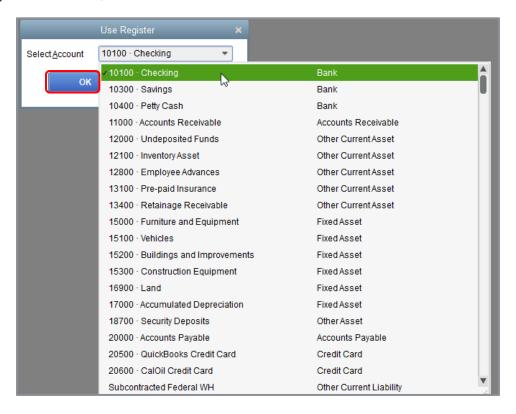


## Step-by-Step: View Cleared Checks in the Register

1. From the Banking menu, choose **Use Register** (or **Ctrl+r**).



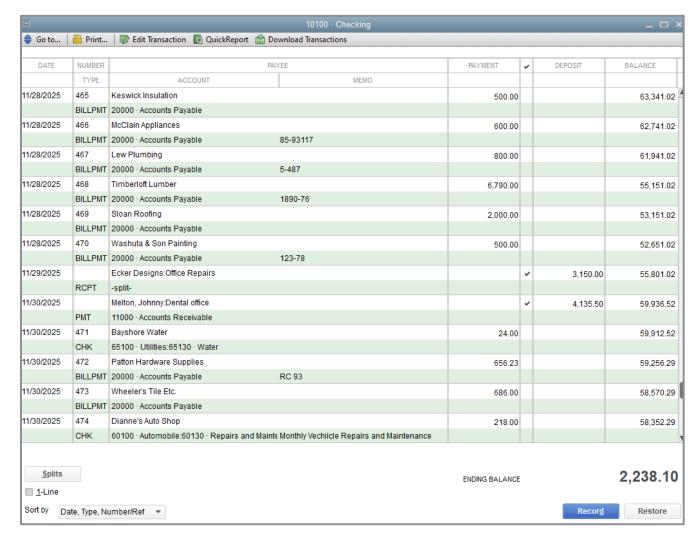
2. Choose the account register you wish to view from the drop-down list. (An alternate way to view the register is to open the Chart of Accounts and double-click on the balance sheet account whose register you wish to see.) Then click **OK**.



- 3. Scroll through the register to view the cleared items:
  - **Checkmark** Cleared on a completed reconciliation
  - Asterisk Cleared on a pending reconciliation
  - No mark Not cleared



**WARNING:** It is possible to change the reconciliation status of a transaction from within the register. However, do not do it! Manually changing reconciliation status in the register has a negative impact on future reconciliations.



- 4. If you open a check that has cleared via a reconciliation, you will see a green checkmark along with the word Cleared stamped on the face of the check.
- 5. Close the account register.

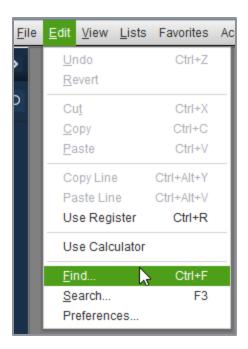
# **Locate Specific Transactions**

You can use the QuickBooks Find command to search for specific checks you've written (and other transactions as well). For example, suppose you want to find all checks between \$500 and \$750 that you've written during the current month.

