

The background of the page is a photograph of a home office. In the foreground, a silver laptop sits on a small, dark, round stool. To the left, a large, lush green plant with long, feathery fronds is in a dark pot. To the right, a window with white blinds is partially open, revealing a view of a city. A green cushion and a white blanket are draped over the windowsill. The overall atmosphere is bright and clean.

Starting a **HOME BUSINESS**

Learn To Start a Home Based Business and The Discipline
In What It Takes To Make It Successful

Starting a Home Business

A Digital-Human Collection Know-all Quickstart-Guide
On The Foundations of Starting a Home Business

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Introduction

There are several ways to go about starting up a home-based business. Your main choices include providing a service to clients or being your own boss and being responsible for your own future.

Both models can provide you with a solid business base. It just depends if you want to be reliant on clients for your income or not. Running a client-based business is great as it provides you with immediate income.

There are two main downfalls to this model though. The first is if your client stops ordering from you that particular income stream dries up immediately. The second downfall is that you only have so many hours in which to provide service work. This can put a cap on your income.

Being solely responsible for your own income can put a great deal of pressure on you at first. But it can also bring huge rewards. Once your business is running and profitable you potentially have no limit to what you can earn. As your workload increases you can simply outsource various tasks to others.

You could outsource client work too, but if delivery is late or the work not up to your standard, it is your reputation that could suffer. While this is still a good avenue to pursue you will want to have good quality control procedures in place to ensure things go smoothly.

Obviously your next questions will be about what type of business to offer. When it comes to running your own business, some popular models include: affiliate marketing, product creation, and running membership sites amongst others.

Affiliate marketing involves building a mailing list that you can recommend products to. Think of yourself as an online salesperson, each time a product sells you earn a commission.

Creating products such as reports and ebooks can be a viable business model too. All you do is create the product once and then resell it over and over again. You could even hire affiliates to help you promote your products.

Service based business models include becoming a freelancer, offering graphic design, helping other to publish books, offering search engine optimization services, setting up websites and more. If your service involves lots of detailed work, you can charge higher prices. This helps reduce the need for finding lots of clients each month.

It takes thought and planning to start a home-based business. Don't just jump into any business model. Think about what you find appealing and what you would like to work on long term. Then follow your dreams and turn them into a reality.

What Does Working From Home Offer You

Do you like the appeal that working from home offers you? Most people do and the first things they think of are flexibility, being your own boss and working in your pajamas. While this is great the reality of working from home can be a little different. Let's take a look.

Being your own boss is absolutely one of the biggest pros of working from home. But it can become your downfall if you are not careful. While you can easily change your hours as you like, you will still need to commit to work on your business regularly.

If not, you will find that your income becomes non-existent. So have set office hours where you proactively work on building your business.

Flexible hours are another huge plus of working from home. If your kids are sick you can take the time to care for them. If you have a doctor's appointment, you can simply work this into your schedule.

Again, you need to be careful that you aren't out running errands all day. Schedule your appointments carefully and try to book them together. This way you can get all of your running around done in one day and not find yourself breaking up several days into chunks.

The lure of not getting dressed and working in your pajamas may be great at first. But it can also deter you from actually getting work done. You may find it easier if you do get up, exercise, then shower and prepare for work.

Then just walk into your office and start your day's work. Mindset is important if you want to run a successful business. Allowing yourself to be lazy could result in you getting less work done on a regular basis.

One of the biggest drawbacks about working from home is that it is so easy to allow yourself to have excuses. This might be for taking an extra day off, or for not being productive enough.

In order to run a successful business from home you need to have a good mindset.

This includes realizing that you and only you are responsible for your own income.

Taking off too many hours each week is not going to help you support your family

and live a carefree lifestyle. Instead you want to set goals and limits on your time. Build your business first, before taking advantage of what working from home can offer you and your family.

Things To Consider Being Your Own Boss

Who doesn't want to be their own boss? I am sure your hand shoots up every time someone asks you this question. But is being your own boss as easy as it sounds?

When you work for an employer, as long as you show up and do your work, you know you will get paid each week or month. This is not true when you are your own boss.

You are responsible for keeping yourself busy with clients or customers in order to see that income. If you decide to slack off and not work as much, this will be reflected in your income, or lack of one.

In order to run your own business and be in control of your income you need to put a few things into place first.

Marketing and Business Plan

If you don't have some type of business plan you are going to be lost right out of the gate. Not having a plan means that you don't have a plan of Action for each day. Instead of working you may find yourself staring at your computer screen or surfing the web for hours at a time. By the end of the day, you may be tired, but you have been totally unproductive.

