

# Enough About Women. Let's talk money... the TRP way. If you have alternative revenue streams, are in an unconventional occupation, or live an unconventional life style... SHARE IT! [Discussion]

February 28, 2016 | 782 upvotes | by [dr\\_warlock](#)

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edit: Good thread developing below just as I predicted. If you have questions, don't be afraid to ask these guys. They're taking time out of their day to contribute FOR FREE. Take advantage of it.

## Summary

Title. I will not be posting any advice or information about myself in the OP.

- Relevance
- The types of questions that would be helpful to answer.
- The general formatting you should construct your answers

IMPORTANT: This discussion shall remain amoral. If your strategy is immoral by conventional standards, it doesn't matter. Share it, then the readers will decide whether or not it fits within their values to replicate it. You have a strategy, it works for you, that's all.

If any of you don't like another's strategy, keep scrolling. If you must, downvote and move on. TRP is a buffet. Take what you like and leave the rest.

However, if you think someone's full of shit, by all means say it. If you think someone could go about their strategy more efficiently, let them know. If you want to know more information, ask or send them a PM.

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## Relevance

The red pill extends far beyond sexual strategy and female nature. You've been lied to about *every* facet of life, this includes making money and supporting yourself. **Financial freedom is key to independence.** Having mobile/transferable skill set and living in abundance is powerful. And if you must know, will effect your sexual strategy. Why not ask this in a finance sub you ask? Because I, along with many others, want to know the real shit. I want information uncluttered with blue pill nonsense that will hold me back or have me exploited by others along the way.

The conventional path is to go to university, get a degree, get a 9-5, get married, have children, buy a house & minivan, work until retirement, the end. Community college (or no school at all), not getting married, not having children, and alternative paths are stigmatized to the max (even if you're successful).

We want to hear how there exists many avenues of approach to success. By sharing, you would be helping a lot of people, and I guarantee you'll learn something. I know we have a few millionaires that

lurk here.

Through out my ~2 years here, I've seen many high quality comments about this subject, but they're scattered. It's helpful to have a compilation people can read through. Who knows, you may even get some contacts.

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## **Potential Questions to Answer**

The purpose of many of these questions is to reveal that you're not limited to one path in life, to give someone a starting point. Much of men's ignorance today is not their fault, the mental prison they've been conditioned to live in makes them not even know what questions to ask. Help them out. Help expand their thinking. You don't need to spell out your life, just give us a rundown and if possible, provide a few links to help those interested conduct further research and get started.

Most importantly, point out any harsh realities that the mainstream doesn't like to cover. Discuss sacrifices, the stress, the failures, etc. Give us the real deal. Destroy the fantasy and delusion. We've had more than enough of that, that's why most of us are here.

Obviously, you're going to answer with what you're comfortable telling. I should remind you to keep it as anonymous as possible because SJWs lurk here all the time.

## **What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?**

- Are you an independent contractor?
- Are you a garbage man?
- Do you work from home?
- Are you a blogger?
- Do you work a trade?
- You in a local band?
- Are you an inventor?
- Are you an online retailer?
- You do buy in bulk and sell on Ebay?
- Do you freelance?
- Do you own a physical business?
- Do you couch surf?
- Are you a political shill designed to derail conversation?
- Do you live off passive income?
- Do you live a modest lifestyle using unique ways to get by?
- Are you an investor?
- Are you a landlord?

- Are you a pimp or drug dealer?
- Did you expatriate, denounce your citizenship, or just bailed out the country?
- Are you a male stripper or prostitute?

### **How did you start out?**

- Are you from a rich family?
- Were you dirt poor?
- Were you kicked out of the house? (especially from a young age)
- Was your home environment terrible?
  - Did you leave early? If so, how did you manage to leave at an early age and get by?
- Are you a high school drop out?
- Did you go to community college, university or receive graduate or doctoral education?
  - Was the education helpful/needed for your success? Was it a complete waste of time and money?
  - Are you a community college, or university drop-out?
- Did you find everything you needed on the internet?
- Did you have a 9-5 already?
  - Did start your alternative revenue streaming on the side of you 9-5? Did you just quit and go for it?
  - Did your 9-5 aid you in your alternative endeavors?
- Did you get a bank loan, capital investments, or receive money from family and friends? (even steal)
- Did you have to work multiple jobs to save up?
- Did you work a job(s) while attending school?
- Did you have to sell many of your belongings to make money?

### **Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?**

- Family? Friend? Mentor? Colleague? Classmate? Acquaintance? Lawyer and other professionals?
  - Was anything special needed to encounter this individual?
- What books? (Readers can find free pdfs online)
- Which websites? (or subreddits)
- What videos? (Who would you recommend following?)
- What groups or events?

Note: If you can find a compilation, even better. Information is often scattered across the net, deep in forums.

### **What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?**

- Social obstacles to expect?
- An unexpected change in mindset?
- Did people shame you or not believe you?
- Does the government get in the way? (Assuming it's legal)

- Taxation realities?

