

Chapter 1 : Starting a Business Over 50, Franchises for Older Workers, Entrepreneur

The best home-based businesses for someone who is 50 or over depends entirely upon the individual's skills, experience, education and professional background. However, there are a few things that all people 50 and over should consider when embarking on new business ventures.

Share via Email Putting your skills or knowledge to practical use can earn you some extra pounds Happy days are here again – or so you might assume from a recent wave of optimistic reports about the economic outlook and rising consumer confidence. But while unemployment is down, the latest labour market figures reveal a surge in part-time jobs as employers remain anxious about long-term recovery prospects, suggesting it may not be time to hang out the bunting just yet. Our list may not be exhaustive, nor may it put you on the path to riches and early retirement, but hopefully it will get you thinking. And if you have any better ideas, let us know by emailing. If so this can be a great way to make money from a hobby. Trading sites such as eBay make it easier than ever to reach your target market, according to Trent Hamm, author of US money-saving blog thesimpledollar. Live near somewhere of interest to tourists, or close to a student area? People in your social network may buy batches for special occasions. This could be a perfect side business for you. The next one is in , but you can register now to be considered for a range of related roles in your area, including collection and delivery. Nannies can look after the children of up to two sets of parents, in one of their home environments, without being Ofsted-registered. Failing to meet the criteria can land you in court, so check here for the full list of Ofsted restrictions. If you have a reassuring manner and are not fazed by the inner workings of a PC, offer your services locally and let word of mouth do the rest. You generally get paid for the number of entries you make rather than by the hour, which means you can go back and forth to it when you get a spare few minutes. This gives the family plenty of together time, while earning her some cash in hand. Be ready to cater for a range of crowds and musical preferences, not just your passion. Learn the ropes by concentrating first on weddings and birthday parties or by doing roadie work for an established DJ, which will gain you useful contacts. That person then goes to neighbours and friends and offers to sell their stuff for them, splitting the proceeds. People are usually happy to do this since they can get rid of unwanted items and earn a bit of money, too. Ask a local shopkeeper what kind sells best and follow their advice, working to a distinctive style of your own. Then try selling to family, friends and local businesses. Be mindful of material costs and time taken though, as wastage can be expensive in such a low-value product. Let people know that they can call you for little repair jobs, relatively straightforward DIY tasks such as putting up shelves or assembling flat-pack furniture. Get in touch with your nearest English language schools and let them know you have a room to rent, Birtles advises. Either work for an hourly rate, a fee per item or a fee per lb," she says. Once you get known locally, word-of-mouth should do the rest. Call into your local shops and restaurants to see if they need help distributing flyers, menus and so on. Or be the one asking the questions. Ipsos Mori offers flexible hours to people willing to do phone interviews or knock on doors to ask people questions. Click here for more information and a list of genuine survey companies. And have an eye on the Christmas market: Ask around friends or look on listings websites including gumtree. Making it niche brings down marketing costs and increases customer loyalty. Try advertising locally or registering with an agency like Personal Tutors. Offer pet-minding as well and you can make a whole business out of it. Check out the website refermehappy. Register with the site, then put your spare time on the calendar. Your hours are sent to local agencies and businesses who regularly use part-time workers. You can step in here – take their ideas and materials and assemble a scrapbook for them. However if you have a good eye for design generally and formal training, it can be a profitable side business. Working from home - Whose business is it? Keep the tax bill as low as possible by claiming business and homeworking expenses. Emma Jones is founder of Enterprise Nation and author of Working 5 to 9.

Chapter 2 : 18 Side Business Ideas You Can Start Today

The Best Home Businesses for People 50+ features seventy comprehensive profiles that show how to select, start, run, and build a home-based business suited to the.

Coming up with a side business is a great way to earn extra money. The biggest question, however, is what kind of business should you start? There are literally thousands of options out there. Some are relatively easy to get into. Others require significant time, and small business capital, to get off the ground. Side Business Ideas to Start Now

1. Public Speaking or Teaching When I had my professional organizing business, I often gave classes at a local rec center. And I got paid well to do it. The courses I taught were two hours. And let me tell you, creating them was a lot of work. I just taught the same material again. Chances are, someone else wants to learn how to do it. Public libraries, adult education which usually takes place in local high schools, and rec centers are good places to start. Students of all ages need tutors for math, science, reading, foreign languages, and other subjects. To get started tutoring, put up flyers at local schools and libraries, as well as on Craigslist. You might also want to sign up with Tutor. Once you tutor a few families, the best way to get additional business is through referrals. And yes, it is relatively new. And often, their kids miss out on important skills like learning how to ride a bike, pee in the potty, or throw a baseball. So these busy parents hire a child life coach to fill in; the coach teaches their kids these important skills.

Sell Your Creativity Do you love drawing or designing t-shirts? Why not turn your creations into a great income? Sites like CafePress and Zazzle take all the hard work out of it; they do the printing and shipping—all you have to do is submit the design. What can you make and sell? T-shirts, mugs, bags, shoes, stamps, hoodies, binders, skateboards, and more.

Personal Assistant to Seniors Seniors have a hard time cleaning their home, redecorating, going to the grocery store, and even cooking. You can earn extra income assisting seniors with these basic tasks. After all, life expectancy in the U.S. is over 75 years old. And as of 2008, 1 out of every 8 Americans is over 65. How much can you earn? But helping out a few seniors a couple of times per week could at least add a little padding to your budget.