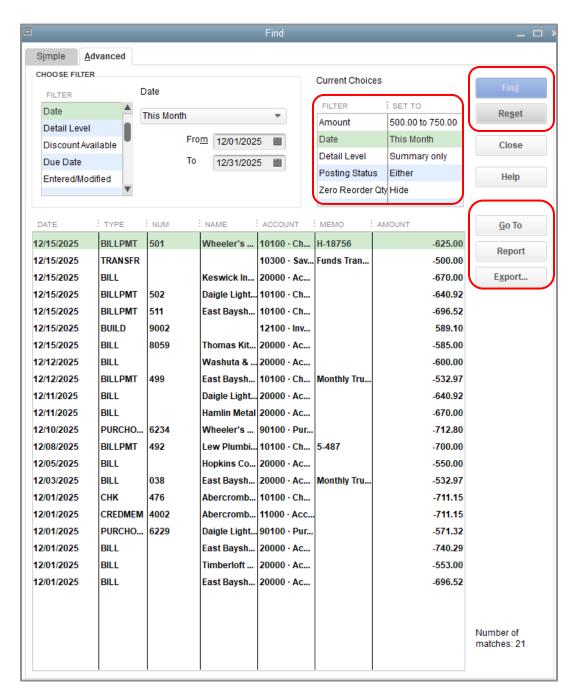


## Step-by-Step: Use the Find Feature

1. From the Edit menu, choose **Find** (or press **CTRL+f**) then select the **Advanced** tab.



2. Choose the filter(s) you would like to use. You can choose multiple filters by setting one filter, choosing another from the list, setting that one, and so on. In the example below, the Amount filter is set to include transactions with amounts between \$500 and \$750, and Date for this month (which, being a sample company, QuickBooks sets from December 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025, but we could have chosen the custom "from" and "to" dates). No filter was used for Transaction Types, so all Transaction Types have been included. However, you could have used a Transaction Type filter for one particular transaction type (e.g., Bill) or Multiple Transaction Types (e.g., Check, Bill, Bill Payment, Sales Tax Payment, and Paycheck).



- 3. Click the blue **Find** button to search. To clear your filters and start fresh with a new Find, click the **Reset** button.
- 4. From the results grid, double-click on the transaction you would like to view to open it or click on it once to highlight it and then choose **Go To**.

You can also create a Find Report or export the results of the grid to Microsoft Excel® by selecting the **Report** or **Export** buttons.

5. Close the **Find** window.

### **Use Bank Feeds**

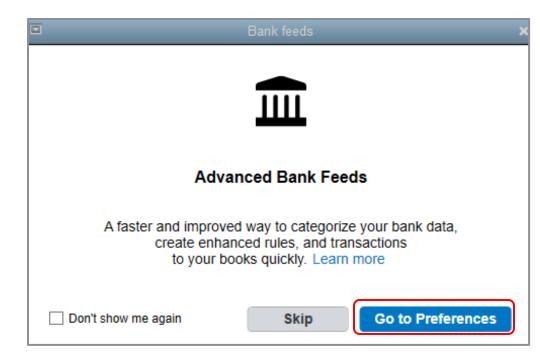
Bank feeds allow users to download bank and credit card transactions directly into their QuickBooks file. This speeds up the reconciliation feature and ensures that your bank and credit cards balances are always up-to-date (and not just at reconciliation time).

**NOTE:** Any mention of a bank account below also refers to credit card accounts as well.



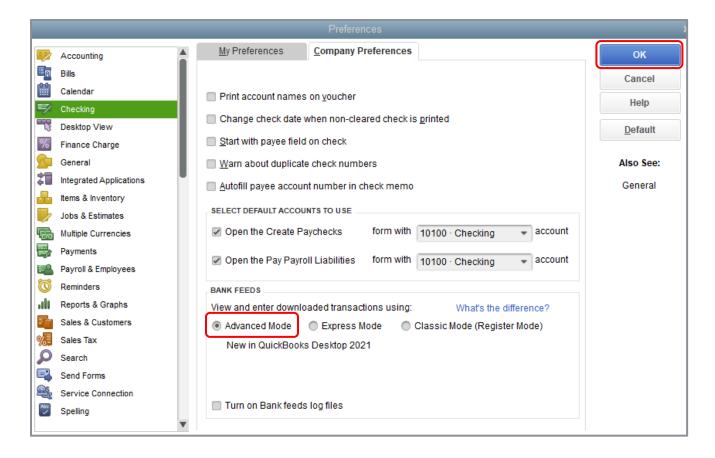
# Step-by-Step: Use the Bank Feed Feature

From the menu bar, select Banking → Bank Feeds → Bank Feeds Center. You will see a
prompt to go to the Bank Feeds preference if you want to turn on Advanced Bank Feeds. Select
Go to Preferences.

