

7 Of The Best Home Business Ideas



By Suzanne Morrison

<http://www.HomeBiz-Direct.com>

Introduction



Hello and welcome to “7 of the Best Home Business Ideas”!

If you are new to home business, or have been trying to make money online for a while now with little success, then this guide is for you.

My name is Suzanne Morrison and I have been running my own home business since 2004. When I started online I was inexperienced and overwhelmed with the many different business opportunities and ideas available to me.

In this guide you will find 7 legitimate home business ideas, laid out in a very easy to understand way. For each business idea you will be able to quickly see:

- A brief summary of what the business is about
- How much it costs (if anything)
- Roughly how much time you need to spend per week on the business
- How much experience you need (if any)
- Instructions on how to get started

As with any business, a home business does take time and effort to get started. If you are looking for a get rich quick scheme or a way to make lots of money overnight, you’d be best trying the lottery instead! However, if you are willing to work hard, be persistent and can spend at least a few hours per week working on your business the odds of making money are significantly higher.

I hope you find this guide useful and if you have any questions about anything related to home business or internet marketing please feel free to [contact me](#).

Suzanne Morrison

Home Business Idea 1 – Affiliate Marketing

What is it?



Affiliate Marketing is all about selling products for other people or companies and making a commission on each sale.

Pretty much every business on the internet that sells products to the public has an affiliate program. You can join the affiliate programs for the products that you are interested in selling and you will receive a special affiliate link with your own unique affiliate code within it. Each time

someone visits the company website through your affiliate link and makes a purchase, you will receive a commission for the sale.

Commissions usually vary from as little as a few percent, up to 50%, but you will also find affiliate programs paying higher than 50%.

To increase your profits from affiliate marketing consider joining affiliate programs that pay a high commission per sale and programs that offer a recurring commission (e.g. a monthly commission for joining a membership site). Alternatively go for products that offer a commission when the customer completes an action such as filling in a form – these are known as Cost Per Action (CPA) programs.

You can find a list of [affiliate programs and networks here](#) to get you started.

How Much Does it Cost?

Affiliate Programs are usually completely free to join.

If you want to promote affiliate programs on your own website, the typical cost for this is around \$10 per year for a domain name from a company such as [Name Cheap](#) and around \$10 per month for [website hosting from a reputable company](#).

How Much Time Does it Take?

You can spend as little or as much time as you wish on affiliate marketing. The more time you have available, especially in the beginning, the quicker you will succeed. I recommend spending a minimum of 10 hours per week on this.

How Much Experience Do I Need?

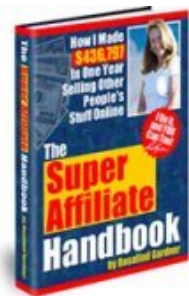
You can start affiliate marketing even if you have no prior experience in marketing or building websites. When I got started back in 2004, I hadn't even heard of an affiliate program before. You just need to be ready to learn new information and be patient

How Do I Get Started?

First have a think carefully about what market you want to be involved in. Many people choose home business or internet marketing because it is so popular, but if you know nothing about this area your chances of success will be greater if you become an affiliate in a niche that you already know. For example do you have a hobby? A pet? A particular sporting interest? If so, consider starting an affiliate business in one of these areas instead. You will find it less of a chore to work on and it is also likely to be less competitive than the home business market.



An easy way to get started when you have no prior experience or website building skills is to join the [Affiliate Power Group](#). This is an online coaching group that will help you create a website (or create a website for you) and provide you with a step by step action plan, video training and 1-1 help in a private forum. It costs \$1 for a 10 day trial.



The best training book for affiliate marketing is Rosalind [Gardner's Super Affiliate Handbook](#). I read this many years ago when I was getting started online and it has been my foundation for affiliate marketing. It's light hearted and easy to read, regularly updated and written by a true professional who earns hundreds of thousands of dollars each year from affiliate marketing.

Home Business Idea 2 – Blogging

What is it?