Freelance Writing I started freelancing in college as a way to earn some extra money on the side. You can earn great money as a freelance writer, especially if you get into commercial copywriting. Blogging is also a great way to earn money as a writer, especially if you align yourself with an established blog. Keep in mind that competition is fierce right now; many people turned to freelancing when the recession hit to earn some extra money on the side. Check out sites like Elance.

Dog Waste Clean Up Dog waste cleanup is actually a booming business. Well, because no one really wants to pick up pet waste in their yards.

Catering According to Inc. For instance, there are plenty of shops on Etsy that sell homemade gourmet cookies e.g. Earl Gray Sandwich cookies, Cupcakes in a Jar, or gourmet caramels. There are plenty of ways to get into the catering business without starting a full-scale restaurant. For example, you could even learn how to start a candy or chocolate making business.

At Home Day Care When my good friend had her first child, she found herself house-bound, taking care of her newborn. She planned on not working once her daughter was born and becoming a stay at home mom, but she was surprised at how much she missed earning an income and contributing to the household finances. So many people hire editors and proofreaders to look over a piece before it goes to print. You can advertise as a proofreader on Craigslist and Elance, or on the job board at FreelanceFolder. You can also flyer college campuses, since professors and academics are always looking for good proofreaders.

Sewing or Tailoring I have no idea how to sew, or how to tailor my clothes so they fit better. When I need tailoring done, I simply pay him to do it. You could also earn extra money by teaching others how to sew with small, at-home classes.

Dinner Cook This unique idea is slightly different than catering. You also do all the cleanup. What do they get? A night off from cooking and cleanup, and more time to spend together relaxing instead of racing around the kitchen.

Create a Website Starting a website can be a great way to build some side income in a fairly passive manner. Start a blog if you have interesting, unique, and informative stuff to tell your readers. You can then make money on advertising or having people pay for educational products or tools you produce. Or create a website that brings together buyers and sellers of a niche product from which you can charge a subscription or transaction fee. The key is to think outside the box and come up with an idea that can provide a

unique solution for people. And even if you want to produce a website that is similar to ones already out there, do it bigger and better and find a way to differentiate yourself! Keep in mind, however, that this option is fraught with physical and emotional consequences; make sure you think about egg donation carefully before moving forward. Families seeking egg donors will also require you to pass a medical and psychological test before requesting eggs. As you might imagine, college students are usually the most coveted group. And in spite of the recession, household spending on pets keeps going up. You could offer to design beds, plant flowers and shrubs, cut grass, pull weeds, and rake leaves. That, coupled with growing awareness of the importance of eco-friendly cleaners, is contributing to the rise in holistic housecleaners. There are a ton of housecleaners out there. Christmas Lights Installer or Seasonal Decorator Putting up holiday lights or seasonal decorations can be a pain, especially to businesses and retailers who are already getting busy with the holiday shopping season. Starting a holiday lights and decoration business is a great way to earn some seasonal income on the side. Final Word Starting a side business can be a great way to earn some quality passive income, and may even turn into a full-time business if you focus on growing it. Or, have you started a side business? If so, tell us about your experience!

Chapter 3 : 50 Most Fun Home Based Business Ideas - Small Business Trends

The Best Home Businesses for People 50+ is a comprehensive guide to seventy home-based businesses ideally suited to the needs and desires for an active midlife and retirement.

I got the bug to make saddles, and not just any saddles," says Nelson, who got his first crafting kit at age His love is for the old western saddles of the 19th century, the heyday of the cowboy era from to He even helped start a Cowboy Action Shooting club. When he got home, he opened Way West Saddlery. His primary clients are historic re-enactors and extreme cowboy competitors, who strive for the authentic costuming and saddles. He also builds custom western stock saddles fitted for an individual horse and his or her rider. Turning a hobby into paying work can ruin your passion for it, so you need to plan ahead and take it a step at a time. And if you need the income now, you might want to supplement your fledgling business with outside work initially, as Nelson has done. There are plenty of great home-based jobs out there for you. Here are five popular ones to consider. Pay ranges, which will vary based on factors such as experience and where you live, are primarily derived from U. Department of Labor data. You carve out a workshop at home, and inspired by your inner creativity, you churn out high-quality, handcrafted items and make some money at the same time. More people are peddling their homemade wares online, at craft shows and flea markets. But to really build a business beyond pocket change, you need to push out of your comfort zone and peddle to the online marketplace. Are you looking for a part-time job? Discuss with others Median hourly pay: You can certainly boost that with a great product, super sales and lots of elbow grease. In general, a sense of design and artistic bent will get you noticed. But the intangible skills of self-motivation and discipline, combined with a unique product and some sales chutzpah is what will help you succeed. You should have a handle on bookkeeping, or hire someone part time to help with record keeping. This requires top-level expertise and self-starter initiative. Most independent contractors work on a specific project for an intense period, then take time off for a several weeks or even months. Small and fast-growing companies looking for experienced employees who can tackle a range of duties are great sources of work. Your resume is your calling card. Consultants with a track-record in finance, management, healthcare and information technology are sought after. The trick to landing a project is tapping fearlessly into your professional network. Contact ex-colleagues and clients for help finding great opportunities. For leads, you might get involved with the local rotary or a regional small business association. You can get to the bottom of billing mistakes and contest insurance-coverage rejections. At times, you might lend advice in making medical decisions, help find a specialist or hospital, go with patients to doctor appointments, coordinate multiple doctor care, and even pick-up prescriptions. Knowing how to fill out insurance forms, and even negotiate with docs for better rates might fall under your jurisdiction. Job opportunities range from working privately for one person or a couple to working on staff as an advocate at a local hospital, nursing home, rehab center and even an insurance company. Community colleges and nonprofit organizations are developing training and certification programs to help more people tackle this post. Nurses, social workers, medical professionals and insurance experts are in high demand for these positions. No licenses are required to practice, but there are several credentialing programs. Direct Sales The nitty-gritty: Selling for a direct sales firm like Mary Kay, The Pampered Chef, Avon, Tupperware and Cutco can be lucrative and there are plenty of opportunities to do so. You can market the goods straight from your home office via a computer, Internet access and a telephone. Earnings are commission-based-typically 25 percent to 40 percent of sales. With some companies, you can ramp up your income, by recruiting other salespeople to join your team. You then earn a commission for the products they sell, too. Direct selling is not for slackers. You need to set monthly goals â€” how many new customers you will contact, how many parties will you hold, how many follow-ups with clients you will make. The company makes the product, delivers it and has your back if you have customer complaints and other business questions. Be aware that direct sales also encompasses other types of businesses, such as Multi-Level Marketing Companies, also referred to as MLM. In the past, some of them have been scrutinized for illegal practices, or pyramid schemes. And be prepared for an unsteady income. You buy the products wholesale and sell them at retail prices. You can increase your