### **What strategy did you implement?**

- Tax reduction methods most people don't know about?
  - Do you have ways to prevent Uncle Sam from taking your money?
- Was any Machiavellian tactics/48 Laws of Power used?
- Did you use any pre-selection?
- Do you prey on beta males? (i.e. make fake female profiles to get sent free things)
- Do you play both sides against each other?

### **Where do you look for customers? (Such as when you're a freelancer)**

- Did you start door-to-door?
- Did you make a big scene for attention to your product?
- What websites?
- Social media?
  - Which ones?
  - Did you try and find out it wasn't useful?

### **How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?**

If you feel anything else is important to discuss, feel free to discuss it. Rant if necessary. It's the comments section; go nuts.

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## **Formatting of your response**

All responses should begin with your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle and should be in bold as follows...

Example

**Occupation:** Freelance Webdesigner

**Occupation:** Revenue generating, harem managerial agent

**Occupation:** Big Data

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## **Share.**

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Archived from [theredarchive.com](http://theredarchive.com)

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## Comments

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MoneyStatusLooks • 75 points • 28 February, 2016 11:29 AM **[recovered]**

What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?

I work as an affiliate marketer in the online gambling industry. Specifically, I work with online slots and online casinos. My income last year was £300k GBP, my projected income this year is £360k GBP with two months left in my company tax year.

Basically, I make websites, that get high rankings in the Google search engine. The visitors to my website, I then use sales to get them to join online casinos, the casino then pays me either a percentage of the revenue generated, or a CPA (A one time fee when someone makes a deposit on the casino), I have CPA's up to £200. My average earnings per person who makes a deposit at an online casino is approximately £120.

I primarily make my money from 3 things:

Making very large "authority" websites with lots of content.

Getting such websites to rank highly in Google using SEO.

Converting visitors in to customers using sales (Basically getting from point A - my website to point B, the casino website)

Do you work from home?

Yes.

Are you a blogger?

Definitely not. I sometimes write content and in the beginning I wrote hundreds of pieces. Now I pay others to write on my behalf, I have outsourced 90% of this part of my business.

Do you work a trade?

My trade is 3 fold:

Understanding the web. I know enough about web design, coding and marketing. But I don't do it now, I hire great people to do it for me. Now I just manage and build more projects.

Sales sales sales.

SEO.

Do you live off passive income?

This is an interesting question. At this point my income averages £30k a month. If I don't work for 30 days, I will still earn £30k next month. So in a sense it's passive. However my assets are definitely not 0 maintainence. So if I do nothing, the £30k a month average will definitely start to lower. I have enough momentum now though, that if I don't work for 6 months, I may be earning more. Eventually though it would get less.

My overall strategy is to get enough money out of my business and in to passive income/cash flow assets, so that I can retire, but thats another story.

Do you live a modest lifestyle using unique ways to get by?

I used to. My expenses are now approx £4k a month, which is still not very much compared to my income. I used to live on £1500 a month for many years though.

| Are you an investor? Are you a landlord?

I am both. I have only one real estate investment. I have personal portfolio of stocks/shares/assets and a self managed pension.

| How did you start out?

I started making websites when I was about 11. My first "career" was when I was still in high school and I started going round trying to make websites for local businesses. Over time my skillsets and ambitions evolved.

| Are you from a rich family?

No, they are lower middle class.

| Are you a high school drop out?

I never went to college. I am super thankful I didnt because what you can learn in online marketing can be learnt online or from books, often pretty cheaply and is constantly evolving. A college course in making websites and online marketing would suck because by the time you finish the material would be out of date. You need to self learn to stay on the cutting edge.

| Was the education helpful/needed for your success? Was it a complete waste of time and money? Did you find everything you needed on the internet?

Self-education was paramount. I learned through books, online tutorials, self experimentation and online forums.

| Did you just quit and go for it?

By the time I was out of high school, I was earning the same amount as teachers. This was starting business in my own time. My parents wanted me to go to college, I said let me try business for a few years and if it doesn't work ill go college. I had good enough grades.

| Did you get a bank loan, capital investments, or receive money from family and friends? (even steal)

100% self funded. I got starting capital through providing services (making websites) for other companies. Then my skillset evolved and my business grew organically.

| Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?

Specifically, Amazon with business books, books on sales and marketing etc. Also forums and just generally learning websites through trial and error. I am skilled, but I still use Wordpress and purchase premium themes, which are then modified. We don't waste our time or energy making websites from scratch, its simply not worth it nowadays.

| What books? (Readers can find free pdfs online) Which websites? (or subreddits)

There are so many books and websites. I will try and make a list and edit this post at some point.

| What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?

Biggest obstacle was understanding how Google works on a high level, and being able to do SEO better than 95% of people.

Also that websites typically, take months to get high position rankings, so you have to put in a lot of effort before you reap a penny back.

| Did people shame you or not believe you?

No one believed in me or gave me any encouragement. But I was typically not shamed. Now they are all very supportive.

Taxation realities?

Don't make me cry. Yes I pay a lot of taxes.

Was any Machiavellian tactics/48 Laws of Power used?

Yes, with negotiating suppliers for higher revenue share or CPA (playing them against each other). Also in sales/conversion in general.

