

15 Businesses You Can Start with Little to No Money



My Finances Matter

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The Legalities...

Thank you for taking the steps to improve your financial situation and trusting My Finances Matter to assist you.

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Thank you for downloading 15 Smarter Ways to Use Your Tax Refund. This eBook was designed with you in mind. My goal is to provide you ways in which you can ease the burden. In the earlier years of my financial journey, I made a lot of mistakes. There were years I received a sizable tax refund and I blew it. I bought miscellaneous and unnecessary junk and within the month, I was back to broke. I don't want that for you. Today, I want to open your mind to different ways to use your money.

My name is Lotasha Thomas and I am the "soloprenuer" of My Finances Matter. I strive to teach young people about personal finance and help them to build a solid foundation in which they can make informed financial decisions. In 2018, I earned my Master of Business Administration. I am a licensed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and have 15+ years in the tax, finance, personal finance and non-profit accounting industries. I am currently a Controller for a local non-profit organization. While I like working with adults, my passion is opening the eyes of young adults and teenagers to the world of financial literacy. Money will always exist. We will always need it and use it. With that being said, we need to know how to manage it properly.

On the next pages, you will find some ways to use your tax refund (or any money you may have stowed away). I hope you all enjoy the information shared. Cheers to easing the burden!

Too many people spend money they earned..to buy things they don't want..to impress people that they don't like. ~Will Rogers

Chapter 1

15 Businesses You Can Start with Little to No Money

Often, we are trying to figure out ways to "get ahead". Most will recommend trying to lower your expenses. While I agree that you should reduce or eliminate expenses that don't serve you, I also firmly believe you cannot build wealth on a single income source. You definitely won't build generational wealth with a regular 9-5 job. Many say that the average millionaire has at least 7 streams of income. (Please note this doesn't mean 7 different types of income but 7 sources of income.) A stream of income can be your W2 job, rental income, investment income or income from your side hustle. This chapter is completely dedicated to providing several types of businesses you can start with little to no money. Some of these businesses can make you money easily and quickly, while others require some time and dedication but can be extremely lucrative in the long run. Many of these suggestions attempt to capitalize and monetize what you already know.



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1. Drive for Uber, Lyft, Postmates or DoorDash. Driving services burst onto the scene with a vengeance. It is one of the easiest and quickest ways to make supplemental income. While there are several qualifications, service companies attempt to make it easy for applicants to work. The best part is that you decide how much or little you want to work. You also decide when and where you would like to work.

2. Sell merchandise on EBay, Craigslist or Facebook Marketplace, etc. Often we have several items that are in good condition but we simply don't want anymore. By selling your old and unused items, you can make money while decluttering your home, garage and life. There are also specialty apps that you can sell items on such as Decluttr, Poshmark, etc. Decluttr caters to technology; so you can sell CD's, DVD's and other tech items like old cell phones. The key to success is to take quality pictures and have great detailed descriptions.

3. Sell products on Etsy. If you are great at creating products, open an online Etsy store. Etsy caters to crafts, custom and handmade products. You can also sell digital downloads that require the purchaser to simply print. Etsy is unique as they don't have a warehouse. All sales are from one person to another. Many of the sellers are just like you; Wanting to make extra \$\$\$.

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4. Sell services using Fiverr, Upwork or Freelancer. These are marketplaces for freelance workers. Are you great at web design or logo design or content writing? If so, this is for you. It takes time to build a solid clientele and word of mouth is everything in the "gig" world, but there is so much opportunity to make money in your spare time. Connect with people needing services i.e. entrepreneurs, startup companies, small business owners, etc. All of the platforms also have professional services allowing accountants, lawyers and doctors to find gig work. It's not just for the creatives!

5. Become a house sitter. House sitting is a very popular side hustle. Yes, people will pay you to live in their home and care for it. On occasion, you may be also pet sitting but it all depends on your preference. Websites such as care.com or housesitter.com can match you with your next house sitting gig. Be sure to do your research and stick to legit agencies before agreeing to services in someone's home.