earnings draw by recruiting, training, and mentoring new representatives at companies such as Avon. About 16 million Americans work in direct marketing, according to the Direct Selling Association. The core backing you need is your own passion for the product. But some expertise can come in handy. The same holds true with cooking utensils, if you know your way around a kitchen, it helps. This is a customer-centric gig, so you need smooth people skills. Creativity plays a role, too. Building sales stems from drumming up innovative ways to sell your product. Pull out the old soft shoe. Senior Move Manager Nitty-gritty: Downsizing is your bailiwick. You are in charge of coordinating a move and configuring a new home set-up. Your typical client is someone relocating to smaller quarters, usually in a retirement community. He or she needs advice on choosing what furniture, artwork, china, collectibles and household goods make the cut to head over to the new digs. You tally up what can be sold, donated, or given to friends and family. You might even be in charge of shopping for new furniture that suits the new pad, or organizing and running an estate or yard sale. This job calls for configuring and cajoling. Must be handy with a tape measure. Knowledge of interior design is essential. An "in" with a local realtor can jumpstart your business, as well as provide a steady clientele down the road. A calm, but take-charge demeanor is a desirable personality trait – no drama queens or kings here. For leads on jobs, stop by local realtor offices and visit retirement and assisted living communities in your area to ask about their future residents needs. Find out who is handling this type of work for them. Hiring an unbiased expert can be invaluable. Must be compassionate, but ruthless. You may also like:

Chapter 4 : Home Based Business Ideas for Women Over 60

Best Home Businesses for People 50+ by Paul Edwards, Sarah Edwards For the fastest-growing segment of our population, here is a comprehensive guide to starting and running a home-based business in midlife and retirement.

This urge could have spawned as a result of a layoff or an inner desire to build something bigger for yourself and a legacy for your family. Stack the odds in your favor by choosing a business that builds on your career expertise, passions or both. Independent Consulting Practice Consulting is a natural career progression for someone who worked in the same industry for an extended period of time. It relies on your education, your career experience and the relationships built over a lifetime in a particular industry. For example, an engineering consultant may advise larger firms on new developments on a contract basis. The firm gains the advantage of your expertise without extended job offers. The key to starting a consulting practice is finding a niche that you can market. While you are probably capable of advising on a multitude of industry needs, focus marketing efforts on solving a particular problem. This provides a specific reason for companies to engage your services because of an urgent issue. Franchise Opportunities There are many franchise opportunities that offer business ownership with proven business concepts. A professional tax preparation franchise such as Liberty Tax has a highly profitable tax season with a slow offseason for fun activities and other endeavors. Be sure to understand the requirements of the franchise and how you are paid. Visit the local franchise in your area to determine your ability to make the business work and enjoy the new challenge. Convert Your Hobby If you are well-networked in a hobby that you are knowledgeable and passionate about, it might be worth exploring converting your hobby into a business. For example, you might love flying radio-controlled airplanes and decide to sell them to other enthusiasts. Starting an online or retail store utilizes your passion for a product, knowledge from years of experience, and a large group of people who already know and like you that you can market to. This concept can work for almost any hobby. An equine enthusiast might look to train riders. Crafters can develop an online store and travel the craft fair circuit building a brand for their products. With any new business, develop a budget and solid business plan that includes marketing. You need to put time, effort and a reasonable investment into any new business venture.

Chapter 5 : Over 50, Female and Starting a Business: 6 Essentials to Consider - Small Business Trends

Best Home Businesses for People 50+ has 24 ratings and 0 reviews. For the fastest-growing segment of our population, here is a comprehensive guide to sta.