Your first step is to start formulating a business plan. This can consist of setting goals for income, creating products, and building a mailing list. Write out your goals and place them somewhere you can see them each day.

You Should Have a To Do List

Having a to do list is a great way to keep yourself productive. Each morning you will know what tasks or items have to be tackled. You won't waste time in figuring out what to do either. Your productivity levels will increase, and this will actually help your free up time.

Planning In Advance

While this can be part of your business plan, you want to work out your personal plans in advance too. If you like to take time off at Christmas or in the summer, then it is important to plan well in advance for this.

By planning and scheduling your work, you can easily take time off and still earn money while you are away from your home office. It is important to take time off to spend with your family while building your business.

Being your own boss means you are wearing all types of hats. You need to perform customer service, market your business, develop relationships, find customers and clients and more.

If this sounds like a challenge you would enjoy, then you could just be ready to be your own boss!

Setting Up a Successful Home-Based Business

In order to run a successful home-based business, there are certain things you need to have in place first. This includes setting aside an area of your home as your office, setting office hours and improving your mindset to become your own CEO.

While working from home is a dream thousands of people have, the reality of it is not always so easy to achieve. One of your first steps should be to select an area of your home to act as your business headquarters.

This is important to do because you need to separate your family life from your business. So, when you are in your business office, you can easily slip into business mode.

Choose an area of your home that is quiet so that you won't be disturbed. Also ensure that it is large enough to hold any office equipment you may need. Including your computer, printer, phone, video equipment, whiteboard and storage space.

If possible, try to have a business computer and not use your family computer for your business. Again, this helps you to keep the two sections separate. Plus, you won't have to worry about your children needing the computer while you are working.

At first you may not have all the funds you need to purchase all of your equipment. That's fine, just have a list of items that you need to get and work on purchasing them when you can afford to do so. Listing them in order of priority is also helpful.

For example, you may find that having a whiteboard is more important than buying a new webcam. Your list of items will depend upon your business model and needs.

Once you have your business area set up your next step is to give yourself some form of office hours. Yes, you can always change your

hours as necessary, but you want to have a goal of working a set number of hours per day or week. This will help you grow your business and produce a solid income.

Remember that you don't have to work for 5 or 6 consecutive hours. If you have young children, you may find it easier to split up your day into 2 or 3 shorter segments.

Try out a few scenarios and see which ones allow you to be more productive. Getting up earlier or working after the kids are in bed may be better for you.

Setting guidelines for your business puts you into a business mindset which will help you be more productive and see results.

You Got To Have Self-Discipline When You Work From Home

One of the biggest problems for anyone working from home is that of discipline. Working from home allows you lots of freedom and choices, and it is easy to take things way too far.

Have you ever taken a day off because the weather was great, or you didn't feel like working? What's worse is when that one day stretches into a few or more.

This is why the topic of discipline is so important and should not be overlooked. If you really want to enjoy those summer days, you can. You just need to plan and schedule your day differently.

It is understandable that you want to spend more time with your family during the summer. There is no reason why you cannot, and you don't have to let your business suffer either.

Instead of taking complete days off, plan to work a shorter day. You may find it easier to get up early and work while your family is still sleeping.

Plus, if you know you only have four hours to work, you will be amazed at how productive you can be. It is way too easy to let checking your emails or posting to Facebook eat into your day.

At the end of each business day write out what must be accomplished the next day. Using a whiteboard is great for this and list the items in order of priority. Then as soon as you are ready to work you know exactly what needs to be done.

Don't even open your email until the first task is completed. Then allow yourself ten or fifteen minutes to check on emails and your social sites. Then get back to work promptly.

If you do this during the summer months you may notice just how productive you can really be. By the time your kids are up you will be finishing for the morning and can then spend time with your family, without feeling guilty.

You may find that working for a few hours in the morning and then again in the evening works well for you. By doing this you can still put in a full business day. You can enjoy your family without letting your business suffer.

Take the time today to set up a proactive business schedule. List all of your main tasks for each day and simply work through them one by one.

If you can avoid distractions, before you know it you will be running a disciplined business that is always growing.

Home-Base Business Recommendations and Ideas To Start

If the lure of working from home is appealing to you, have you thought about what type of business you could run from home? There are many types of business models that could be suitable for you.

This chapter will take a look at some of the most popular choices today:

Service Based Business

This type of business model is where you are working for clients. You can provide various services such as:

- Writing
- Web design and graphics
- Bookkeeping
- Data entry
- Email management
- Social Media management

The best aspect of this model is that it will provide you with an immediate income. Your main priority is finding clients and then fulfilling the work. If you already have experience in a certain area, then it makes sense to continue with this in your home business.

