



Cases small claims court deals with

Whether you can bring a case to the BC Provincial Court's small claims court depends on the subject of your claim and its dollar value.

Small claims court can deal with cases involving:

- Debt
- Damages (money to compensate for loss or injury)
- Recovery of personal property or opposing claims to personal property
- Performance of agreements about personal property or services

[Information about claims that small claims court cannot deal with](#)

Getting started

You begin a small claims lawsuit by filing a *Notice of Claim* form in a BC Provincial Court registry and delivering it to the defendant. In the form, you describe what happened and state the amount you're suing for.

If you receive a *Notice of Claim* in BC you must file a *Reply* form in the court registry within 14 days. In it, you may agree to pay the amount claimed, agree to pay part of it, or oppose (disagree with) all or part of the claim.

Court Services Branch does not provide interpreters for small claims cases.

[Starting a claim \(Small Claims BC\)](#)

[Small claims court fees \(Government of BC\)](#)

[Preparing your case \(Small Claims BC\)](#)

[Interpreters](#)

Next steps

You can make a reasonable offer to settle and file it with the Court. If the other party doesn't accept it, in some cases, the judge may impose a penalty on the party who refused the offer.

If the matter is not settled, the next step in the court process is to attend a settlement conference.

[Small claims settlement conference](#)

Related notices, policies and practice directions

[*SM CL 02 Default Method of Attendance for Court Appearances Under the Small Claims Rules*](#)

[*SM CL 03 Affidavits & Exhibits and Documents for Settlement Conferences for Use in Small Claims Proceedings*](#)

[*SM CL 04 Intimate Images Protection Act Procedural Requirements*](#)

Notices, policies, practice directions

Find notices (including Notice 28 Current Court Operations), policies and small claims practice directions.



Small Claims Forms

Small claims forms and small claims filing assistant to help you complete your forms.
(Government of BC)



Finding a lawyer or getting legal advice

Information about getting a lawyer and how to get legal advice and legal assistance.



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