Bead Making Business All over the world the beads making trade has continued to gain more grounds. Each passing day, more and more people have continued to throng the industry. This is because of the creativity level, as well as the very fine products that can be produced. It is true that the women folk are more disposed to wearing beads; however, truth is that the men folks are embracing bead wearing too. For you to start this trade, you have got to first of all be armed with all the skills that is needed. This means that you have to be well equipped with the tricks and skills involved in the trade. In doing this; you will learn of all the equipment involved. This is a very profitable business in all aspects.

Makeup Artistry Business Look around you and you will see loads of women who try all they can to look good. As a matter of fact, each and every passing day, the makeup industry continues to see tons of new innovations. The makeup artistry is yet an art business that you can start from the comfort of your home and with zero capital. This means that all that you need to do is to be armed as it were with the necessary skills required. There are loads of individuals as well as beauty schools that offer this training. What is more, if you are a makeup artist, you will have the opportunity to train a whole lot of people, as well as engage in the sales of makeup products from various brands all across the globe. Some of the opportunities that are opened to a makeup artist include; wedding, beauty pageant jobs, and a whole lot more.

Hair Making Business This is one form of art that never goes into extinction. As a matter of fact, it has been in existence for a very long time. The hair making business is as old as over 2, years. Some of the skills that one can provide in service when you start in this business include; hair braiding, plaiting and what have you. For you to start in this art business, you have to be well skilled, so that you can give your clients the best. As such; you will need to go to get trained and this might take some time. Therefore time have got to be devoted to be vast in this trade, so as to attract all and sundry.

Arts Studio If you have always had a rich knack for drawing and paintings, then you may want to take that likeness for arts some notches higher by starting a trade around that business. More than ever before in the history of man, the love for arts have continued to be on the rise. In starting this trade, you have got to be armed with all the necessary skills needed. As such, you may want to look towards getting trained in this line. This is a kind of business that fetches you great returns for your time and money, when you have all your art works displayed in your arts studio. Your clients cuts across the middle and the upper class folks.

Jeweler If you have ever noticed jewelers, you may have found that their work goes straight beyond mere beads. This means that they use different materials, from ceramics made raw materials, to iron, and what have you. As a result, if you love fashion, and especially the accessories part of fashion, then you may want to consider being a jeweler. This is because you can garner the skills involved, from the internet, from a fashion school, and what have you. The idea of succeeding in this trade is to be darned creative.

Bag Making All over the world it is known that women do not toy with their accessories, and one of such accessory is the bag. Bags have continued to be produced, and more and more women and men purchase them. You do not have to be stereotypes in your bags production, because there are various types of bags that you can venture into making. It is for this reason that you can also start a bags making business. The market is a very wide one and the things that you can produce are countless. For instance; you may consider the production of ladies handbags, sling bags for men, travelling bags, executive bags, party bags, and what have you.

Shoe Making Hardly would you come across anyone who does not have a footwear on, when on the streets. This only goes to show that the percentage of people who wear shoes are really much. You too may want to cash in on this by starting a shoe making crafts business. However, care has to be taken, so that you learn all the ropes and not be found wanting. You may consider enrolling in a crafts school, where all the rudiments of this trade will be taught. Once you are good to go, then you can begin to plug in and enjoy the goodies the industry has to offer.

Goldsmith All of the gold and silver made things that you can see around you are all the handiwork of goldsmiths. These folks are versed in the art of melting and molding of precious metals. Therefore, you too may want to start this trade. It is important to say that there is a