Do you prey on beta males? (i.e. make fake female profiles to get sent free things)

I guess online gambling is a dumb/beta thing.

Are you married? Do you have a family?

I am in a LTR. No marriage, no kids.

How do you balance the lifestyle with them? (Assuming it can be a challenge)

No need. My GF loves my lifestyle, I go on about 5-6 foreign vacations a year. Some on my own, some with her, she loves coming along for the ride (BB?).

How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?

16 years now (I'm 28). I still enjoy it, at times I don't.

[deleted] • 7 points • 28 February, 2016 02:03 PM

i probably know you haha, feel free to pm me to talk about am stuff

IamGale • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 09:12 PM

What drives you to work so hard?

MoneyStatusLooks • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 11:33 PM **[recovered]**

I want to freedom. I want to retire. Success does wonders for your self esteem too.

I want to build a legacy at some point and create a project that adds a lot of value to humanity. But I wouldn't even dream of starting it until I have my financial future solved, and my future kids financial future solved. I come first.

chisound1 points 21 March, 2016 12:53 PM **[recovered]**

Such an inspiration. At 18, my goal is pretty much your current lifestyle. I have a question though, would you recommend learning to code nowadays? If not, how do I materialize my ideas other than paying 2000\$ to build a site. Cheers.

htbf • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 02:57 PM

Congrats man. I kinda envy you.

I just have one question, do you like your current job ? It's obvious you liked creating websites when still a teenager but do are you still as passionate ? Do you think you're gonna be doing this for years to come or are you thinking about trying other things ?

dongpal • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 09:41 AM

i envy people like you who manage to already earn money in young years. im 23 and i havent done shit. i was good at gambling and pc gaming but these are useless skills

IamGale • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 02:47 PM\*

Amazing Story! Thank you for sharing. I'm trying to get a good handle on SEO, and I would love your opinion on it. Do you think the best way to rank, from a high level point of view, is to become a content hub? Do you follow a content marketing strategy to rank?

MoneyStatusLooks • 1 points • 28 February, 2016 11:51 PM **[recovered]**

Content is underrated. It's such an indepth topic and hard to really give any specific advice because how helpful it will be will be based on your current level of understanding. At the moment though, people greatly overvalue links, and undervalue stuff like content quality, site speed, copywriting in title tags.

Generally speaking though, you want to try and maximise every ranking factor in your favour. So it's not is links, social, content, speed more important... it's asking the wrong question, you need to figure out all of the ranking factors, then spend your resources best to maximising as many as possible. Google is very hollstic and evaluates everything as a whole.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:43 AM

undervalue stuff like content quality, site speed, copywriting in title tags

you need to figure out all of the ranking factors, then spend your resources best to maximising as many as possible

Thanks I'll take this into account for my site.

LifeForceHoe • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 04:53 PM

Am very interested in this. I try to rank in Google to no avail. Hope I find what's lacking in my formula. Good job on the revenue stream, hoping I can tread the path you took.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:25 PM

what you do sounds exactly like what i do full time.

animalpoo • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:43 PM

Inspirational !

I would love a suggestion of books if you have the time. I'm making the transition from in-person sales to writing web-copy/SEO, the books I'm reading appear a few years outdated.

MoneyStatusLooks • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 11:31 PM **[recovered]**

Sales and copy is more or less timeless. In theory they translate well, but I know I am a great web salesman, less so in real life. Some people have a flair for copy, some people are natural sales people. Both skills can be learnt though.

I like Influence by Cialdini, Words That Sell and Write To Sell.

With respect to my websites. Sales and copywriting helps, specifically with my email list and I am sending email offers. However, conversion, which is more to do with the overall look and feel of the website, as well as element placement is even more important in my eyes. I would say I am an expert at that as well.



animalpoo • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:50 PM

Thanks for the suggestions ! Added to my reading list.

unleashedhero • 2 points • 4 June, 2016 04:18 AM

You are my hero. Reading this just motivated the shit out of me. Can I pm you I want to pick at your brain

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 01:33 PM

I've always been fascinated by the gambling niche, but stayed away from it because I always assumed it was illegal for me to do because I live in the US, and it always seemed like the guys who had gambling sites were from other, non-English-speaking countries (namely, Russia).

So... is it actually illegal? Do you have to use foreign hosting providers and all that to avoid getting in trouble? Or is it actually perfectly fine?

ThatKidNick • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 05:04 AM

Do you know about Alex Becker?

poochman • 1 point • 7 March, 2016 04:18 PM

Software Developer here, how'd you get in contact with the online casinos initially?

[deleted] • 62 points • 28 February, 2016 11:12 AM\*

Occupation: Founder/CEO

Age: Mid-20's

I started making websites at age 13 and by age 16 I was making money designing websites and from affiliate income. I kept learning and learning about making money online. All the information needed is on the web for free. You don't have to purchase anything.

I always had pretty good grades and got a decent SAT score, but I never liked school too much. Got my AA at a local community college and went to a couple of junior level classes for mechanical engineering, then dropped out.

When I turned 18, I started working at my father's TV production company. Some of the biggest red pill lessons in my life came from that job. I went from barely being able to get laid to constant dates and sex with very attractive young model girls. It raised my standards of beauty dramatically and helped me achieve the abundance mentality needed to not give a fuck.

