



Discover YOUR Home-Based Internet Income Stream
And Put Your Skills To Work!

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Introduction

Working at home - it's the dream of many hard-working 9 to 5ers who hate their boss and their job with a passion. Quitting the rat race and working for yourself is a lovely dream, but it can be quite a journey full of ups and downs, steep learning curves, successes and failures, and much self-discovery. Deciding to work for yourself means new and interesting experiences that allow you to grow in knowledge and as a person, and also helps you stretch your wings.

But working at home is not for everyone. You may not know yet whether it's a good fit for you. You realize it's about much more than just dreaming - it requires an idea, a business model, a business plan, possibly some funding, and a burning desire plus commitment on your part to work this thing hard until it's a success.

This ebook looks at different aspects of working **online** at home, while exploring what work-at-home opportunities exist for different **skill sets**. Some job ideas will overlap more than one category, but I've tried to put them in the category with the major skill involved.

Writing skills

Organizational skills

Technical skills

Creative skills

Typing skills

Miscellaneous skills

In order to go in-depth, I have narrowed down the types of jobs or money-making possibilities to those that **can be done with the computer and an Internet connection** and will cover those here in this ebook.

You will most likely find the online opportunities that look the most interesting to you are the ones you already have some of the skills for. People tend to naturally gravitate to what they're good at.

There are certainly many more entrepreneurial opportunities for working at home such as artist, coach, seamstress, home party consultant, personal trainer, eBay auctioneer, and so on.

Working at home can also mean telecommuting, but that's not what this ebook is about. It will also not cover MLM, multi-level-marketing businesses, although some of these services can be part of an MLM.

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What do you already know about? What do you know how to do? What do you like to do? What would you be happy learning more about?

Look carefully at all the following skill options and if one strikes a chord with you, investigate it further. This means thoroughly research what's involved with the job. It may include learning skills or sub-skills you don't already have, or learning how to market yourself in this enterprise.

I recommend you find others who are successfully doing what you want to do and learn exactly what they do, how they do it, what they charge, how they handle customers, how their website is set up, how they take orders, deliver the finished product, and anything else that's important.

Many of these listed here are **service jobs** - you get paid for each service you do, trading time for money, while other jobs mentioned are considered passive income, meaning you do the work once and get paid for it again and again.

Maybe you want to work under someone to learn the ropes before you go out on your own? You can offer to work for them for a reduced rate, or pay them to mentor you. This is often a good way to start on the side while still working your 9 to 5 job.

This might mean you wouldn't make as much money initially because you're working for someone else, but it could really shorten the time it takes you to learn how to be successful in this business.

There are several places where you can find jobs/gigs and doing work through these platforms might be a great way to get started. You can certainly go on from here.

- Craigslist under "gigs"
- Job search engines, like Indeed
- Elance
- Rentacoder
- Fivver

Problogger job boards
Freelancewritinggigs
Warriors for Hire, WarriorForum

Writing Skills

There are quite a few possibilities for earning income at home if you have writing skills. Many are listed here, in no particular order. Some are straight writing while others require other skills too.

Ghostwriter

A ghostwriter is someone who is hired to write for another person. A ghostwriter stays in the background, like a ghost, and allows the person who hired them to put their own name on the finished piece of written work. You might think of a ghostwriter as someone behind the scenes who writes autobiographies for well-known stars, but there are lots more ghostwriting opportunities on a much smaller scale.

Many Internet marketers don't have the desire, time, or skill to write their own online ebooks, so they hire ghostwriters to do it. Ebook lengths vary, but can typically be from 20 to 75 pages or more.

Ghostwriters also pen articles and short reports for marketers who are looking for original content to add to their websites or blog. In addition, they will write press releases upon request.

Rewrite articles

Rewriting articles sometimes is considered an additional duty performed by a ghostwriter, but it can be a stand alone business. There are non-writers who will pay to have original or private label rights articles, reports or ebooks rewritten. These are articles the client has already purchased, but the client wants different slant or wants a unique article created out of what they purchased.

Blogger for hire

It seems funny that someone would go to all the trouble to start a blog and then not write any of their own blog posts, doesn't it? The truth is, many marketers have several blogs and they make money from them by selling ad space, physical products, or affiliate digital products. These marketers

are not blogging on one blog that's all about their passion, and they typically don't have the desire or time to keep the blog up. This is why they hire others to write their blog posts. They hire bloggers and pay them by the piece, or have a contract with them for a certain number of posts per week and then pay them monthly.