lot of returns of investment in this art. Just like it is with every other arts and crafts business, you have to know your onions; and that is why you have to be skilled in this regards. For starters, you may look at getting the required training involved in starting this business. Why is this needful, you may ask? This is especially important so that you do not leave any process untouched before launching out. Tinker Business Dealing with irons and metals, might sound strange in the first lace to novices and those who do not know that one could possibly start a business around this art. Truth is that the metals that are being recycled and used for other stuff, are being molded and handled by tinkers. As such, if you have a penchant for such a trade, then you may want to get some training in this field. One of the very good things about this business, is that there is a piece of metal in every household, and that goes to show that it is a profitable business. As a matter of fact, it is one business that never goes into extinction. This is because of the need to always use hats. All over the world, more and more people are arming their selves with this skill. You too can begin to make good money, when you get the skills involved. After you have garnered the knowledge therein, then you can begin to look at setting up your business the way you want it to be. However, be reminded that it takes patience and determination to have your own loyal customers since it is a competitive industry. Tie and Dye Making Business Yes, you may already know that the tie and dye cloths have been in existence for long. Good news is that it still does exist and more and more people are in the trade. If you are a tie and dye lover, or in general an arts lover, then you may want to start a business in this regard. First rule of thumb is that you have got to be skilled yourself. So, if you do not know jack about the trade, then you can get trained. Photography Business It is said that pictures speak a thousand words. That is without a shadow of doubt true. This is because of the fact that pictures do keep great memories that words cannot. The advent of the photography business dates back to a centuries ago. This is one arts trade that can be started with small capital. Initially, all that would be required would be the money to get trained by a professional, as well as the money you will need to procure a good camera. There are loads of opportunities in this trade; and you can specialize in some areas. Some of the areas that you may consider focusing on include; the wedding photography, Sports photography, child photography, nature photography, and all what not. Sculpting Business There are loads of sculpted things that we may see around; from decorations, to wall fittings, amongst many others. The industry though saturated, but still have ample room for those who want to stage an entry. It is a profitable business too that is able to make one a millionaire. However, there is one secret, and that secret is to be creative in all aspect of the trade. First off however, is that you have got to have the skills. This means that you must be ready to go learn the skill. This is needful, as you cannot start the business without the knowledge. Gifts and Cards making Business If you love the idea of being a giver of gifts, or you like people being surprised with gifts, then you may want to help make gifts and special days memorable for people by starting a gifts and cards craft business. The market is indeed a vast one. This is a very easy business to start and it does not require plenty startup capital. As a matter of fact, it is one business that you can start at home. You may start raw as you want, but there is still the need to fine-tune what you know by getting a proper skill acquisition. Nails Studio Business If you love to see people look their best, and you like the art of nail painting and designs, then you may want to consider starting a nails studio. One of the very importance of this business is to make women beautiful. As a matter of fact, this does not need any formal training, as far you are creative and imaginative enough to come up with attractive painting styles. Book Clubs Business This is one of the thriving arts businesses that have continued to stay put on the radar all over the world. However, in recent times, with the advent of the internet, it appears that people tend to want to read more on their gadgets than through a book. Be that as it may, it has not stopped people from being parts of book clubs. You too can start a book club if you have the penchant for reading books. It only entails that you are kindred spirit with those you plan to gather together. After that is done, then you have the right with the consent of members of your club to decide how often you plan to meet- this could be weekly, monthly, or bimonthly. Karaoke Studio Business The love for music will always be on the high; that is why there would continue to be music lovers come what may. If you are a die-hard music lover, then you may consider starting a karaoke studio, where people can always come to sing to their favorite songs.

Chapter 6 : 8 Best Industries for Starting a Business Right Now | racedaydvl.com

Many people are interested in home businesses right now because of the work/family advantages in shedding your boss and commute, the security that can be built by creating your own source of income, and the satisfaction engendered by shaping an enterprise around your own talents and values.

So, have you ever thought to drive for Uber? You just use your own car and when someone near you wants a ride you get a notification on your phone assuming you selected that you were available in the app you go pick them up and drop them off where they want to go and then you automatically get paid. There is a huge demand for content and so there are a lot of ways to make money writing it. Here is a quick breakdown of how it works: Ebay is a pretty crowded market, but it still is one of the most popular home-based businesses. Math, Science, History, Baseball, Soccer? If you can help, then it sounds like a business. One of our readers took this idea and ran with it and created a really nice season income for himself. Maybe it is just me, but I feel like I have had way too many experiences with mechanics not be truthful with me that I would gladly pay more and give all my business to an honest one. If you know your way around a car and have a few tools, this could be a great business idea for you. People will always be getting married, so in theory they will always need wedding planners. If you love all-things-weddings and can handle the pressure from the brides, this might be a fun one. There are even franchise opportunities available with certain companies. As we become more and more acquainted to the air-conditioned lifestyle more people are going to want to pay someone to do landscaping. If you like to sweat this one may be for you. If video or photography are up your alley, starting a wedding photography business could be a great idea for you. This industry is growing very quickly. Check this out to find out more about being a virtual assistant. If you are not afraid of heights, cleaning windows could be a decent side or full-time gig. Even without a huge workshop, you can create some of the more popular crafts and sell them. So if you can figure out which products consumers want and just create those, you could have a good business plan. In the process of learning, I found that there are a lot of people who use candle-making as a home business. You can sell to your products online at places like Etsy. Offering non-medical home care by assisting the elderly with regular daily tasks could be rewarding and profitable. You probably already have the skills you need, now you just need to get the word out. As a result many are turning to freelance English teachers using websites like Italki. The site is basically a virtual online classroom for freelance teachers and students. Anyone can offer lessons and set their own price and anyone can take lessons. Need more home-based business ideas? Here are a few more articles with even more ideas and opportunitiesâ€¦

A guide to selecting, starting, and running a home business for people over fifty, featuring comprehensive profiles of seventy opportunities that are adaptable to a variety of locations, allow for flexible hours, and are suited to a range of health and wellness needs.

Auto detailing Have a meticulous eye for detail and love to get things gleaming clean? Auto detailing is probably a perfect side business for you. In essence, your job is to make cars sparkle inside and out – and many people are quite happy to pay well for this service.

Babysitting Got lots of evenings free? Babysitting may be a great side business for you. Keep an eye on multiple children on Friday and Saturday nights and you can earn some easy cash over time.

Rent out a room in your home Have some extra space in your home? If you live near any sort of tourist destination, you can try your hand at renting out a room through Airbnb or CouchSurfing. You may also find paid hosting opportunities in your community: Sign up to host exchange students, visiting professors to a nearby college, or hospital patients receiving long-term treatment. All you need is a computer, some time, and some energy to consistently write. It can start as a hobby and turn into a business over time.

Buying and reselling on eBay Thanks to technology, there are more opportunities than ever to buy and resell products for extra money. Plenty of people buy local and in-demand products at a discount and resell them on eBay for profit.