I found a "girl" that I "fell in love". You guys know how that turns out. Bear with me because there is a point to all this story. I found an "incredible" 18 year old woman who was still a virgin. I turned her from a virgin and had her having threesomes with me after about a year. The relationship lasted 4 years and I had to cut her off, after exhibiting too many red flags. It was the hardest thing I had to do. A good chunk of my sites had just been wiped out and my income dropped close to 0 within a month. It fucked with my head and started a downward spiral in all areas of my life.

You ever sit down and calculate just how much money is fucking wasted on pussy? It's fucking ridiculous. I had spent 4 fucking years with bitches, burning money on good times and going to college for something that deep-down I know wouldn't be worth it. ( I did really enjoy it, but the opportunity cost for sitting down another year or two was too high for my blood).

I was still running my passive income websites and making websites for clients through my personal agency. I was making 3k on a bad month and 5 or 6k on a good month. I kept studying in college and went through odd

life experiences and trips that enlightened me.

I decided one faithful December to cut out absolutely everything in my life that wasn't directly related to achieving my life's goals. I cut woman out. I cut 95% of my friends out. I dropped out of college. I cleaned my room and it looked like a jail cell.

I worked like a motherfucker day and night developing countless of business models and schemes. I must have ran 1000's of scenarios/business plans that I could work with the money I had.

I went with an eCommerce site that filled a void on a product that people were searching constantly on the internet. I built everything myself and used my skills acquired from my agency to rank the site across google combined with paid advertising through a wide range of sources and a strong social media presences in the hundreds of thousands of followers.

I started this company a little under 2 year ago and today I am making somewhere around 350k in profits in month. The good chunk of that income comes from that eCommerce site. My business caters 80% to women. I find feminists and "independent" women to be very profitable. Women are less skeptical customers and are moved through the motions much more easily then men. The product is more then likely being paid by some beta.

I acquired every skill I needed to do this purely through the internet and 99.9% of it was completely free. These days I will some times purchase a product that seems exceptional because I don't have time to search the internet where it's probably posted somewhere for free anyways.

I am still in the process of diversifying more. Where my money is coming from or where it is invested.

Car Dealership

International Cargo company focuses on a particular region

Modeling agency

Dozens of high quality affiliate sites I purchased

Rental real estate

Real Estate Brokerage

Digital Marketing Agency

3 more different eCommerce sites

Tax structures:

My online-based companies are based in the British Virgin Islands and the bank accounts are in Hong Kong. I recommend you register off-shores for any online companies because you gain the ability to defer corporate taxes indefinitely. The compound interest of investing the money kept from paying taxes and later paying the taxes once that money is multiplied is astonishing to say the least.

Future Ventures ( I want to bump up my income higher to enter in some of these and the market timing has to be there:

Real Estate Development firm

Independent Film Production Studio

Purchase a bank in a certain country ( It ties into a grand goal I have)

Angel back my own start-up ventures

Advice that helped me achieve the mentioned:

I read every single day. I go through 2 books a week on average

Learning to learn is paramount. Everything I needed to built this came from the internet.

When you aren't where you want to be in life. Cut the bullshit out. I had the skills and the knowledge to do this many years before I actually did it. You wanna know why I didn't? Because I wasn't focused, disciplined and distracted by shit that didn't matter.

If you wake up later then 6 am, you're already losing.

Women suck the life out of you if you let them or like an idiot think one is "special."

Always keep a rainy day fund to keep you afloat for at least a year without doing shit.

Things I am still working on:

I am relatively skinny. I weight around 168 at 6'1". I used to weigh 155. I am growing and my goal is to reach 180 with 10% body-fat. I am at 12% right now. Still pretty good. This relates to money because my presence has to be optimal based on how young I am and the people I am starting to deal with. I didn't command any respect until I started talking. Now I am starting to command respect just by walking in a room.

I am going to move more and more of my assets into various international trusts to start separate all my companies from me. This will protect me from divorce rape ( In the event I marry) and most frivolous lawsuits that could happen.

Running various online companies that make money is great, but they are not my end goal. Everything I have done until this point is to be able to start playing the game with the right amount of resources.

I am still acquiring more and more skills needed to advance to the next level. I finished an intensive web development bootcamp a couple of months ago and have gotten proficient enough to manage people in this industry. There are still many more I need to acquire, particularly on better management.

My organizational skills have gotten way better these last two years, but they still need to be improved.

The final and biggest piece of advice I can give anyone.

### **Never have a plan B**

For years, I always had a plan B,C,D,E. It looked something like this.

Plan A: Make it as an entrepreneur

Plan B: Graduate as an Engineer, work and try Plan A

Plan C: I hated engineering, so go to Law school.

Plan D: I graduated Law school, work as a lawyer and start a practice

Plan E: Hated being a lawyer, drop out and start trafficking drugs across borders.

Obviously, you can pivot a little if something isn't working, but nothing like I mentioned above. This is how most people run their lives and how I did for most of it.

