# BUSINESS START-UP BLUEPRINT

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# Choose a name for your business

- **Tip I:** It is good to come up with at least 3-5 different names that you like. Then get feedback from family, friends, or people in your network.
- **Tip II:** You will want to make sure that the name you choose is available.
- Tip III: Try to make the name as short and easy to remember as possible.
- **Tip IV:** Check the name by doing a "Name Search" on the Corporations Division website in the State that you live in.
- **Tip V:** Do a Google Search under that name to see what comes up. (Research the name)
- **Tip: VI:** You will also need to check the name by doing a "Domain Name" search with any web hosting company such as Godaddy. com

## Create a Business Profile

- Executive Summary of your business
- Register Business Domain Name
- Business Address
- Mailing Address
- Business Phone Number
- Business Email Address
- Register Business with all of the major directories

# Incorporation your business

- **Tip I:** You will need a registered agent anytime you incorporate a new business.
- **Tip II:** Make sure once the business is incorporated you pay your annual fees on time.
- **Tip III:** If you are a non-profit corporation you must complete the 501 C 3 IRS application.

#### **Entity Types:**

- LLC
- C-Corp
- S-Corp
- Non-Profit

# Apply for EIN Number

- Tip I: Do forget to complete the IRS Form 2553 for S-Corps only
- Tip II: Make sure to hire an accountant and set up quickbooks
- **Tip III:** Make sure everything on the form is correct before submitting it to the IRS

#### STEP 5

## **Open a Business Checking Account**

- **Tip I:** Open up two business checking accounts, One Accounts Payable and Accounts Receivable.
- **Tip II:** Open an account with a bank with no minimum balance requirement or monthly fees.
- **Tip III:** Make sure the bank has excellent customer service, FDIC Insured, and good interest rates on their products.

# Open a Brokerage & Savings Account for the Business

- **Tip I:** It is highly recommend to set up a brokerage account to invest and save what you make.
- Tip II: I recommend eTrade and TD Ameritrade
- Tip III: Make sure to always consult with an advisor

#### STEP 7

# Have a Logo designed for your business

- **Tip I:** Your Logo should be defined by what you do or what your brand represents
- **Tip II:** Choose your colours wisely. Research the meaning of the colours that your are choosing.
- **Tip III:** Try to create something that everybody can relate to but still unique.
- Tip IV: Make sure your audience will know what your brand stands for.
- **Tip V:** Do internet research to find other brands that may be similar to your concept but not the same to use as an example for your designer.

## Set up a merchant account

- **Tip I:** Determine where your customer will come from and if they will pay online or offline.
- **Tip II:** Set up a PayPal and Stripe Account for your business to accept credit cards online
- **Tip III:** Set up a shopping cart for your website such as woocommerce.
- Tip IV: Make sure that you are getting the most competitive rate.
- **Tip V:** Do internet research to find out what types of businesses the credit card processor accepts before signing up. Some merchant companies have a "Restricted" businesses list.

Develop a Website, Landing Page, or Mobile App

- Tip I: Make sure that you hire a skilled developer.
- **Tip II:** Know exactly what you want and how you want your site before you begin.
- **Tip III:** Make sure that your site colours match your logo.
- **Tip IV:** I highly recommend hiring a content writer to develop your content for your new site.
- **Tip V:** Do your research on at least 5-7 competitor website. Save them and then forward to your web developer before starting your project.

## **DEVELOP CONTENT**

- Videos
- Infographics
- Website/Landing Pages
- eBooks
- Banner Ads
- Brochures
- PowerPoint
- Flyers
- Scripts
- Voiceovers
- Manuals
- Surveys

#### **GRAPHIC DESIGNS**

- Design covers for all Social Media Outlets
- Design eBook Covers
- Design Banner Ads
- Create custom pictures for your website
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## Set up All Social Media Accounts

- **Tip I:** Set up a business page across all social media platforms such as FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter, etc...
- **Tip II:** Hire a professional to manage all of your social media accounts if you do not have time.
- **Tip III:** Place some Ad's on FaceBook and Instagram. It's cheap and real i nexpensive.
- **Tip IV:** Hire someone to design some Banner Ad's to use for advertising on social media & Google

#### STEP 11

Register Business with Dun & Bradstreet

- **Tip I:** Make sure that your new business is in full compliance with all governmental agencies
- Tip II: Make sure that all of your business information is correct.
- Tip III: Set up business credit monitoring service for your business.
- Tip IV: Set up an iUpdate account with D&B

# Retain Legal Shield or Private Business Attorney

- **Tip I:** Hire a business attorney for your new venture.
- Tip II: Protect your business plan and intellectual property.
- **Tip III:** PHave a non-compete non-disclosure agreement for potential investors to sign
- **Tip IV:** Make sure you have all legal agreements needed specifically for your business type such as Terms and Conditions for your website, privacy policies, disclosures, etc...