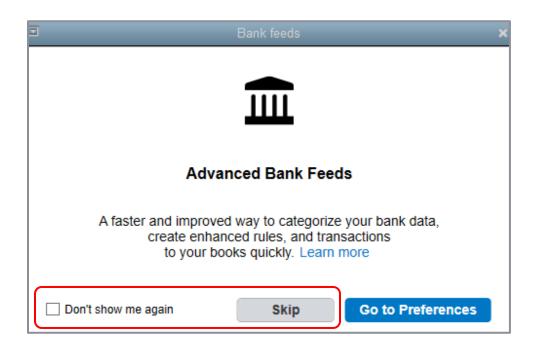


- 2. There are three banking modes from which to choose for Bank Feeds: Advanced, Express, and Classic. Here are the differences among them:
  - Advanced mode This uses the Transactions List window to add or match transactions. You
    can quickly update transactions for future matches or create rules to automatically recognize
    and match transactions to your books.
  - **Express Mode** This uses the Transactions List window to add or match transactions. Renaming rules are created automatically.
  - **Classic Mode** This uses the account register to add or match transactions. Aliases match names exactly and you control when aliases are created.

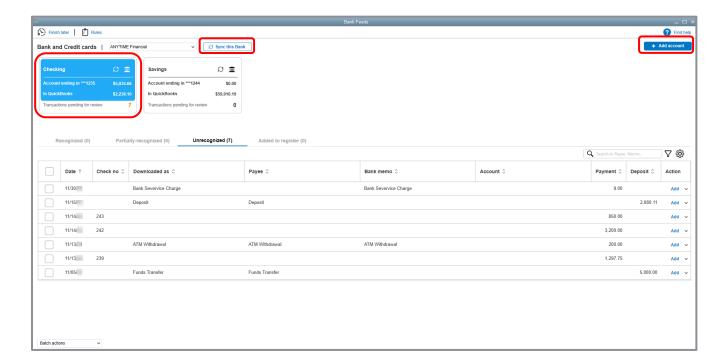
Let's choose **Advanced Mode**, new for 2021, as it is a great feature. Select **OK**.



3. Use the Banking menu again to go back to the Bank Feeds Center, and this time, select **Skip** or check the box next to **Don't show me again**.



4. If this is your first time using the Bank Feeds Center, click on the **Add Account** button in the top corner and follow the prompts to set up your account information. (*Note: you cannot add an account in a sample company.*)



- 5. The accounts that are already connected to their online banking counterparts' bank feeds are displayed at the top in card form. The account that is currently being addressed is highlighted in blue. If you feel that the bank feed is not up to date, highlight the account/card and select **Sync this Bank**.
- 6. You will see four tabs:
  - Recognized For bank-fed transactions that QuickBooks believes have a single match to an already-entered transaction in the books
  - Partially-recognized For bank-fed transactions that might have more than one potential match to QuickBooks based on amount, date, and check number
  - Unrecognized For bank-fed transactions for which QuickBooks cannot find any match
  - Added to register For bank-fed transactions that have been added to the account register

The number of transactions listed in each tab displays in each tab header in brackets. Each tab's contents can be sorted by clicking on the column headers.

7. If the Recognized tab has a number other than zero, click on it. It lists transactions in the feed that QuickBooks is guessing align with actual transactions entered. If its guess is correct for a particular transaction, click on **Confirm** in the Action column for that transaction. If you're not sure, select the drop-down next to **Confirm** and choose **View details**. If the guess is clearly wrong, select **Not a match**. If that bank-fed transaction has already cleared the bank in a reconciliation, select **Ignore**. In this example, we're choosing **Confirm** to match this bank-fed transaction to one that was already entered in QuickBooks.