MoneyStatusLooks • 8 points • 29 February, 2016 12:21 AM **[recovered]**

If this is true I really congratulate you on your MASSIVE \$350k a month profit success.

However, something about this just seems off. I only read through it once but can't put my finger on it.

nurse\_cameltoe • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 07:56 PM **[recovered]**

I started this company a little under 2 year ago and today I am making somewhere around 350k in profits in month

Just curious: how long did it take to become even slightly profitable? I'm thinking maybe \$1k/mo? Because that ramp up from nothing to six-figures monthly is incredible.

We all know how it starts(nothing) but few of us know the progression from nothing to mediocre, then to "hey this might work" to "hey it's working" to "holy shit"

[deleted] • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 02:12 AM

I was profitable within the first month technically, but all that money got reinvested back in the company and I started investing everything i had into it. I kept doing that until it wasn't possible to keep reinvesting and get a decent ROI out of it.

I don't know what to tell you about progression except it happens one day at a time. You start with nothing or relatively little. Invest all your time and energy into a project. It doesn't work the way you plan. You learn from it and start again until you get a project that works. Once you have a formula. It's a matter of scaling up your audience and getting your protect in front of them. Once you have refined a system, there is no reason you can't scale it or replicate it.

The "I guess it's working" happens when you can live off of it and the "holy shit" is when you need to sit down and educate yourself about handling your new found situation.

dongpal • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 09:59 AM

how to get to that first project? i dont know where i should invest my money and time into. i have some money and time, i would like to put that into use

zardfizzlebeef • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 03:03 PM

This was the most inspirational post in this thread for me. As a person about to try my hand at ecommerce (I've been reselling on Amazon/Ebay for about a year now. Saved up enough to import my own products now) this is hella influential.

Nergaal • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:46 PM

I have a serious question. What do you plan to get out of sharing this story? You seem to be extremely goal oriented, so spending time to post something like this has to achieve something.

[deleted] • 7 points • 29 February, 2016 02:24 AM

Smart question here.

I have a life coach/therapist I see to help keep me on track with everything. It serves as a form of accountability for me.

I typically write long winded stream of consciousness that are latter used to examen my subconscious thoughts. I will share this with her anyways and thought it might inspire someone to take massive action. Some might be skeptical, but I have managed to rewrite several self-limiting beliefs that were unconsciously plaguing me. It has helped me and I have been better everyday. That's all I can really tell you.

I also contribute to TRP because it's teaching have been helpful in my life and I feel like giving back.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 03:15 PM

This is amazing. I have a few questions, if you're willing to answer some:

When do you go to bed (to wake up at 6am)?

Where are you based (US, UK, Europe, ...)?

How did you start investing into businesses you mentioned (e.g. modeling agency, digital marketing agency, real estate brokerage) - I have some funds that I would like to invest, not enough to buy real estate, but I'm interested in investing in small enterprises, if I could find any opportunities.

What's the basics of eCommerce that you do? Do you buy stuff and resell it, drop ship it, use affiliate links, sell e-products, ...? Do you know any example succeddful eCommerce site (not yours, so that you don't reveal your niche)?

Very inspiring post, thanks!

[deleted] • 11 points • 28 February, 2016 04:27 PM

Here you go mate.

My wake up time is very strict and I wake up closer to 4 to 5 am, but 6 am is the latest I sleep in. When I go to sleep depends if I went out that night. I have been known to show up home at 5 am and start my work day until noon, take a nap and keep going until nightfall. I usually go to sleep at 9pm or so.

U.S based, but international sales are good percentage.

I started out buying stuff and reselling them. I experimented with different markets and refining my techniques. The way to really scale up is through your own private label brand. Differentiation and branding is the key to higher profits, otherwise you're just competing based on price.

How do I identify those opportunities? I ran the digital marketing agency since before I had the eCommerce site. The reason why my investments are so diverse is because I tend to invest in people. I take the talents/skills of those around me and tailor businesses/ventures around them combined with intuition about their character. These are all been high-risk ventures, that are surprisingly working well, but don't invest your money into other ventures this way yet. The best thing you can do is invest in yourself. Investing in myself is how I was able to accomplish this.

One example of a successful eCommerce store is beardbrand.com. I read that they are pulling a couple of million dollars in revenue a year and their product has a very high mark-up. I am sure a good chunk of that is profit.

EMON87 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:04 PM

So, do you buy and store inventory on your own?

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 02:00 AM

The nature of the product requires I have a warehouse and handle fulfillment myself. I handled it in my garage until I was able to move.

MeeSeeks218 • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 03:37 PM **[recovered]**

website,

This is excellent, thank you for sharing.

You mention your different investments you've made over time, and they definitely are diversified -- from car dealerships to modeling agency. How do you evaluate these opportunities? What do you look for? How do you access these opportunities?

[deleted] • 11 points • 28 February, 2016 04:48 PM

As I mentioned on another post, but will expand here. I invest in people and their skills. I can't possibly manage all these companies by myself and still keep opening more.

I will give you an example of what I mean:

My sister is currently in med-school studying to be a dermatologist. In approximately 4 years, she will have graduated and completed her residency program. Guess who is bankrolling her and managing her practice? Yup, you got it.