Cake and cupcake baking and decorating Enjoy baking and have a bit of an artistic touch? Learn how to decorate cakes and make them for special events. Sell your creations online via Craigslist or your local neighborhood Facebook page, or at local farmers markets. Many people are willing to pay others to create custom cakes for birthday parties and special events.

Snowplowing Live in an area with plenty of snowfall during the winter? If so, you could easily start a snowplow business by investing in a plow attachment for your pickup truck or Jeep. If you want to start smaller, you could even build your business by clearing driveways and walkways with a shovel or a snowblower.

Dog walking Dog walking is the perfect side business for anyone who has a few hours to kill during the day. Once you get a few clients, you simply need to pick up their dogs and take them on long, leisurely walks that will tire them out and keep them in shape. Walking dogs may help you in your quest to stay fit as well. A variety of publications need online content in the form of stories, product or service descriptions, and reports, and if you have the talent and skill, you could easily be the one to create them. Fortunately, all you need is a computer and Internet connection to get started.

Creating custom clothing The Internet has created opportunities for people who can sew and design custom clothing for special events. Many people have found success creating custom birthday outfits for babies and selling them on sites like Etsy or eBay, for example. In addition to selling online, you could also market this service to people in your local community. This is a great way to earn extra money in a flexible way, particularly if you have time off during the workweek. And since you will be working for yourself, you can often choose your own hours, terms, and pay. In many cases, people are more than willing to pay a qualified pet sitter in order to avoid sending their pet to a professional kennel.

Home daycare Many states allow people to start an in-home daycare with minimal licensing and paperwork. If you love children and have plenty of time and space at home, this is a perfect business to get into. All you need is a safe room or two for children to play in, some toys and activities, and a whole lot of patience.

Cleaning services for businesses Many businesses and civic institutions need individuals who can clean their offices and common areas outside of normal business hours.

Social media expert Almost everyone uses Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest these days, but did you know that many companies will pay people to help them manage their social media accounts – sometimes even part-time from home? To find social media jobs, you can start by contacting businesses with a social media presence and scanning sites like Upwork.

Gourmet cookie making If you love baking and are able to keep your hand out of the proverbial cookie jar, making gourmet cookies is a great side hustle with plenty of long-term potential. Start by learning how to execute unique and tasty gourmet cookie recipes, then seal the deal by creating or purchasing professional-looking packaging. Sell your cookies online or to people in your local community.

Antique refurbishment This is a perfect side business for people who love antiques. Take worn-out antiques home with you, invest the time and care needed to transform

those old items into something amazing, then resell them at a profit. Personal chef I recently met a woman who earned quite a bit of money as a very part-time chef. If you love to cook, this can be a great opportunity, but you may have to put a lot of effort into searching for clients. That can be the perfect place for you to step in and take charge of the planning and coordination. And thanks to the Internet, it is now easier than ever to market your event planning services. Event DJ Are you an audiophile? This is a great way to fill an afternoon or evening while also earning some cash in the process. Exercise instructor Many gymnasiums will trade membership and often a bit more for a person willing and able to teach an exercise class. To put it simply, some people are willing to pay others to get a vegetable or flower garden started for them in their yard so they can have access to ultra-fresh produce without all the legwork. If you have a green thumb and some knowledge about the vegetables that grow well in your area, this would be an easy business to start. Handyman services Skilled at basic home repair? Let people know that they can call you for small repair jobs like basic plumbing, fixing a broken stair, and other things. Interior decorating Fascinated by interior design? Have a huge collection of interior design materials around? Instead of cleaning it up themselves, they might hire someone to do it regularly, two to three times a week. There are several such services in our area, actually. Knitting, crocheting, or quilting Skilled at creating blankets and sweaters? As always, local shops and sites like Etsy are great venues to sell such items. Landscaping services Willing to mow lawns and trim bushes and trees? Many people are quite happy to pay for such services, and the demand is persistent: Nature just keeps growing and growing and growing. It only requires a few items – a saw, a drill, a sander – and some creativity and passion for working with wood. If you have the tools or just want to turn your hobby into a business, this may be a great small business idea for you. In addition to creating new items, you could also focus on repairing existing wooden furniture or woodwork. Meal-to-go preparations Remember my earlier post about breakfast burritos? Making meals in advance is a great way to save money for yourself – but you can often prepare these for others as well and sell them for a markup. You can grow this by taking orders from others and finding out what they like. Common tasks can include anything from picking up dry cleaning to making dinner or assembling Ikea furniture. Pet grooming Many people loathe bathing their pets and grooming their fur – I know I do. Pet groomers perform these tasks for a small fee – a perfect job for a person who loves dogs and cats. Jewelry making If you have a good eye for detail work and a lot of patience, homemade jewelry can be quite profitable. As with other items on this list, there are many opportunities to sell such items through local gift shops, craft fairs, or sites like Etsy. Growing and selling produce Like to grow vegetables? My father does this with tomatoes and earns some solid extra money during the summer months. You can do really well, though, if you can grow things inside during the winter – February fresh tomatoes can sell quite well. Proofreading and editing Have strong English skills and exceptional grammar? You may have opportunities to work as a proofreader from home. Advertising for this can be difficult; seek out those who might actually be able to use your services and advertise directly to them. Scrapbook making Many people dream of having beautiful scrapbooks but never take the steps to create them on their own. You can step in here – take their ideas and materials and assemble a scrapbook for them. Slideshow making Many people would love to have a beautiful slideshow to commemorate the passing of a loved one, an anniversary, or a special birthday. Senior citizen assistance Many elderly people need assistance with a wide variety of simple household tasks – cleaning, laundry, and so forth. Many adult children of elderly people are quite willing to hire someone to help out their parents. She could easily take this a step further and offer her services to others, doing basic garment repair and modification for a small price on lazy evenings. If you have a knack for fixing computers, this is a good place to start. Again, people value handmade items like these, which can easily be sold through local gift shops and websites like Etsy. Offer lessons in that instrument to others – this can also be an excellent service to barter with, too. Tutoring Did you major in a subject like English, history, or math in college, or do exceptionally well on the SAT exam? Do you have patience with children? If so, you likely have what you need to tutor kids in particular subjects. Seek out parents or teachers and let them know that you tutor students in a certain subject, and offer materials for them to share, and phone calls will often trickle in. You can get going locally or expand across the country by offering to tutor online. Virtual assistant Many ultra-busy professionals appreciate having someone who can check and answer their email,