Paid to post

Oftentimes the blog owner will also request that the writer not only write the content, but post it on the blog each time. This requires learning how to add the post to the blog, but it's not at all hard to do.

At other times, the blog owner may already have the content, sometimes purchased in a bundle, and will pay someone to do the posting on the blog in a certain time frame, such as daily or three times per week.

PLR writer

PLR stands for private label rights and it refers to articles that are written and then sold a number of times. These articles are typically sold for about \$1 a page, in bundles of 5-10 articles, and are sold anywhere from 50-100 times. Some PLR writers will sell their PLR bundles an unlimited number of times. If you build up a name for yourself as a quality PLR writer, you could stand to make more money than a ghostwriter of articles.

Some PLR writers also create informational, or digital, products and sell them as PLR to many customers. There are other PLR mediums too, such as video, audio, software and graphics.

When a writer sells his work as PLR, that means he is giving the purchasers the right to change the PLR article or product anyway they'd like. This is attractive to many Internet marketers.

Write for InfoBarrel

InfoBarrel.com offers the chance to write what you want to write about. The writer submits her articles and they get published on InfoBarrel's website so there is no need for the writer to have her own website.

InfoBarrel shows Google AdSense ads on your pages and whenever a reader clicks thru any of these ads, the site makes money. The writer makes a percentage of the AdSense money earned. So the more you write,

the more money you can make. This work is probably better suited as supplementary income rather than primary income.

Article marketing for affiliate marketing

Affiliate marketing means selling another marketer's products and earning a percentage every time you sell the product. That can mean having a website presence where you showcase other products. For example, if you have a wedding site which shows Amazon wedding books for sale, you are an affiliate marketer for Amazon and will earn money if someone clicks on the wedding books and makes a purchase.

Article marketing means writing articles and submitting them to article directories in order to bring readers, also known as traffic, back to your website so they will hopefully buy. EzineArticles.com is the biggest article directory. The way it works is you write an article and include a short bio at the bottom with a link to your site. Other website owners can post your article on their sites and must include your bio with the link to your site. That way your article gets spread around and more people see it, which in turn means more people can potentially click on your link and possibly purchase through you.

You'll find there is a "fine art" to this, but the more articles you write and submit, the more traffic it should bring to your site.

Copywriter

Marketers need good salescopy for their products and are willing to pay good money for it. Well-written copy can be the difference between making a few dollars and making thousands. If you study copywriting and hone your craft, you can make a nice living.

There is a lot that goes into writing salescopy that sells, but the better you are, the more money you can command.

Creating products

Someone with writing skills might do well with writing their own ebooks. The key is to figure out what topics people are willing to spend money on and write about them. There is obviously more involved - you'll need at least a simple site to sell your ebook from, and you'll need to spend time marketing your ebook(s).

Write what people are buying => Put up a sales page website =>
Set up an automatic payment delivery system with PayPal =>
Get traffic => Make sales.

Speech writer

Speech writing is yet another way to earn an income for writers. This is doubly so if you have in-depth knowledgeable about more involved subjects.

Political speech writing is probably what you think of when you think of writing speeches, but there is a demand for speech writers in the private sector by company presidents or CEOs.

Write ad copy for online stores

Take a look at all the physical products Amazon sells, other than books. Every single one of those items has to have ad copy written, right? On a smaller scale, check out the millions of online mom and pop estores. They need good copy for each of their items too.

If you've ever been impressed with (or even noticed) the 2 or 3 sentences written describing a product in a catalog, this might be an income earner that will interest you.

Technical writer

Someone needs to write the user guides, product manuals, white papers, workbooks, design specifications, engineering specifications, and the like. Every industry needs technical writers.

Companies are looking for technical writers who are knowledgeable in their field, good at research, and can write clear and concise instructions.

Write physical books

This idea may sound like a daunting and expensive undertaking, but the playing field has changed. You no longer have to write a novel and paper your bathroom with rejection notices before you find someone who will

publish it. You don't have to take a chance with traditional self-publishing and gamble on whether you can sell all the copies.

Now you can use CreateSpace, which will list your book on Amazon and print copies on demand. Of course, they'll take their chunk out of your sales, but it may be worth it to you. And you won't have to market your book, Amazon will do that for you.

You can also put your book on Amazon Kindle, which means it won't be a physical printed book but will be available in the Kindle digital format.