I am going to built her image/brand, establish her infrastructure, get her the right publicity and expand from there. She is a pretty young woman who speaks incredibly articulate and will get eaten up by the local media. I will take her trade and turn it into an enterprise.

I have done this formula with close friends that I have mentored for years. They have seen me work different businesses since young and have always come to me for guidance. They have been vetted for years. This could backfire horribly for someone who gets emotionally compromised easily. I manage all

the finances, books and run a very tight-ship with very clear expectations. Trust is key for this to work.

I am just starting to expand and invest in more opportunities outside of close contacts. I like to form personal relationships with the people I am investing and really understand what makes them tick. What motivates them. Their habits. Mannerisms.

I don't have many passive investments besides a few properties and a couple of affiliate income sites. The rest are completely actively managed.

Lastly, the best investment you can make is one you can manage personally. You start diversifying from that once you cross a threshold point where bad investments won't be the death of you and you want to wedge yourself against the bad times.

redpillerrr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 03:58 PM

Great post, what was the intensive web course?

BobLordOfTheCows • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:18 PM

Could you elaborate more on your "never have a plan B" point?

It's how I'm running my life and it's been quite stable as a result.

[deleted] • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 02:02 AM\*

it's been quite stable as a result.

That's exactly the problem. When adversity strikes, you will tend to back off and feel safe because plan B is much less scarier and don't push through plan A with everything.

It's a question of conviction with what you decide.

BobLordOfTheCows • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 02:46 AM

I'll keep that in mind, thanks.

dons90 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 10:57 PM

If you wake up later then 6 am, you're already losing.

Thanks for saying this. I have a bad sleeping habit and I've been feeling a bit frustrated with myself. Starting tonight I'm going to bed by 9 and waking at 6.

riverfish7 • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 10:50 AM

Motivational stuff. I'm a doctor that's turning 28 soon and I've just started my first online business. I hope to be where you are in a few years. I love entrepreneurship. Doctoring not so much. My goal is to make enough money to quit my job as a doctor and go full time as an entrepreneur.

You mentioned books - which books can you recommend that were really truly life-changing for you?

[deleted] • 2 points • 1 March, 2016 04:00 PM

I have gotten several messages asking people what I read as well as several friends. I am going to compile a list of 100 books that you should read for success and share it when I have time.

masterco • 21 points • 28 February, 2016 04:05 PM **[recovered]**

**Occupation:** Designer/Programmer/SEO Consultant.

### **What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?**

Grew up poor. I taught myself how to code and design when I was 12. I had to learn SEO to be noticed my customers when I launched my products at 18.

I started freelancing, now I code and design Wordpress templates and sell them online, I also made stupid games for iOS/Android that have ~25K users per month, the games are free, I get money from advertising. Games are passive income and the templates too, if I choose to give zero support to the buyers.

I travel the world full time, I use couchsurfing to meet people in every city I go to, meetup and tinder work really well too.

Couldn't afford college and with programming, even without a degree finding jobs is really easy.

I learned HTML first, then CSS, then Javascript and finally PHP for wordpress. I hate PHP code but Wordpress works on top of it, now I'm designing a template for Ghost. (Javascript powered 'Wordpress)

Codecademy is a good resource to start learning, also codeschool but if you're broke as i was once, there are a lot of free tutorials in youtube.

### **What were the struggles/obstacles?**

Programming will always be a lonely job if you travel a lot like me. A lot of relationships between people are made at the workplace and in my case I work at starbucks, as I do everything I have no coworkers. I'd say the hardest part for me is being social, because I'm not forced to be (like most 9 to 5 jobs) I could go a week without talking to anybody focused on my code.

What I do to mitigate this is using couchsurfing the first few days when I'm in a new city, those people become my friends and I hang out with them for as long as I'm in the city, also really useful to get laid, being an expat gives a huge amount of perceived value

I suck at taxes, I pay a guy to do that.

### **Where do you look for customers?**

I sell stuff on themeforest, ghost marketplace, creative market, and for the games the apple appstore and google play store.

### **Are you married? Do you have a family?**

No wife, I miss my mom sometimes (I'm 20)

### **How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?**

Father was an asshole, mom was left alone with me and my sister and brother when I was 12, programming was the only job I could do without people asking for my age or wanting to see a degree. I don't love it, per se, but I love the freedom it gives me (live in any country, not having to go to meetings, living in hotels, etc.)

### **Rant**

To be honest I think my life is cool, but I wonder what's next, more notch count? Better body? More countries? Sometimes everything just feels so unappealing.

If you have any questions I'd love to answer them, I've been a mentor for two guys that are now traveling the world with the products they built with my mentorship. I like to help people so if you want to be mentored by me it would be my pleasure but I can only do 3 at the same time, I'm helping one guy from philippines right now so there are two spots left.

let me know.

riverfish7 • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 10:32 AM

Very impressive. You live the life most late-twenty-somethings who could a university degree would only



imagine living.

ThatKidNick • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 05:27 AM

Hey dude would I be able to pm you? And How would you begin learning coding at 19 years old with absolutely no knowledge on it. Also looking into SEO, this guy Alex Becker looks really interesting on youtube.