organize task lists for them, update their calendars, and other administrative tasks, with minimal interaction. The best part is that you can provide this service from home with a good Internet connection. Website design Many small businesses in your community could use a very basic web presence to tell others about their business. A great way to get started is to develop a website or blog on the topic, get to know people online, and promote your services at local wedding venues and throughout the community. Affiliate marketing If you play your cards right, certain types of businesses will pay you to promote their products and encourage sales.

Chapter 8 : Retirees Convert Hobbies Into Home-Based Businesses

Editions for Best Home Businesses for People 50+: 70+ Businesses You Can Start from Home in Middle-Age or Retirement: (Paperback published in.

There are now more options than ever when it comes to home-based businesses. If you enjoy making plans and working with a variety of different clients, this is a job you can do mainly from home, though you may have to meet with clients at event locations from time to time.

Web Designer There are so many possibilities when it comes to web design. You have the opportunity to work with clients from around the world and add your aesthetic and design expertise to their websites.

Facebook Page Designer In addition, you can use your design expertise to work with clients to add some unique elements to their Facebook pages.

Home Daycare Provider If you enjoy working with kids and having a full and exciting home environment, you can consider starting a daycare where you care for children in your own home.

Vintage Clothing Reseller Online platforms like eBay and Etsy have made it simple to start a business selling vintage clothing and similar goods. You can shop for those items online, scour thrift stores, or just sell items you already own. But you can do the booking and prep work from home.

Dance Instructor Anyone with a background in dance and access to clients with similar interests can offer dance classes from home. You can either set up the actual studio in your home or rent a space and use your home to do the administrative work.

Musician While it may require a dedicated studio space, you can record and release music from your home if you have the talent and drive. But you can create and post a variety of video content to the platform right from the comfort of your own home, and maybe even make enough from ads to run it as a business.

Personal Trainer If you love fitness and sharing your knowledge with others, you can offer fitness courses or personal training sessions to clients out of your home gym or workout room.

Copywriter Advertising and marketing companies are always looking for freelance copywriters to help with their creative projects. You can set up a home office and put your creative and marketing savvy to good use.

Clothing Designer Whether you stitch intricate gowns from scratch or just design t-shirts, there are plenty of opportunities for designers to create and sell their own clothing from home.

Jewelry Maker There are plenty of different methods and supplies you can use to create your own jewelry. You can then sell it online or even at craft shows or via wholesale.

Music Teacher For entrepreneurs with musical talent, you might consider opening up your home to clients who want to learn a particular instrument or even take voice lessons from you.

Hot Air Balloon Operator Though certainly not a cheap venture, and one that may require some additional property, offering balloon rides from your property can be a fun and lucrative business.

Massage Therapist Licensed massage therapists can set up studios in their own homes to meet with clients and offer their services.

Hair Stylist Likewise, hair stylists can set up a small room or section of their homes to accept appointments with clients.

Interior Designer Anyone with a knack for style and design can offer interior design services to clients. So you can do much of the brainstorming and administrative work from home.

Home Staging Professional Or you could offer a more specific type of service like home staging, where you arrange furniture and other decorative elements for clients who are looking to sell or rent their homes.

Seller of Collectibles If you have any collection of items or an interest in antiques or collectible items, you can resell those items on eBay or similar sites to build a business around them.

Social Media Consultant Social media sites like Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest have become popular not just for business use, but also for plenty of individuals who simply enjoy using them. You can have the best of both worlds by starting a business where you help businesses shape and carry out their social media strategies on the sites you already use.

Dog Groomer Love dogs? **Pet Sitter** Or you could opt to offer your services as a pet sitter.

Drone Trainer Drones are gaining a lot of popularity, both with businesses and individuals. That means there are lots of people who are looking to learn how to use them. So you can offer them lessons right from your home.

Personal Stylist If you enjoy fashion and feel that you have a great sense of style, you might consider offering your services as a personal stylist, helping clients build their wardrobes and put together outfits.

Photographer You can build any number of different photography based businesses from your home. You can be a portrait photographer, wedding photographer, nature photographer, or basically any niche that interests you. **Gift**

Basket Arranger People buy all types of gift baskets for their loved ones or as gifts for special occasions. If you enjoy arranging baskets of food or similar items, it might be a fun home business idea to consider. You can find old pieces at flea markets or second hand stores and add your own upgrades so that you can resell them for a profit.