Ghost tweeter

Social media is a great deal for online or offline marketers as it has created more avenues for spreading their marketing messages. Twitter is a popular social media that many marketers are using successfully. The problem though, is many marketers don't have enough time to keep up with it and tweet regularly.

Some marketers actually hire people to tweet for them. This might mean tweeting tips, giving a link to a new blog post, setting up and letting people know about a survey, retweeting other pertinent tweets, adding inspirational quotes, continuing conversations and building relationships.

Ghost tweeters need to be organized and good at coming up with ideas on what to tweet about. It gets more complicated the more Twitter clients they have to post tweets for.

Online Association

Perhaps you are an expert in a certain field, or you have a great passion about it. If there are others who are also passionate about the subject, you can start an online association with a blog or static site.

Your association can include some information that is free and other information that is for paid members only. An online association is also a good platform for selling related ebooks, physical books, training, coaching, and other products.

Organizational Skills

Perhaps one of your greatest skills is your ability to organize projects and keep things humming smoothly towards a goal and a deadline. If you thrive on creating structure and you're truly an organized person, there are lots of opportunities for you online.

Affiliate Manager

An affiliate manager is responsible for creating and maintaining the "tools" affiliates want/need to help them sell someone else's product. This could mean the affiliate manager for an online company sets up a web page where affiliates can find the tools. These tools are blog posts, email messages, articles, product reviews, and graphics such as banners, small pixel ads, and ebook covers that affiliates can use to promote the product.

The affiliate manager will need to keep the affiliate tool box stocked, adding new emails, articles, or product reviews as necessary. Small-time marketers tend to do this task themselves, but as they grow more busy and successful, they will hire an affiliate manager to tend to the affiliates. Another part of the job will be to handle affiliate questions and perhaps instruct them on the best ways to become a successful affiliate.

JV Manager

A joint venture manager is similar to an affiliate manager and may do many of the same tasks, but will take it all up a notch. They are responsible for seeking out "partners", bigger marketers, who are willing to promote the product(s) to their subscribers. JVs, also known as super affiliates, are highly desirable because they make the sales happen. So the JV manager needs to keep them happy by supplying even more assistance - such as a series of interviews pertaining to the product, free reports, etc.

Many JV managers set up a blog just for the purpose of supplying information to the JV partners in a continuous manner. They will also set up contests with prizes to encourage sales. They might be considered a launch manager as well; making sure the launch of a new product goes smoothly and all facets of the promotion go as scheduled.

Virtual Assistant

If you like to help people and like to have a variety of tasks to do, then maybe becoming a virtual assistant, or VA, would be just the ticket. Think of the tasks an assistant (known in the past as a secretary) does, and tweak them a bit because you'd be doing them online.

You may be asked to write articles or blog posts, put together affiliate tools, ghost tweet, post on blogs, update a website, put up a new blog, do some research, transcribe some notes or an audio recording, populate a monthly newsletter, find JVs, install script, and much more.

Don't feel too overwhelmed, you can learn just a few of these tasks and specialize instead of having to know how to do all of them. And just think, your services are in demand from offline businesses as well; such as real estate agents, attorneys, small businesses, entertainers, contractors and more.

Blog Manager

Think about some of the blogs you've come across... they're huge! There is new information posted every day, and in several different categories. Who do you think takes care of all this? The blog manager. They hire and manage writers who write the blog posts, and they make sure everything is on schedule and looking good on the blog. They make sure products are promoted, ad space is filled, and graphics are in place.

Online consultant

Do you have a specialty; insider's knowledge on a topic? Then consider doing some online consulting. Doing something in line with your previous job such as Human Resources, Engineer, and Administrative Management come to mind, but you can even consult if you're a self-proclaimed potty training expert or a garden pest/disease control expert. Think about what you know that's not common knowledge, and set up a paid coaching program or ecourse, or bill for your time consulting each individual.

Marketing

Many businesses need the help of an experienced marketer. Marketing principles are the same online as off but there are some differences, especially when it comes to the delivery method. A good grasp of social media and all the acceptable methods of marketing online are necessary,

but if you've been a marketer in the offline world, you've got a huge head start!

Offline marketing

Many small businesses don't have a clue, or want to learn, how to market their business on the Internet. For these business owners, you can offer many services such as getting their website built, sending out emails to clients, continuously adding fresh content on their website, sending out a monthly newsletter, using SEO techniques, building backlinks, being the social media person, and much more.