Basically im done high school and have been sitting at home doing nothing. I was actually a male stripper for a while and made good money but it's not a long term career path

Any suggested resources?

Did you ever go to college or recommend it?

Any downsides to this career?

RedArgonaut • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 06:01 AM

Hey man,

I read your post and honestly the way you described your current lifestyle has been my dream for quite a few years now. I'd be interested in the mentor thing if the spot isn't already taken.

I'd still like to pick your brain even if it is. What kind of revenue are you seeing from Wordpress templates? Do they bring in a bit or do you have a few high yield ones and the rest are duds? How much do you expect from Ghost (never heard of it)? Where do you recommend I learn everything I need to know about SEO for websites. I'm gonna graduate soon with a Comp Sci degree and I'm fairly skilled in building websites, aesthetics-wise. I feel confident I can copy the look of any website you throw at me completely from scratch and without looking at their css specifically. But I've always had a constant fear of hating corporate life. And every time I dream of being a full time traveler I always worry I'm making a mistake by pursuing that life. Will I regret it? Should I work corporate America for a bit and build up a nest egg? I don't want to waste my youth or even my life not doing what I love.

Anyway the point is, I'd appreciate if you could point me to some good resources for learning how to make those templates and sell them and perhaps mentor me or just lay some advice on me about living this life.

keytoimmortality • 1 point • 3 March, 2016 01:11 AM

What would be the first step for someone wanting to learn about coding and designing who knows literally zero about it?

Background info: 20 years old, full time commerce student, living in Australia

ChairBorneMGTOw • 57 points • 28 February, 2016 04:37 AM\*

I have a 9-5 job, plus a part time job a couple nights a week. But I also have passive income.

I own multiple parking spots in my condo building. I live close to the local university campus, as well as office buildings downtown. I rent these out to non residents to cover both property tax and the extra condo fees I pay for additional spots. I make a small profit on each spot every month.

The great thing about being a parking spot landlord is that it's easy to get into. Investment property can be had for relatively cheap. I just buy another spot whenever one comes up for sale in my building. Advantageous side effect is that I create false scarcity for spots in my building, increasing my property resale value.

It's a lower effort way to rent property too. I don't care if my renters own pets, make noise, are filthy hoarders, or smoke crack. It's just a fucking parking spot. It's not like they are living there.

Also, there is no legal protection for them in the sense of tenant rights, etc. Eviction is as easy as calling a tow



truck (though I have never had to evict anybody).

Of course I have to keep this on the down low from my condo board. They could pass a corporate bylaw saying renting to non residents is forbidden, or raise the condo fees for parking spots for additional spaces.

Ultimately, I would like to own about twenty spots (it's in a high rise building). Because it's right downtown, urban professionals who walk to work don't need the spots that come with their condos, so occasionally they get listed for sale.

Also, this plan won't work for you if you don't live in an area where parking is scarce. It also may not work if you have to borrow and pay interest to buy a parking spot, or if it's too expensive.

Do your own research, do your own math.

ChairBorneMGTOw • 19 points • 28 February, 2016 04:45 AM

An addenda... If you live in Canada, and do the smart thing and declare your parking income to Revenue Canada, your condo fees, property tax, insurance and interest paid for those spots are all tax deductible.

dr\_warlock[S] • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 05:20 AM

How much did you pay for your first spot?

What fees do you have to pay to maintain your ownership? ]

How much do you charge?

ChairBorneMGTOw • 20 points • 28 February, 2016 05:27 AM\*

First one came with my condo. Second one was \$27,500 bought it for my girlfriend at the time. When that relationship ended, I started renting it out and was surprised I was profiting about forty bucks a month.

Rent is about 180 / month, condo fees are 110 / month, tax about 30 / month.

Insurance is dicey, I have owners insurance and my property title covers all my spots and there is no limit in the policy to parking spots. When I got my policy, I made sure that I'm covered for renting or subletting. But they may have a problem with the scale of my operation even is not specifically forbidden in the policy.

Don't want to say how many I own now, but as I buy spots their value goes up due to increasing scarcity in the building. They are going for \$30k - \$35k now, so I've potentially got a decent return on capital if I decide to liquidate one or more. Problem is, they are getting more expensive, and I would start having to take out loans to buy more, so further investment might become a diminishing return.

BoobToArmRatio • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 07:33 AM

I bet we live in the same city! I would totally consider this, but my condo association is pretty strict about renting parking spots only to residents of the building. Keeps the price down artificially.

[deleted] 3 March, 2016 07:28 PM\*

[permanently deleted]

ChairBorneMGTOw • 1 point • 3 March, 2016 11:57 PM

Pay off? I paid cash, so no debt. It was paid off the day I bought it.

I will sell eventually, but in the interim each spot earns me money. And because I'm generating an artificial scarcity, when the time comes to sell I'll get more than I paid

owensmw2 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:59 PM

How does one find these properties available?

ChairBorneMGTOw • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:38 PM

Usually there's a notice in the lobby of the condo building announcing "Parking spot for sale".