8. That transaction is now in the Added to register tab.



9. Next, select the **Unrecognized** tab. It lists bank-fed transactions that have not been matched to any transactions already in QuickBooks, and the program is not guessing. In the Action column, you have the options to Add, Add more details (if there is more than one single line of detail to be entered), Match to existing transactions, and Ignore.



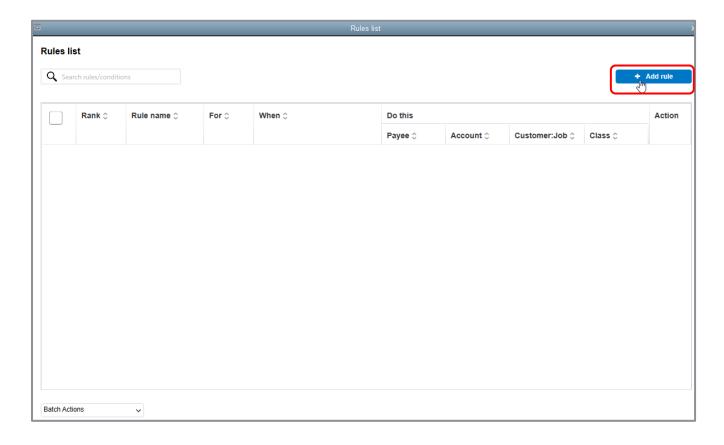
10. If you select **Add** for an individual transaction, you can then edit the fields in the Payee, Bank memo, and Account fields.



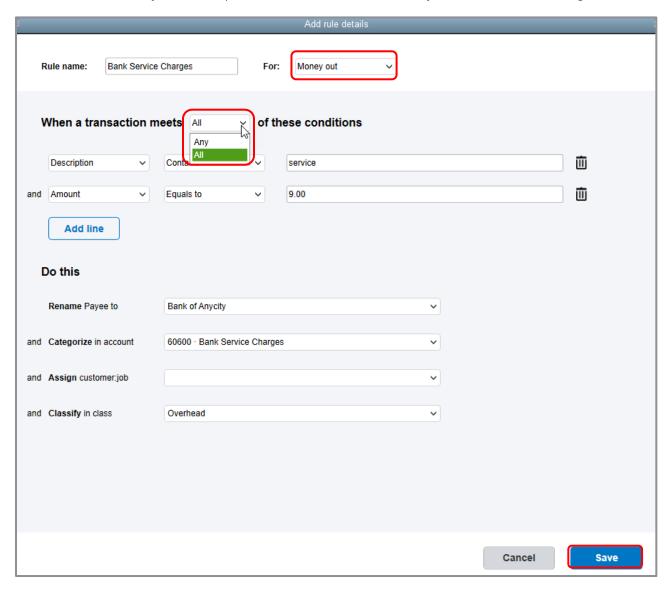
11. To minimize manual work on your part, you can create Rules to enter transactions automatically based on the bank details of any bank-fed transaction that is not already matched. Select **Rules** at the top of the window.



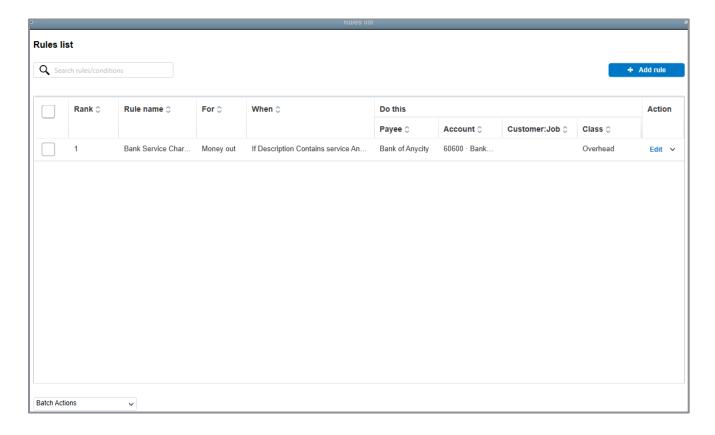
### 12. At the top of the Rules list, select **Add rule**.