Forum owner

It's easier than ever these days to start a forum as there are several forum/bulletin board software programs available to choose from. The important issue here is the subject of the forum. If you plan to run the forum yourself, it should be a subject you're knowledgeable and passionate about and a subject that's not too narrow. There should also be plenty of other passionate people interested in it too.

Duties of the forum owner include lots of marketing to attract forum members, constant contribution to posts, keeping an eye on the forum to make sure it's going the right direction and new topics are being introduced constantly (which is why organization skills are very important), keeping spammers out, and making sure your forum rules are being followed.

Your forum would be free to join and you make your money from advertising on the site, either from AdSense ads or as paid advertising from members.

Online headhunter

Build a service that connects prospective employees with employers. You can be a real live hiring (or firing) consultant and work directly with individuals and companies. Or you can have a website job board set up that allows for job postings and position requests with resumes posted. The latter is more of a hands-off approach and your income would likely be from hosting advertising.

Technical Skills

Technical experience with computers and software is more valuable than you may imagine. When you have technical skills that you can bring to the table you will discover you can pick and choose from a number of challenging and sometimes very well paying opportunities. Both freelance contracting positions and company positions are options to consider.

Technical help desk workers

Most likely you have called upon a technical support group at some point in time. These are the people on the front line when it comes to offering online help and assistance. They might answer simple questions or help with downloading or uploading problems. Before you sign up for this type of work-at-home job you should have experience with computers and be able to work at a fairly fast pace.

Tech support teams have protocol to follow for most customer problems but you will have to be able to think quickly and logically on your feet while helping the caller to understand your instructions.

Computer repair and troubleshooting

If you are a whiz at diagnosing and repairing computer problems then why not use these skills to create your own work at home opportunity? There is always someone who needs help with their computer issues and you can even solve the problems through remote repairs. You can work as an independent contractor or apply to become a member of a computer repair company.

Computer data backup service

You might like to start an online backup business offering people the chance to have their backups stored somewhere other than their computer. This would involve a secure offsite location with unlimited storage. The more computer users and computers there are, the more demand for remote backup services.

PHP coder

There are many people who wish to expand their web pages or establish new and complicated websites online. This is when they call in PHP coders to help them create the dynamic projects that will attract the attention of clients and customers.

A PHP developer can take even vague application ideas and devise specialized solutions using the latest computer technology. You need to be skilled in framework development such as Cake PHP, Zend, Sophit and Symphony; have experience in programming languages such as Java Script, PHP 4+ or 5+ and Flash Action Script 2.0 and have a good understanding of data bases, data libraries, and open source solutions. If you are proficient in both Windows and Linux applications you may find yourself in demand as a PHP coder.

Software writing

Software creation is one of the biggest needs in the computer industry and you do not need a college degree to tackle this type of work. This online job requires people who are familiar with creating software for a variety of different uses.

If necessary, there are classes you can take to help you master the art of writing software but much of your knowledge will come from "hands on" experience.

You can either create programs that people are requesting from you, on a client by client basis or within a firm, or you can write software that an industry is in need of and market and sell it to them.

Virtual call center agent

You should have high speed internet access, landline phone service, a dependable computer and a dedicated office space for this work-at-home opportunity. You should have good people skills, patience, and a broad understanding of basic hardware and software installation. There are a number of companies who are outsourcing their call center work and home-based agents are what they are looking for.

Design applications

See all those games on your iPhone? They're apps that have been built specifically for the iPhone and there is always room for more. If you can

create an app for Apple for the iPhone or iPad, for example, you earn money every time someone purchases/downloads it. You can also create apps for Facebook.

Install software

Many marketers buy software but don't have the skills to install the software themselves. This is where you can help: install the new software or fix it if they've had problems trying to do it on their own, and they'll happily pay you. There is sometimes a learning curve involved for the non-techy and they might not have the time or inclination to work through it when they can hire someone to handle it quickly.

Create WordPress plugins

Wordpress.org is a great platform on which to build plugins or widgets that will help WordPress users do just about anything. Some plugins are free and offered through WordPress while others are sold by the individual creators.

Some examples of WP plugins include plugins that allow you to rotate banner ads, offer a shortcut to download pictures straight from Flickr, give a blog an SEO boost, allow people to favor a post with social media, and find Clickbank products to promote.

There are many, many plugins available, just do a search to see. Don't let that stop you from creating your own line of plugins because technology is constantly changing and new plugin needs arise.