A Blog is short for a “Web Log” and is a little bit like an online diary. A blog is very similar to a regular website, but typically you will make several “posts” per week to your blog. The blog can be about anything you want it to be, but it is best if it is about a subject that you are knowledgeable about or interested in.

You can monetize a blog in various different ways. One way is to join affiliate programs as recommended in home business idea 1. You can then promote products related to the topic of your blog in the sidebar, or from within posts and make a commission on every sale. Another way to monetize your blog is to join [Google AdSense](#). This is free to join and once installed will display ads related to the topic of your blog. When someone clicks on an ad you will receive a payment which could range from anything from a few cents to a few dollars.

How Much Does it Cost?

It’s free to start a blog with [Blogger](#) but I recommend that you at least get your own domain name for \$10 per year from [Name Cheap](#).

If you are serious about making money from blogging I recommend that you use [WordPress](#) instead of Blogger and host your blog on your own web host using your own domain name. The typical cost for this is around \$10 per year for a domain name from a company such as [Name Cheap](#) and around \$10 per month for [website hosting from a reputable company](#).

How Much Time Does it Take?

With blogging you can spend as little or as much time as you like making blog posts. However, I recommend that you make a blog post *at least* every second day (3-4 times per week).

How Much Experience Do I Need?

Making a blog post is very simple – if you can write an email and send it you can easily make a blog post.

Setting up a blog requires some basic computer skills. If you can follow instructions, setting up a blog at Blogger is easy. Setting up a WordPress blog on your own domain and web host is a little bit more tricky, but if you use a host such as [Blue Host](#) or [Hostgator](#) they have a program called Fantastico that allows you to install WordPress at the click of a few buttons.

How Do I Get Started?



An easy way to get started when you have no prior experience or website building skills is to join the [Affiliate Power Group](#). This is an online coaching group that will help you create a WordPress blog (or create one for you) and give you a step by step action plan, video training and 1-1 coaching in a private forum. It costs \$1 for a 10 day trial.

I also recommend Jack Humphrey's [Blog Success](#) if you want to learn how to build a massive income from blogging.

Home Business Idea 3 – Selling on EBay

What is it?



Ebay is the world's biggest marketplace where you can buy and sell pretty much anything you like including books, CDs, cosmetic items, electronic items, cars, Ebooks (on CD/DVD), toys, clothes and much more.

How Much Does it Cost?

You can [join EBay for free](#).

There are fees for listing items and adding pictures to your listing, but these vary depending on the cost of the item and the country.

You will also have to purchase material for packing your items and pay for postage, but you can add this cost on to your listing so that the buyer pays.

How Much Time Does it Take?

Once you get the hang of it, around 15 minutes or less to list an item on EBay. You'll also need time to package your items and go to the post office to send them.

If you list lots of items there are tools available to help you list them more quickly and you can post multiple things at the post office at the same time.

How Much Experience Do I Need?

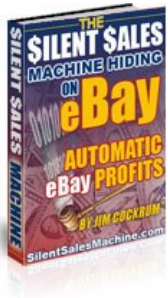
You need very basic computer skills (ability to type in descriptions and send emails). It is also helpful if you have a digital camera and the ability to take photos and upload them to EBay.

How Do I Get Started?

Before you start you need to join [EBay](#) and open a [PayPal](#) account.

The best way to get some experience is to start by selling some of your own items on EBay. Most people have at least a few unwanted items around the house that they can sell online.

Once you've got the hang of selling on EBay, the next stage is to think about what you will sell on a regular basis to make a profit. This can involve using [drop shipping companies](#), picking up items from charity stores or garage sales, making your own products or selling digital products on CD/DVD.



If you are looking for inspiration and ideas I highly recommend Jim Cockrum's book [The Silent Sales Machine Hiding on eBay](#). You'll find all sorts of ideas and nuggets of information inside this book that will help you to become a successful EBay seller. Jim also runs a great membership site for EBay sellers called [My Silent Team](#). This is suitable for both beginners and advanced EBayers and includes a free copy of his Silent Sales Machine EBook.

Home Business Idea 4 – Outsource your Services

What is it?