6. Clean homes. Using sites such as housekeeping.com you can list your housekeeping services. You can clean homes for people that own short-term rentals i.e. Airbnb's. Take time to create a portfolio of jobs you've completed and start networking to get the word out there. There are many jobs on the market.

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7. **Start a blog.** Blogs can be a labor of love and it will not make a ton of income immediately. The awesome thing about a blog is it provides you the opportunity to generate passive income. When you create an awesome blog with amazing and valuable content, you can offer advertising space and make ad income. You can also offer products to your audience and receive commissions on sales made via your blog site. This is called affiliate marketing income. For example, if you write a fitness blog, you can offer fitness related products such as weights, supplements or exercise equipment to your audience and receive commissions on those sales.

8. **Write an ebook.** Share your knowledge! There are so many people that want to learn. Ebooks are a great way to start sharing your knowledge or adding a product offering to supplement your business. For example, if you are an esthetician, you could create an ebook on ways to care for the skin at home or a homemade facial. There are so many options to creating and selling an ebook. You can use everyday programs such as Adobe, Canva or Microsoft Office to create and convert to a PDF for easy downloading. Amazon has a service called CreateSpace which is an independent publishing platform. Again, this is a great way to generate passive income as you create the ebook once and sell the same product to many.

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9 & 10. **Create an online course and create YouTube tutorials.** I linked these two businesses because they complement each other so well. You can easily use YouTube videos to do tutorials and at the end upsell to your audience. One of your upsell product offerings can be an online course. For example, our esthetician can create a free video of one module of their online course then offer the full course at the end. It gives customers a glimpse at the content and they have the opportunity to continue doing business with you. There are several platforms that allow you to create online courses. Some of the most popular are Thinkific, Teachable or Udemy. Selling online courses can be quite lucrative as I've personally seen courses range from \$5 to \$5,000 per course depending on the content, length, creator involvement and supplemental offerings.

11. **Manage social media for small businesses.** Millions of people use social media on a daily basis. It's a great way to connect with your audience and attract new business. The challenge is... not very many small business owners know how to utilize it properly and simply don't possess the expertise. Imagine helping an entrepreneur build their business by creating and posting great content! Build tiered packages, contact small businesses in your area and offer your services for social media platforms such as FaceBook, Instagram, Twitter and SnapChat!

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12. Become an online tutor or teacher. You can use your expertise in a certain subject and become an online tutor. There are several organizations such as VipKid where you can teach English to children in other countries. Tutors.com can match you with a student in need as well. Subject matter can be single subject such as math or English, or you can be a testing tutor teaching teens how to study and pass standardized exams such as the SAT's.

13. Become a local tour guide. Do you live in a tourist area such as San Francisco? Do you know your city inside and out? Do you know the hot spots? If you answered yes, this can be an amazing opportunity for you. You can create a walking tour through certain areas of the city or how about a night or bar/club hopping tour? You can offer your tour on various sites such as Airbnb Experiences. Between base pay and tips, you can make money easily. You can also set your own schedules. You can decide the type of customer you want to cater to and show people your awesome city.