Website hosting provider

All websites need hosting, a place for the site URL to live so it can show up on the web, and these website domains will pay for the hosting. It seems complicated, but there are hosting software programs available so you don't have to recreate it. In fact, some hosting companies will sell their program to you and you can simply put your company name on it. Ongoing customer service may or may not be your responsibility.

This is listed under technical because most of the customer questions you will get will be technical issues.

Directory Owner

A directory is actually a huge resource site based on a particular subject. For example, an article directory is a site where someone can access lots of articles. You can start a directory on almost anything you can think of and the more you have on it, the more important the site is in Google's eyes, which means it will move up in ranking and get more and more traffic. Your income is made through showing ads on your site.

Typing Skills

Transcriptionist

Often times when marketers do an audio interview they would like to have the interview transcribed. If you have fast and accurate typing skills, this is a well-paying fulltime or parttime job. But those who need transcription services are not limited to online marketers, there are also doctors who need their patient visits transcribed, attorneys who want their legal notes or proceedings transcribed, and many other businesses who'd like their meeting notes and other recordings turned into written records.

There are many people who cannot write as well as they can talk. They've learned to "speak" their information and give it to a transcriptionist to transcribe with light editing. Think blog posts, articles, and press releases.

You may need certification, depending on the area of transcription you choose and where you live. And it's true that it helps to have some medical and legal terminology knowledge for medical and legal transcribing.

Typist

Do your research and learn to distinguish scams from the real thing before joining an online typing business. Beware if they make lofty claims on how much money you can make a day or if they ask for money up front from you. There are reputable typing companies that are well suited to fast, accurate typists.

You can also hang out your own shingle and offer your typing services to others. Market yourself to college students and book writers. If you have some editing skills too, then you've got a whole online world of non-native English speakers who are looking for typists who can also "Americanize" their English. There are also companies that need typists to type out technical information such as white papers.

Data entry

There are other kinds of typing, besides typing out sentences. Data entry is another form of work-at-home typing. You might type data from one form to another, such as an online contact form into a spreadsheet. Again,

speed and accuracy are very important here. You need to have knowledge about various database software, like Excel and File Maker and word processing, such as Microsoft Word.

Medical coder

Many medical billing coders are working for doctors, hospitals, insurance companies and other medical groups. You should have successfully completed courses in medical coding and be comfortable working with highly detailed information. Nationally accredited certification is available and most companies require this type of documentation before they will hire an individual.

Properly coded documents are crucial in today's health care setting and people who have the necessary skills to do this type of job are usually in demand.

Creative Skills

Web Design

If you have the skills and knowledge to create great website designs then there are clients who will be eager to hire you. Web design is a business that is continuing to grow on a weekly basis and top designers are able to command top pay. You will have the opportunity to work as a freelance agent or become a team player for a larger. This is a field that will continue to grow as more and more businesses come online.

Technical expertise, imagination, graphic design and some computer skills are necessary for this type of home-based work. You will need to know how to use some web design software.

Design Blog themes

If you like to take basic blogs themes and modify them to suit your purposes and you have a good grasp of what bloggers want and need, then you might consider designing your own premium blog themes. You can offer packages of these premium blog themes for sale again and again.

Some theme designers choose to design packs around niches such as animals or holidays and others like to do SEO or AdSense themes.

One big consideration in choosing this line of work is you will be providing ongoing support to your customers. This includes answering "how do I..." questions, so "people skills" are a must.

Create graphics

Let the graphic artist in you do what it loves. Do you like to make graphics but consider it just fooling around? You can actually sell those graphics. There is a need for graphics:

- to be included in a website design
- as visual aids in blog posts
- for visual relief in text-based reports
- for inclusion in designs for ebooks, membership cards, reports, magazines, dvd covers, cd covers and more.

Take serious note of all the blogs you've read and websites you've looked at and what they display for graphics. Design what Internet marketers want, put them on a website, and market your cool designs.

Sell your photos online

If photography is your thing and you take your camera wherever you go, then setting up shop selling your photos might be perfect for you. There are two ways to go.

1. Set up a site showcasing your best photography and offer prints of different sizes for sale.
2. Set up your site to sell your pictures for use as stock photos. In addition, you can open it to other photographers and keep a percentage of their sales from your site too. Look at iStockphoto as an example.

Build and flip sites

This is a combination of skills, including technical, writing, and designing, although you can outsource any you aren't comfortable with.

