Quick Check List

STARTING A BUSINESS





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QUICKCHECKLIST



Checklist: Starting A Business

Use this checklist to help you track your progress in commencing your business.

ARE YOU READY?

- 1. Have you assessed your personal readiness for this type of business?
- 2. Have you assessed your business
- 3. Have you assessed your management skills?

ASSESS YOUR BUSINESS IDEA

- 4. Have you determined whether there is a market for your product or service?
- 5. Have you conducted industry research?
- 6. Have you surveyed potential customers about your business concept?
- 7. Have you completed a SWOT analysis?
- 8. Have you analysed and compared your competitors?

BUILD YOUR BUSINESS PLAN

9. Have you completed a business plan?

CHOOSE YOUR BUSINESS STRUCTURE

- 10. Have you sought advice from an accountant to discuss the various business structures and their tax implications?
- 11. Have you determined which structure your business will operate under?

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

- 12. Have you registered a business or company name?
- 13. Have you registered a domain name?
- 14. Have you registered for all relevant taxes?
- 15. If applicable, have you protected your intellectual property?
- 16. Have you researched your insurance needs?
- 17. Have you drafted legal documents for your business?
- 18. If employing staff, have you determined your obligations?
- 19. If locating your business at home have you applied for the correct licence?
- 20. If leasing commercial premises have you sought advice from a real estate agent regarding your lease?

BUILD YOUR SUPPORT TEAM

- 21. Have you selected an accountant?
- 22. Have you selected a lawyer?
- 23. Have you selected suppliers?

- 24. Have you met with a small business development company or a Local business adviser?
- 25. Have you considered joining your industry or business association?

FIGURE OUT YOUR FINANCES

- 26. Have you determined if you can afford to start this business?
- 27. If necessary, have you secured a reliable funding source?
- 28. Have you completed financial forecasts (e.g. expenses, sales, cash flow)?
- 29. Have you determined which record keeping system you will use?
- 30. Have you developed a credit management policy?

MARKET YOUR BUSINESS

- 31. Have you conducted market research?
- 32. Have you profiled your target markets?
- 33. Have you identified your unique selling position?
- 34. Have you set marketing goals and budget?