Bicycle Repair Professional If you love bikes and enjoy fixing things, you could convert your garage into a workshop and offer bike repair services.

Baker Bakers, you can buy some professional equipment and set up a commercial kitchen in your home. You can either sell your baked goods to local shops or set up a storefront online.

Jam Seller Or if making jam or other canned goods is more of your specialty, you could consider creating your own line of those products for sale.

Caterer You could even start a catering business and make the food in your kitchen then bring it to various events for clients in your area.

Florist Creating beautiful flower arrangements can be a fun activity for anyone with an eye for design and a love of plants. And you can turn that activity into a career by selling flower arrangements and other plants that you create in your home.

Fundraiser There are plenty of charities and other organizations that use events or organized campaigns as a primary fundraising method. If you enjoy organizing events or other money making opportunities, you might be able to do so by creating a home-based business.

App Designer Designing mobile apps is a huge growing field. If you have the technical know-how, you can create your own apps from home or even offer your services to clients.

Landscape Designer Landscape design is another potential work-from-home career option for people who are design oriented and enjoy working outdoors on occasion.

Tie-dye Shirt Designer Tie-dying shirts and other clothing and accessory items can be a fun activity.

Life Coach You can work with clients online or over the phone to offer advice and help them come up with plans for their career, relationships and other aspects of life.

Wedding Coordinator Planning a wedding requires a lot of work and organizational skills. So many couples hire a wedding coordinator to help manage all of the various aspects of the event. You can do much of that work from home, if you enjoy organizing and working with clients.

Henna Designer Henna is a plant that has been used for thousands of years for cosmetic purposes.

Professional Blogger Blogging is a growing career field that can encompass a variety of different niches and topic areas. If you enjoy writing, photographing and otherwise chronicling your family activities, it may even lead to a career as a professional blogger. You can sell those unique creations online, wholesale or at events.

Publicist If you have a knack for promotions and working with media, you may be able to work from home as a publicist for various clients. If so, you could be able to turn it into a vacation rental and list it on sites like Airbnb.

Mystery Shopper Love shopping? You can offer your services as a mystery shopper, evaluating the service and needs of various stores in your area. Though this often requires actually visiting stores, you can do much of the administrative work from home.

Yoga Instructor Yoga is hugely popular in many communities.

Travel Planner Planning vacations has become much easier for individuals in recent years thanks to lots of new online tools. But companies and large groups still often need help when planning and organizing travel arrangements.

Christmas Tree Farmer You may need quite a bit of outdoor space at your home for this. But if you enjoy nature, being outside and welcoming people to your property around the holidays, then running a Christmas tree farm or lot may be a fun home based business idea for you.

Chapter 9 : 31 Legitimate & Profitable Home Based Business Ideas ()

Founded in , Small Business Trends is an award-winning online publication for small business owners, entrepreneurs and the people who interact with them. It is one of the most popular independent small business publications on the web.

Email this Article Print This Article Are you a woman nearing retirement, but thinking about starting a business? Woman-owned businesses are a critical part of the U. For women over the age of 50, small business ownership affords many benefits – additional income, a flexible lifestyle and that unbeatable feeling that comes with being your own boss. What entrepreneurial path should you take? Below are tips and considerations to help you become a successful female encore entrepreneur. It means having a true entrepreneurial attitude – being dedicated and refusing to quit when things get rough. Networking is also critical. Connecting with potential clients and partners is important, but networking also gives you a broader opportunity to learn from the experiences of other business owners and help fill your knowledge and experience gaps. Adaptability is also key – successful business owners continuously assess how their business is performing and make adjustments as they go. Likewise, being open to constructive criticism will help your business stay on the cutting edge and avoid potential problems you might not be able to see on your own. Business You Can Start with Little Capital Avoid raiding your savings or dipping into your retirement nest egg to fund your business. There are many businesses that you can start with little capital, including the following: Consulting for your former employer: Or those in your old industry. From selling on eBay to professional blogging. Help other business professionals with their administrative tasks such as email and calendar management, basic marketing and accounting functions – all from home. Beauty products, jewelry, kitchen gadgets and more can be sold at parties and online. Social media and content production: Social media and the content that goes along with it is time consuming for many businesses. Writers, photographers and videographers can all become successful content providers. Convenience services for consumers: From dog walking to child care to house cleaning. This is a tricky one and many entrepreneurs run the risk of wearing blinders through this part of the business planning process. Weighing the costs of starting and running a business against its earning potential is critical, especially if you are already retired and living on a fixed income. Keeping start-up costs low can help alleviate the risk. Your earning potential will also go up if you focus on doing what you like and what you are good at. Talk to your accountant, small business counselor or mentor SCORE can match you up with one for free for guidance on your financial options and good cash flow management. A good plan is simple, flexible and manageable – it steers your business rather than prescribes it. From a big picture perspective, address your strategic direction first, then break down the rest of your plan into mini-plans to include a sales and marketing plan, a financial plan and potentially a staffing plan. Each center is tailored to the needs of the specific community and offer guidance and training on a variety of topics including: Preparing for business ownership.