Do you have any of the following skills?

- Basic writing ability (you can write in good English)
- Typing skills
- Virtual Assistance skills (providing admin assistance online)
- Transcription skills (converting audio into a written document)
- Graphic Design Skills
- Software development skills
- Translation Skills
- Accountancy skills

If you have any of these skills (or another skill that I have not mentioned here) you may be able to outsource your services online. This means that you complete a project for a person or a company and get paid for it.

Here are a few sites where you can find work or list your services:

- [E lance](#)
- [Guru](#)

You can also join the [Warrior forum](#) and post an advert for your services in the “Warriors for Hire” section. The Warrior forum is the biggest internet marketing forum on the internet.

How Much Does it Cost?

Nothing!

How Much Time Does it Take?

This is dependent on how many projects you get. You will need to ensure that you only take on projects that you are able to complete within the deadline provided.

How Much Experience Do I Need?

It depends what sort of service you are outsourcing. If you can write English and have good grammar you should be able to take on article writing jobs.

How Do I Get Started?

One way to get started is to go to one of the sites mentioned above and start reading more about how they work and then bid for a project.

If you don't feel confident about doing this I recommend [Strategic Outsourcers](#). You can download a free report from their website that teaches you how to get started

Home Business Idea 5 – Paid Surveys

What is it?

There are many companies who need the opinion of the general public to assist them in their research. The good news is that most of these companies are willing to pay you a fee to help them do this.

To participate in paid surveys you need to register with these companies and fill in a basic screening questionnaire with information about yourself. Whenever these companies need a survey completed you will be considered as a participant. The more companies you register with, the better chance you have of receiving these surveys.



Fees can range from a few dollars for completing a survey to as much as \$75. You can also participate in focus groups which typically pay even more for you to participate in an online discussion with other participants.

How Much Does it Cost?

Usually it is completely free to register for a paid survey company.

You also have the option of paying a one time fee to access a huge database of hundreds of different survey companies.

How Much Time Does it Take?

A single survey can take anything from a few minutes to complete. Most surveys take around 15 minutes or so. A focus group can take up to an hour.

You can spend as little or as much time as you like completing surveys

How Much Experience Do I Need?

Absolutely none!

How Do I Get Started?

If you want to try paid surveys out without spending any money, you can access [a list of free paid survey companies](#).

If you are serious about making a lot of money with paid surveys you need to register with as many companies as possible to maximise your chances of receiving surveys to complete. I recommend using [Maximum Paid Surveys](#). This company maintains a database containing around 400 survey companies for USA citizens, over 200 survey companies accessible worldwide and also has specific

country surveys for Canada, Australia and Europe. You do have to pay to access this, but the fee is a onetime fee.

Home Business Idea 6 – Multi Level Marketing

What is it?



Multi Level Marketing allows you to market a product or service and receive a commission. The difference between this and affiliate marketing is that you will be paid on multiple levels. For example if you introduce other people to the company you will earn a percentage of the commission from the sales that they make. You will often earn a percentage of the commissions of the people that they refer too, down to a certain level.

A lot of people dislike MLM companies and compare them to pyramid schemes. In some cases this can be true, but there are also a large number of legitimate MLM companies with good products. Be sure to do a lot of research about a company before you pay any money to join. Find out how long the company has been doing business for. Ask questions to other members. Find out more about the product they offer. If it doesn't feel right to you, don't join.

Most good MLM companies will provide a free membership option, usually for a limited amount of time such as one week. This allows you to check out the system before committing to a monthly fee. Be sure to use this option if it is available and have a good look around the member's area.

This is a good choice if you like working with other people as a team. You can get help from your upline and provide help to your downline. You will usually benefit from the sales that your upline and downline make.

How Much Does it Cost?

In most cases an MLM company will charge you a joining fee and/or a monthly fee. In return for this you should receive access to the company's product +training. This fee can vary from a few dollars up to thousands of dollars. Typically, it will be around \$10-20 per month.

Be wary of any company that does not have a legitimate product or has an extremely low value product. A company built around a poor quality product is going to be more difficult to promote.