13. Create a Money in or Money out rule for that particular account, based on conditions (all conditions must be met or any of the listed conditions must be met) and the posting you want to create automatically. An example is below. Click **Save** when you've finished creating the rule.



#### 14. The Rules list now includes your rule.



For more information on Bank Feeds, including the various modes and how to use them, go this site: <a href="https://quickbooks.intuit.com/learn-support/en-us/set-up-bank-connection/add-and-match-bank-feed-transactions-in-quickbooks-desktop/00/203759">https://quickbooks.intuit.com/learn-support/en-us/set-up-bank-connection/add-and-match-bank-feed-transactions-in-quickbooks-desktop/00/203759</a>

# **Receipt Management**

It is now possible to capture and upload receipts to QuickBooks Desktop Plus (which includes 24/7 support, Intuit Data Protect backup, and upgrades to new versions) or Enterprise 2021.

It involves using a mobile app or your computer to upload receipts to QuickBooks Desktop. QuickBooks will pull the information from the captured image and match it to an existing transaction. Then you can review the match and approve it.

For more information on this feature, navigate to this page: <a href="https://quickbooks.intuit.com/learn-support/en-us/intuit-account/upload-receipts-to-quickbooks-desktop/00/669610">https://quickbooks.intuit.com/learn-support/en-us/intuit-account/upload-receipts-to-quickbooks-desktop/00/669610</a>.

## **Work with Bank Accounts – Review Questions**

- 1. What does the ending balance in a QuickBooks bank account register represent?
  - a. Only transactions that have been printed
  - b. All transactions entered in the register, including checks that haven't yet been printed
- 2. True or false: All income and expense accounts have a register associated with them in QuickBooks.
  - a. True
    b. False
    \_\_\_\_\_\_ is the process of making sure your checking account record matches the bank's records.
- 4. How can you determine whether or not a check has been cleared in QuickBooks?
  - a. A checkmark displays in the bank account register
  - b. The word Cleared is stamped on the check in QuickBooks
  - c. Both of the above
  - d. Neither of the above
- 5. True or false: If you are tracking bills with Accounts Payable and have already entered a bill, you should pay the bill by writing a check from the Write Checks window.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 6. Which of the following might affect a bank account reconciliation?
  - a. Interest
  - b. Depreciation
  - c. Service charges
  - d. Both a and c
  - e. All of the above

## **Review Activities**

Use Rock Castle Construction (sample product-based company) to do these activities:

- Use the checking account register to enter a handwritten check for \$76.95. Use the next available check number and make the check payable to *Express Delivery Service* for delivery of a *new sign*. Assign the check to the **Freight & Delivery** expense account.
- Write a QuickBooks check to *Bayshore Water* for \$143.87 to pay this month's water bill. Assign the check to the **Utilities:Water** expense account.
- Find all the checks in the sample file that were written for amounts between \$3000 and \$4,000. How many checks are there?

### **Answers to Review Questions**

- 1. What does the ending balance in a QuickBooks bank account register represent?
  - a. Only transactions that have been printed
  - b. ✓ All transactions entered in the register, including checks that haven't yet been printed
- 2. True or false: All income and expense accounts have a register associated with them in QuickBooks.
  - a. True
  - b. ✓ False. Only balance sheet accounts (excluding Retained Earnings) have registers associated with them.
- 3. Reconciling is the process of making sure your checking account record matches the bank's records.
- 4. How can you determine whether or not a check has been cleared in QuickBooks?
  - a. A checkmark displays in the bank account register
  - b. The word Cleared is stamped on the check in QuickBooks
  - c. ✓ Both of the above
  - d. Neither of the above
- 5. True or false: If you are tracking bills with Accounts Payable and have already entered a bill, you should pay the bill by writing a check from the Write Checks window.
  - a. True
  - b.  $\checkmark$  False. You should use the Pay Bills window to write the check.
- 6. Which of the following might affect a bank account reconciliation?
  - a. Interest
  - b. Depreciation
  - c. Service charges
  - d. ✓ Both a and c
  - e. All of the above