For example, if you work in a tax or accounting office, you can simply offer this service to your clients. You can target both online and offline business owners. All you have to do is set up a professional website with your services and then market it to attract clients.

Your Own Business

This model is extremely attractive, but it does have a few draw backs. When you are first starting out remember that it takes time to build a business.

Be prepared to not see an income for the first few months. Then when you do, you will need to put some money back into growing your business.

Types of businesses that fit this model include:

- Self-publishing your own books
- Creating and selling digital products
- Running an ecommerce type store
- Affiliate marketing
- Blogging

All of these are fantastic business models which allow you to be in control of your own destiny and income. Running an online business from home takes dedication and determination.

You have to be prepared to work long hours at first, and you need to be consistent with your efforts.

Some people like to mix and match these business models. It is possible to offer a writing service while still publishing your own books. Or you may want to offer social media management as a service so that you have income to put into creating your own products.

That's the beauty of running a home-based business, you have the flexibility to choose what to offer, and when to offer it.

We would recommend that you only offer one type of service at a time. You can always add a new service later on if you wish.

What's It Look Like Having a Home Business

If you are contemplating starting your own home-based business this article should be of great interest to you. We are going to show you what a typical day looks like. You may be a little surprised at how much time and effort running your own business really is.

A typical morning is going to consist of getting up, exercising and getting your kids out of the front door. Of course, this may vary depending upon your own circumstances.

Morning – First Tasks

Grab a coffee and head into your office. Some of your first tasks are going to include:

- Checking your email and answering the most important ones first.
- Logging into any help desks and dealing with any tickets.
- Posting to your social media pages.

Morning – Get to Work

Once you have taken care of all the small details it is time to actually start working on your business. This means staying off of social media and not checking your email every few minutes.

Go over your To-Do list and prioritize it, make changes if anything has come up in your morning mail.

Start working on these items. Try to work for an hour at a time and then take a quick break. This helps prevent your body from getting stiff and sore.

Plus, a quick break and walk around the house helps free up your mind. You will find that when you return to work you feel a little fresher.

Continue working until lunch time and then take another break. Try and get out in the fresh air for a bit too.

Examples of morning tasks include:

- Emailing your list
- Customer service issues
- Client work
- Hiring an outsourcer for a project

Afternoon

The afternoon is when we generally finish up any major items that must be completed before the end of the day. Then we typically work on marketing our business. This can consist of writing up a new blog post, posting to social media, placing some free ads, running a Facebook ad and more.

During this time, we also like to plan out our projects for the next few weeks. If a holiday is approaching, we will decide if we want to run a sale or offer a special. If we need graphics, then we will plan out what we need and have that outsourced to our graphic designer.

Afternoon – Final Tasks

We normally set aside the last 30 minutes of the day to write out our To-Do list for the following day. We make small adjustments the next morning as necessary.

After this we close down the office and enjoy time with our family. Your tasks will vary depending upon what type of business you are running.

Running a Business at Home With Kids

One of the attractions of working from home is being able to work while your kids are at home. But what is the actual reality of this? Is working from home really feasible with small children running around or not? Let's take a look.

Hundreds of moms would love to work from home after having their first child. They often look into this while at home on maternity leave. If this is your desire, then there are a few things you need to take into consideration first.

Flexibility and Discipline

Working from home requires that you have a lot of flexibility and discipline. You will need to set some type of office hours and then stick to them as much as possible. Of course, things will crop up and you will have to adjust your schedule.

What you don't want to do is to let your business suffer. If you have to take a day off, then try to make up the time at some point. At the same time though, you don't want to beat yourself up because of it.

Expectations

Consider what your expectations are for your new business. Do you need to replace your full-time salary? Or can you manage with a smaller income for a while?

Many parents have a goal of earning what they would consider a part-time income while their children are at home. Then as they start school, they can easily ramp up their business and start producing more income.

Having clear expectations will allow you to enjoy the time at home with your child, while still running a business.

Type Of Work

Next look at the type of work you can do from home. Could you actually work for your current employer from home? Telecommuting is a popular op-on these days and many employers are catering to this.

If not, other options include providing a service to clients. This could be transcribing notes, setting up and sending out emails, writing and formatting books or even doing graphic design.

Working for clients provides you with an income but you still have deadlines to meet. Maybe taking on just one or two clients would work at first. If they provide you with regular work, you have your regular income in place.

Working from home with kids can be done successfully. You may need to work in short periods of -me, when your child is sleeping, or before they get up in the morning. If you are adaptable then there is no reason why you can't have the best of both worlds.

