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Setting Up a Perfect Space for Running a Home-Based Business

2020 may go down in history as the year everybody stayed home. If your first reaction to that observation was, "Wow! I need to start a home business!" you're obviously an entrepreneur in the making. In addition, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce <u>agrees with you</u>. It counsels that not only should you not let today's "new normal" hinder your entrepreneurial thinking, but today's economy and new ways of doing things may even give you an advantage. Plus, if you're craving a change of scenery, the ability to take your business outside of the home to somewhere safe -- such as one of our short-term rentals at <u>B&D Bungalows</u> -- is an attractive perk for many entrepreneurs. Our home-away-from-home <u>office space rentals</u> are perfect for traveling entrepreneurs who need a quiet, secure office area with private or shared workspaces, high-speed internet, and printers, making it possible for you to run your business even when you're on the road.

When it comes to setting up a home base for your business, here are the steps you need to take.

Begin at the Beginning

Initially, of course, you need to come up with a good <u>idea</u> for a product or service that you can provide and that meets a need. It need not be a huge, country-wide need. Almost by definition,

home businesses start small. And if you're going to be forming your new business at home, your space, time and energy need to be sufficient to get things off the ground.

Perhaps you can even keep your current job and conduct your home business part-time. You can also choose a low-investment business that allows you to buy your needed equipment second-hand. As for marketing, social media provides a low-cost, highly effective method.

Home Business Ideas

The types of home businesses you can start are limited only by your imagination, skills and predilections. Here is some food for thought:

- Transcription or translation service
- Cleaning service
- Lawn care service
- Professional organizer
- Freelance copywriter
- Graphic design or website development
- Digital marketing
- Computer support and repair

In addition, the rise of Uber and <u>Lyft</u> also provides a great opportunity for you to become a rideshare driver. Animal lovers might like to become pet sitters, those who love kids can open a childcare service, and those whose hearts are drawn to the elderly could go into senior care or even become a <u>senior move manager</u>. Let your passions and imagination guide you!

Your Home's Suitability

Not all homes are created equal when it comes to a home business. You need to determine how much space your current home provides and how much you'll need to create a home office space where you can work free from distractions and launch your business to success.

Depending on the nature of your company and its services, there may be some unique features you should consider for your home office. For example, if you'll offer virtual appointments to your clients, having a focal point behind you that inspires a sense of calm and serenity, such as a <u>nature-inspired painting</u> or a plant, is a nice touch for those who video chat with you. If you're an accountant, web designer, or other specialist who will be managing multiple datasets at once, you'll benefit from having a large desk that accommodates multiple computer monitors so you can see everything at once.

Whatever type of work you do, though, there are certain details every home office should include. Consider these features when deciding where and how to set up yours:

- Choose a room where you won't be easily distracted. For instance, a spare bedroom next to the living room where your children spend the day playing isn't ideal for your productivity.
- Make sure there is plenty of light in your workspace. Natural light is best, so finding a room with windows will not only help you stay on task, but it also may boost your mood.
- Choose muted, calming colors for your paint and decor. Stark white walls can drain your energy, especially if they reflect light, while bold colors can be distracting. Decorative pieces that make you feel calmer and more joyful will help you feel more inspired to do your best work.
- Lastly, be sure you have all of the equipment you need for your business. Every
 entrepreneur should have a spacious desk (Amazon sells an affordable one for <u>less than</u>
 \$50), comfortable chair, desktop or laptop computer, reliable internet connection, and

phone in their home office. Keep in mind that using a computer or phone that other family members have access to can make separating your business and home life tricky, so if possible, invest in tech that you use only for work.

If your current home doesn't have enough space to accommodate a home office or to support the needs of your growing family, adding a business to it may not be feasible. That doesn't mean you should stop dreaming about starting a home business. Why not consider buying a new place to accommodate your business? There's good news if you're considering buying a home with the space and layout that will meet your work-from-home needs: Forbes notes this is an exceptionally good time to buy a new home, thanks to mortgage rates that haven't dropped so low in a half century.

When shopping for a new home, look at listings online in the area you want to move to, and check average sale prices to give you an idea of what you can afford. If you're interested in buying a home in Sardis City, note that the average home sale price is \$215,000. Additionally, working with a trustworthy real estate agent can help you buy a home faster.

Your Business Entity Choices

In addition to choosing a name for your home business, you'll also need to choose what type of business structure you need. You have <u>many choices</u>, from a sole proprietorship to various types of partnerships and corporations to a limited liability company (LLC).

Forming an LLC for your business has numerous tempting benefits, like protecting your personal assets, reduced paperwork, more flexibility and scalability, and <u>tax advantages</u>. It's important to understand that each state has its own requirements and fees. One way to <u>simplify</u> the process is to engage an online formation service. They tackle the red tape on your behalf, making it easy to cleanly dot all the i's and cross all the t's.

Are you ready to start a new venture at home? Now is an ideal time! Take advantage of the benefits of this day and age, and remember that if you ever get tired of operating your business out of your home office, you can escape the same old scenery for a little while and work in one of B&D Bungalows's fully furnished rentals.