Set up a blog using a great theme, add ten or more unique articles (written particularly for this blog), add the most popular WordPress plugins, optimize some money-making avenues (such as AdSense ads and Amazon widgets) and offer the blog for sale on a flipping site such as Flippa.

This may sound complicated at first, but it can be done quickly and consistently for a steady stream of income.

Physical product design

Designing physical products is similar to creating online graphics in that you use your computer extensively, but there is an added step of moving your designs from "virtual paper" to actual products. T-shirts, coffee mugs, pencils, pens, mouse pads, computer cases, are some of the popular landing places for graphics.

Two options are setting up an online shop and selling the physical products yourself, or selling the designs to other companies that will put the designs on their own physical goods.

Miscellaneous Skills

Backlinking

When you leave a comment on other sites with a link to your site, that's called a backlink. The big plus for online websites to have lots of backlinks is that it helps them sit higher in the search engines. Obviously the websites that are on page 1 in Google get quite a bit more traffic, or click thrus, than those on page 10, so that's what websites shoot for.

Backlinking involves posting relevant comments on related websites, not spamming, and many marketers don't have the time or desire to do this themselves.

Keyword Research

Internet marketers are busy people and they simply can't do everything. Nor do they want to. Keyword research is something that's important for marketing purposes and isn't hard to do, but can be time-consuming. So this is something that gets outsourced to others who have a knack for it or have great software that can do most of the work for them.

Investing in keyword research software tools is essential so you can get it done fast and increase your earnings from offering this service.

SEO

Search engine optimization is crucial for online success so marketers take this very seriously. SEO is about getting a website ranking on the first page of the search engines, specifically Google, because first page ranking means many more clicks and usually many more sales.

But again, many online marketers have time-constraint issues and/or a lack of thorough knowledge about SEO. If you know SEO inside and out, you can position yourself as an SEO expert and offer your services to help websites move up in the search engines.

Voice over

Usually when you think of voice overs you think TV or radio, but the Internet has opened up a whole new avenue. Online advertising needs

professional voices, as do businesses putting out instructional videos and sales/marketing videos.

If you've got the right voice, you can do voice overs from the convenience of your own computer. The proper equipment is necessary so researching and then purchasing items such as a good microphone is crucial.

Online Forex Trading

The foreign exchange market is a worldwide market for the purpose of trading currencies. It's real-time, 24/7, except for the weekends. The Forex's bigger purpose is to help businesses convert from one currency to another, depending on their needs.

Forex trading, then, is trading currencies, on speculation. Buy low and sell high is the easy explanation. Obviously, pursuing this avenue means you're well-educated as to the ins and outs of trading and you're aware that it comes with extreme risk.

Buy and sell domain names

Believe it or not, there are people who make a living from buying and selling domain names (website names). You can set up your own site that offers to buy existing domain names and then sell them off to interested 3rd parties - where you're offering more of a brokering service.

Or you can buy "new" domain names, hold onto them, and then sell them when they are "aged" and/or are really hot. This is buying on speculation and there is an inherent risk involved. But a new domain name typically costs about \$10 per year and shouldn't bust the bank if it turns out to be a dud. The most effective way to do this is to stay on top or ahead of where trends are going and pick domain names that should become really popular.

Virtual Jurist

Attorneys can win or lose a case by how prepared they are. They need to know and understand the jury - who they are and how they think. So the attorneys will first run their case by a "virtual jury" to get a feel for how the jury will vote. This helps them find flaws in their case.

Go to a site like eJury and apply. You're picked by the attorney to participate based on the demographics he or she needs.

Necessary Components Of a Successful WAH Online Business

It's exciting to find a job or service you'd like to do at home from the above lists. You know what you're skilled at and you've found something that seems like the perfect fit for you. But before you drop your 9 to 5 job and jump in head-first, here are some things to think about.

1. Time - Do you have the time to learn what you need to learn and also the time to spend growing your business? If you're working long hours and you have a family, can you find the necessary time? Some temporary sacrifices will need to be made; like skipping TV in the evenings and getting up extra early in the mornings to learn and work.

Also regarding time, it matters whether you have a current job you'll need to work around, you're unemployed, you have unusual work hours (like a firefighter who works several 24 hour shifts in a row and then has several days off), or you're a stay-at-home parent looking to simply supplement the household coffers. Just how much time you have can lead you to:

- Work hard and commit to making it work quickly - you have limited time but you're focused and committed.
- Take questionable actions because you feel desperate - your time clock is ticking at an alarming rate.
- Only go after it half-hearted - you have quite a bit of time and there's no hurry because you don't need the work that badly.