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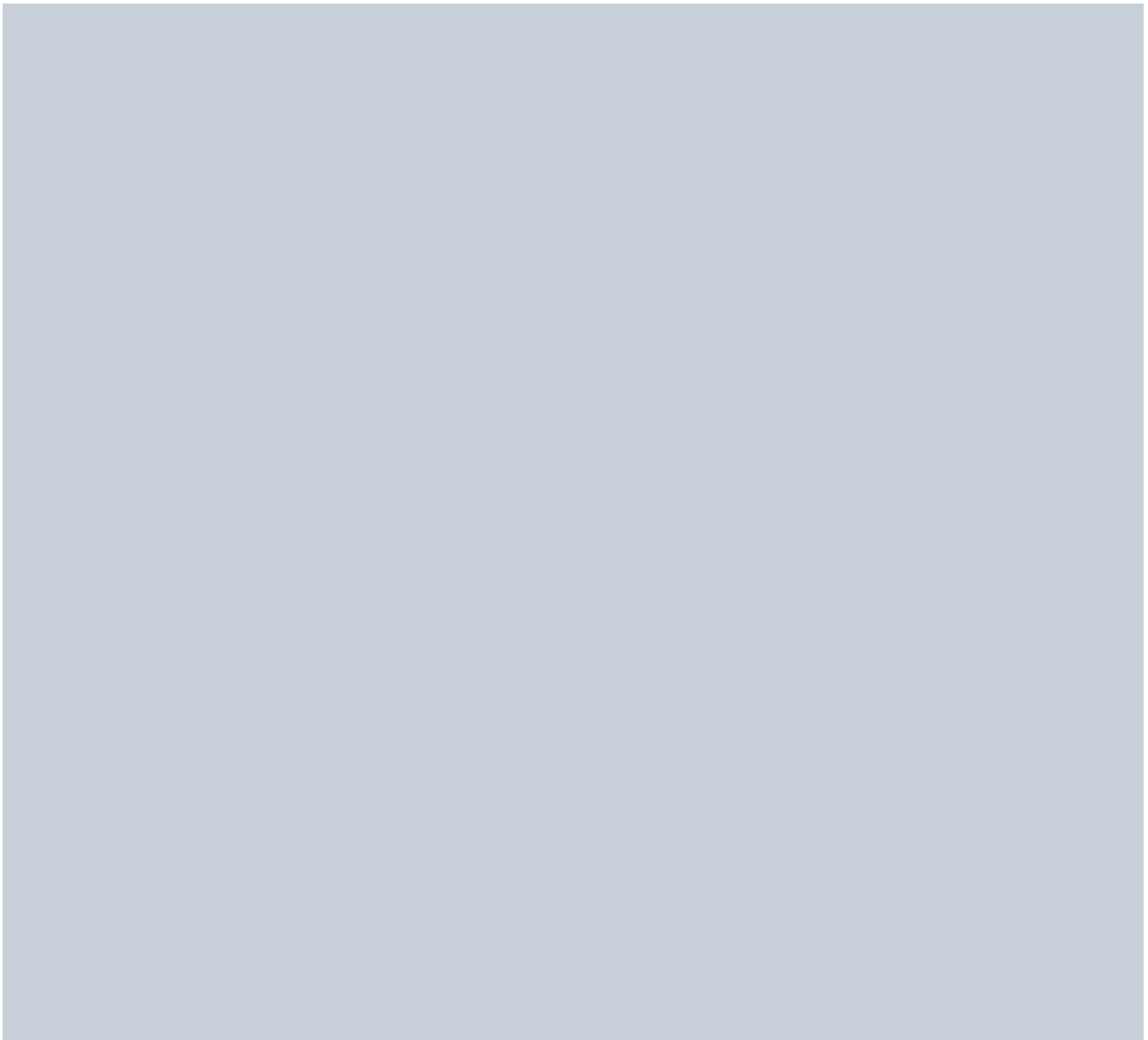
14. **Become a professional resume writer.** Are you great at writing resumes? If so, do it professionally! You can advertise on professional social media sites such as LinkedIn. You can build a solid following by working with college students and first time job seekers. There are so many options here. Become a guest speaker in a human resources course for students, or at a local college. If you want to take it a step further, become a Certified Professional Resume Writer through the Professional Association of Resume Writers and Career Coaches.

15. **Become a virtual assistant.** This profession requires a high degree of organization. Virtual assistants are in high demand and can be hired to complete a number of administrative tasks including but not limited to: answering emails, making phone calls, cloud file organization, paying bills, entry level social media assistance or scheduling meetings. If you have the free time, are very organized and like completing admin type tasks, this is a perfect job for you. You can also offer services on websites mentioned above such as Upwork. Virtual work is a great way to save money as you are not required to show up to an office, you aren't spending time in the car, or buying lunch at the nearby deli. You can also wear sweats and a tee shirt to work daily!

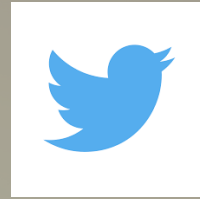
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Chapter 1 Notes and Ideas:

There are so many things we earn money. Use this time and space to jot down a few ideas and notes on ways you can monetize your current skills and interest.



Thank you!
Stay in contact!



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