

Capital Reduction

This section deals with the process of reducing the Ordinary Share Capital balance so that the true value of shares are shown on the Balance Sheet.

This is for companies who are experiencing net losses over a few years.

The Companies Act 1985 allows companies to reduce their value of the share capital if, in doing so, the interests of the creditors are protected.

The Directors will decide to reduce the Share Capital balance if:

LOSSES IN THE PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT ARE SEEN TO BE PERMANENT AND WILL LEAD TO THE CAPITAL BEING ERODED.

A **CAPITAL REDUCTION** account is used for this purpose.

IMPORTANT – this account must have a *zero balance* after the exercise is completed.

JOURNAL ENTRIES:

- DEBIT** Capital Reduction

CREDIT Profit and loss (to write off the loss)

Any other assets reducing in value Eg
Goodwill
Vehicles
Land and Buildings
Debtors (any bad debts written off)
Stock
- DEBIT** Ordinary Share Capital

CREDIT Capital Reduction (to close the capital reduction account)

An important skill in this section is to know how to calculate the value of a companies' share:

FORMULA: **Ordinary Share capital + Reserves**
Number of ordinary shares issued

NOTE – Preference share capital is NOT included.