2. Money - The time and money factors usually go hand-in-hand. It is recommended that you start your online service part time while you maintain your fulltime job. At some point you'll feel secure with the earnings and growth potential and then you can quit your fulltime position.

However, many people need to make the switch before the at-home business has totally replaced their income in order to have the time

to grow it. If this is the case, do you have money set aside to cover your lost income until your at-home biz grows?

Do you have funds to invest in the business? Some businesses can be started on a small budget, but to grow you really do need to invest in certain areas, depending on your particular business.

3. Education - Get the necessary education to do all aspects of your business because in the beginning you will surely be wearing many hats. Later on, when you have the funds, you can outsource or hire help for the tasks you don't care to do.

If you don't feel you are as proficient with the Internet as you should be it is very easy to sign up for some short courses. That will give you the confidence and experience needed so you can do the work from home you'd like to do. You can find courses online or at your local community college or outreach program.

Education can be had by researching and learning from the Internet, getting a mentor, paying for coaching, or following others already doing the business you want to do. A combination approach is often chosen.

4. Resources - Build your online library and stock it with all kinds of resources. These might include help/instructional videos, written guides, mentors email addresses and websites, checklists, step-by-step action plans for your business model, tech help people, and a list of websites that do something similar to what you're doing.

To that end, it really helps to be organized with your resources. There are online programs or software you can use so that you're able to quickly locate what you need while you're learning or when you need some extra help. Take some time to set this all up in the beginning, online, so everything can have it's place. No more bits of paper piling up on your desk!

5. A Plan - This is of utmost importance. It doesn't necessarily have to be a huge, minutely detailed, professional business plan. But

it does have to be well thought out with detailed steps on how to get from Point A to Success as you define it.

For some, it helps to work backwards. Start with the end goal in mind and then list the step before it, then the step before that, etc. until you get to the beginning.

6. Support - Having the support of loved ones is crucial, especially from your spouse or partner. If they're not on board with you quitting your job or spending all your extra waking hours working on this then it's going to cause problems on the home front.

What will convince your partner to support you depends on your partner. Some need to see the detailed plan and have it all laid out while others want a promise that you'll stop if it doesn't work out by xx number of months. It might be that you will need to continue it on the side for a long period of time before they're comfortable with you quitting your *other* job.

Remember that this is your dream, not theirs, and you have to present it in a way that speaks to them and addresses solutions to their questions and fears.

7. Marketing - It would be nice if your business could be an unqualified success relying only on word-of-mouth, but this is often not the case, especially in the beginning. You will have to market your business constantly and be comfortable doing so. More on this in the next chapter.

Marketing Your Business

Of course you need to have a great product or give high quality service, but what is probably going to make or break your business is how successfully you market the business.

The good news is it's easier than ever to promote yourself because of the Internet. You can have your own website or blog as "headquarters" for your business. This allows you to brand yourself and showcase your services or products in a professional way.

Traditional marketing meant expensive ads via newspaper, magazines, trade journals, and the yellow pages. Marketing these days means having a website and driving online traffic to it, building relationships with key marketers, and using social media to promote. These are much less expensive marketing options and allow for a more level playing field with the big companies.

The bad news is it can be hard to be heard above the Internet noise. You have to toot your own horn, be seen, seem larger than life, and show up (online and offline) everywhere. The idea is to build your online brand and do it without spamming anyone.

Yes, you've got to do it all until you get a client base built up and/or you can afford to hire a marketing company or someone to have in-house to do it all for you.

I highly recommend you learn as much as you can about marketing on the Internet. There are some excellent digital products on the subject of Internet traffic that you can purchase. There is also information available for free if you do a thorough online search.

Pricing Yourself

As with any business, an online business also has to be positioned correctly with regards to the pricing of products and/or services.

The first place to start when figuring out your prices is with researching the competition. What *exactly* are they offering and what do they charge to provide it? If you're not doing the exact same thing then it's harder to compare, but do your best.

After you've done your research and compared; you will need to decide what YOU will charge, and why. There are different thoughts on this and pros and cons of each.

Price yourself lower than your competition.

Pro - It's easier to get clients and/or orders, especially when you're just starting out and an unknown entity. The work should be pretty steady.

Con - You don't make as much money. Plus it's harder to raise your prices later because your customers come to expect the low prices.

Price your services the same as the competition.