How Much Time Does it Take?

Ideally you need at least 5 hours or more a week to be successful with an MLM company. You will need to spend a lot of time initially learning about the company, the product and the compensation plan

How Much Experience Do I Need?

Most MLM companies provide training so you can usually get started if you have no experience at all. In addition to this you can get help from your upline (the person that referred you).

If you want to get good support from your upline you should consider contacting them first. Send them an email and ask a few questions before you join. If they don't answer you, the chances are that they are not going to provide you with help after you join.

How Do I Get Started?



My top recommendation is [My World Plus](#) (MWP). My World Plus is a discount shopping company that provides you with a discount card you can use in thousands of shops and businesses worldwide. They have a generous commission structure, which includes a \$25 bonus for anyone you refer + monthly residual commissions and bonuses.

You can take a [free tour of My World Plus](#) before you join to decide whether or not it is right for you. If you decide to join the monthly fee is \$19.95. This company is my top earning MLM business; compared to all the companies I have tried and tested since 2004.

A good, but cheaper alternative to MWP is [Global Domains International](#) (GDI). They provide you with a .ws domain name, basic web hosting account and website builder.



You earn \$1 for every person that you refer (and every person they refer) + generous bonuses when you refer more than 5 customers in one week. You can take a [free 1 week tour of GDI here](#). After one week the cost is \$10 per month.



If you are looking for a free MLM business I recommend [Strong Future International](#) (SFI). SFI costs nothing to join and provides you with step by step training, so it is ideal for beginners. You can make money by selling the company products which include magazines, online memberships, cleaning products, pet products and more. You can also earn money by referring other people and by selling your own stuff.

Home Business Idea 7 – Your own Product

What is it?



This is a more advanced business idea, but it has one of the highest earning potentials out of all the business ideas recommended in this EBook. I recommend this idea if you have specialist knowledge in a certain area and already have some internet marketing experience.

One of the easiest and least costly ways to create your own product is to create an EBook or start a membership site. You can sell your product online and keep 100% of the profits.

To increase your product sales you can also start your own affiliate program and offer affiliates a commission for any sales that they make for you.

How Much Does it Cost?

The cost depends on how much work you outsource. Typically you will need product graphics, a website, sales copy affiliate software or an affiliate site such as Clickbank, advertising costs and more.

If you do all or most of the work yourself, the costs will be minimal.

Good product graphics cost around \$100 or so, Clickbank vendor activation is \$49.95 and sales copy can cost from a few hundred dollars to a few thousand depending on the skill of the copywriter.

How Much Time Does it Take?

It depends on how much of the work you do yourself, but you will probably be looking at hundreds of hours for product creation, website creation and marketing, unless you outsource.

How Much Experience Do I Need?

You should have some basic internet marketing experience before attempting to create your own product. You will need to understand how to get traffic to your website and recruit affiliates. You'll also need some basic webmaster skills or have access to a webmaster that can help you maintain your website. This is particularly important if you are running a membership site.

You should also be an expert in your product area or find a ghost-writer who is an expert to create the product for you.

How Do I Get Started?

If you'd like to know how to create your own product I highly recommend that you watch this short video:

[Lee McIntyre's Instant Internet Lifestyle Workshop](#)

Lee teaches people how to create a product very quickly and make lots of sales, from scratch, without any prior knowledge.

Conclusion

I hope this EBook has given you some good ideas for starting your home business!

If you are still not sure of the right direction to take or if you have any questions about any of the home business ideas presented here please [contact me](#) and ask for help

I will be releasing a Brandable version of this EBook in the near future. This will allow you to brand this EBook with your affiliate IDs for Clickbank, Affiliate Power Group, Blue Host, Internet Marketing Center, GDI, My World Plus and more and make money by giving this book away.

If you want to be notified of the release of the Brandable version of this book please register for my [free home business ideas newsletter](#).

Thanks for reading this EBook and I wish you lots of success in your home business!

Suzanne Morrison

<http://www.HomeBiz-Direct.com>