

# CHECKLIST: BEFORE YOU PRESS “SEND”



You send (and receive) a number of emails every day. When it counts, make sure you're communicating professionally — and well! Before you press “send” on that next email, ask yourself these questions.

**Should I even be sending this email?**

- Would a phone call or face-to-face meeting be a better way to communicate?
- Am I communicating information that needs to be communicated?
- Am I sending this in a calm, professional state of mind?

**Have I considered who will be reading this?**

- If I'm communicating with a client, have I eliminated technical jargon or explained key terms?
- Is my tone professional and appropriate for my audience?
- Have I removed “text-speak” and emoticons?
- Have I eliminated any emotionally charged language?
- Am I sending this to the right people?
- Have I acted appropriately with regard to confidential information?

**Have I considered my reader's time?**

- Have I broken my text into multiple paragraphs?
- Have I used bullet points when possible?
- Have I eliminated unnecessary words and phrases?

**Have I used a meaningful subject line?**

**Have I checked that attachments aren't too large?**

**Is my use of a “high-priority” designation appropriate?**

**Have I run spell-check?**

**Have I proofread the email?**