Pro - You're right in the ballpark with everyone else and you don't have to justify your prices.

Con - You might be offering your services for less than they're worth.

Price yourself above the others.

Pro - You stand out, hopefully as higher quality, plus you earn more per transaction.

Con - You might have to prove yourself and explain your prices, and possibly lose business.

You may have experience to draw on from the offline or physical product world and that will help you make these decisions.

How To Get Started

Here is an action plan to help you get started. There are many temptations online, including playing games and general surfing, but try to stay focused.

1. Decide what you want to do. This ebook is designed to help you with that by offering ideas based on your skills or desires (which are usually similar if not actually the same).

2. Learn how to do it. You might already know how to do it, but need to know how to apply it online rather than off. Or perhaps it's something totally new. It might seem scary, but you can learn it. Learning how to tie your shoes was a very complicated and tricky thing when you were 5 years old, but you learned it nevertheless. Don't let not knowing *how* stop you!

3. Research how other people are doing it online. Learn all you can about our competition; how they're set up, what they sell, their pricing, their sales funnel and backend products.

4. Plan out your website, your "headquarters" based on aspects of various other sites you like. Use elements from each (but don't directly copy) and improve upon them.

5. Learn how to do what you need to do tech-wise, or hire someone to do it for you. You don't have to know how to design a blog and put it up to get it started because you can easily pay someone to do it for you. I do recommend you learn as much as you can at some point though, so you know you're getting all that you pay for and you're not totally stuck if your tech person suddenly vanishes.

6. Promote, promote, promote... You're never done with this step. But do it intelligently. Try different methods, test to see which bring you the most traffic for the least amount of time or money spent, and ramp up what works.

7. Build relationships with others in your field and also in other fields. You can help each other out in ways you can't imagine right now. One can help with content while another can work out your technical problem. Yet another can tell his subscribers about your products, and so on.

Tip - Always make sure your domain name, the .com name of your website, is purchased in your name. It's not necessary to hire someone to do this, you can go to Namecheap or GoDaddy and purchase it yourself. That way you own (actually rent) the name and no one else (like your website designer) can run off with it.

Conclusion

It is quite possible to make a decent living working at home but it's important to really look at your strengths and weaknesses and give a lot of thought to how you want to earn that income.

There are many, many ways you can make money on the Internet, you've seen some of them in this ebook. But it's important to know not all Internet marketing products or ideas are in your best interests. Some of them are online scams, while others are just not what you really need.

We all would like to make bucket loads of money while we sleep or while simply pressing that easy button in our pajamas, but that's not how it really is.

If you're looking into existing online money-making ventures you've come across, make sure they pass the following test:

- Are they asking you to spend money to make money? Be wary here. You will probably need to pay for any information products that teach you how to do something or give you insider secrets and resources, but are they charging you more than it's worth? Is there any forced continuity where you have to pay a monthly fee after you get the product? Are they wanting your money to "list" you in their directory? Be sure to read the fine print and ask questions beforehand.
- Will the product tell you how to do something step-by-step or is it vague theory? Theory is lovely, it allows you to have big dreams, but what you need to know is the steps involved and how to do each one.
- Are their complaints about the product developer? An Internet search of the product creator's name can show you what others have to say.
- Is it a business model you feel you can follow day in and day out, and give yourself 200% to? Forget about the promise of income for a minute and ask yourself if this is something you would enjoy doing long-term. If it's not, there is probably another business model you'll feel more insync with.

If you've always dreamed of working from home and you feel it's a good fit and you have what it takes, then get started now!

The **slow way** is to learn everything on your own and in your own time. This is not a bad way to go if you're low on funds and you need to do everything yourself - you have more time than money.

Another slow way is to work for someone who is doing what you want to do. Learn the ropes and then go out on your own. Although you won't get to be your own boss for a while, you do learn all the ins and outs of the business while earning some income.

The **fast way** would be to invest in a coach who can put you on the shortest path and get you up and running and successful quicker. Many people start out slow and then flip to fast once they have some at-home income to start reinvesting.

This list of work-at-home jobs based on your skills is a way to get you looking at various ways of making money and picking one idea based on what you're good at. This doesn't mean you have to stay there, especially if you learn some new skills along the way and find you're pretty good at them too. For example, maybe you've always liked to write, but find after you've tried your hand at creating some graphics that you like to do that even better than writing.

Internet marketers will always have a need for various services and this is where you can position yourself as invaluable and start making some income at home. Good luck!

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