I would suspect that the majority of condo buildings have rules against selling (but not necessarily renting) parking spots to non-residents or non-owners of apartment units. So if you're not living / owning a unit in the building, you probably won't find out they're for sale generally, nor would you be able to buy one.

Some folks *rarely* list parking spots on mls.ca a Canadian real estate listing website, you might be able to find an equivalent where you live. Kijiji or Craigslist perhaps?

But in general terms, I will NEVER rent out living space. But renting parking is easy, low-effort, low-risk, (but admittedly low-return) money.

Perhaps there are other ways you can get parking spots in your control...

steelerfaninperu • 19 points • 28 February, 2016 06:56 PM

### **Fuck having a car and move to Peru**

Ok, so I come from absolutely nothing. Like my parents declared bankruptcy after a foreclosed house kind of nothing.

I've made it a point to avoid debt. Best way to do that is not having a car. A car just guzzles money. You gotta live somewhere where you won't need a car. I live in Lima, Peru. Note, I didn't go to Peru to avoid having a car, that just happened and I discovered how great it is.

My monthly expenses are less than \$1,000. My income is closer to \$2,000. I may not make 100k a year, but I can save more than you probably do on that salary. Mind you I only have 800 square feet, though it is in a great neighborhood and I walk to work.

America requires you to get into debt and keep buying shit in order to compete with your neighbors and satisfy your needs. If you're not tied down, just leave. It's not a sustainable lifestyle. Everybody you know is weighed down in debt, and that just cripples your freedom.

Intel81994 • 2 points • 3 March, 2016 03:01 PM

Hey do you live in miraflores? How do you like Lima? Age? How are the women and the casual dating scene? Hookers hot and cheap? Is there a scene for jobs for teaching English?

steelerfaninperu • 3 points • 4 March, 2016 03:18 PM

I don't live in Miraflores, because I find it overpriced and full of gringos that I can't stand. It's also far from my work, so there's that. Lima's alright, I mean it's a cool city and it has everything you could possibly want. Still, it's a bit of a shithole because of the people. People don't take care of shit and keep things looking nice in most parts.

I'm in my 20s, but it doesn't really matter if you're a white foreigner. Girls latch on pretty much instantly since they see you as a real catch (whether you are or not). As a result it's pretty easy to get laid. Like, almost to the point where your dick gets kind of spoiled and you start getting lazy.

Hookers surprisingly not so cheap, and not that great. I've never paid for it here cause I don't see the point.

English is a big industry here. You can get a job in a day if you know where to look. Walk in, present yourself, and if you know a thing or two about ESL you'll be snatched up instantly.

enrique9191 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:54 PM

What do you do there? \$2000 a month is not a terrible salary for Peru.

steelerfaninperu • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 08:04 PM

Teaching English in a private school.

With a Bachelor's degree in anything English/Education related you can get into better jobs that pay well above average. It's hard to break \$1200 a month teaching regularly unless you get into a good private school or university.

[deleted] • 38 points • 28 February, 2016 04:46 AM\*

I work on Oil rigs.

I work ~ 180 days a year, and have the rest off. Occasionally I have to do maintenance or meetings at our shop. I make about ~120k. I've gotten to travel and spend time in some cool places--norway, Scotland, Croatia, Trinidad, and all over US, often on the company dollar. Prior to this, I was in the military, that's where I got my experience. I performed a very technical job, and worked my ass off to make rank, and then get leadership experience. My leadership experience has been more valuable than anything else. Engineering degrees definitely help to get you in, but I also work with guys who have had no experience, or came from other trades...cable companies, mechanics, plumbers. Right now it's hard to get into though.

Most of my free time has been spent traveling, going to school online, or fucking off. Been at it for two years now. The job is physically dancing--but the time gives you plenty of room for your own pursuits.

Currently I'm exploring things like welding and programming to add supplemental income in my free time where I can be my own boss. Since I eventually want to get out of the oilfield, definitely leaning towards programming.

48 laws of power has been huge to my success.

dr\_warlock[S] • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 05:11 AM

What kind of work do you do for the oil rigs?

What are the hours like?

What are some examples where you used one of the 48 laws of power?

What kind of programming are you leaning towards?

[deleted] • 18 points • 28 February, 2016 05:26 AM\*

I do technical and engineering work on the drilling side-- a lot of it is it data analysis, equipment operation, maintenance, and repairs. It doesn't require a degree to work here, but you definitely need a meat eating personality.

In the field its 12 hours a day, usually a few weeks at a time. Don't be surprised if you work a 24 hour shift powered by coffee.

48 laws...it's hard to name specific instances. I used them often while in the military, and more in the office. Ultimately it's a process, and continual application. Never out shining the master, and playing the perfect courtesan seem to be most repeated. I'm not an engineer, but often have to use these laws to handle big, fragile egos of people. People often think power is about being a knuckle dragging chest

beater. It might work in college, but in the professional world it requires tact, subtlety, and most importantly self control. Think Kevin Spacey in House of Cards.

As far as learning programming, I'm looking into database analysis and coding. I'm pretty green though and still learning what all there is out there.

AFPJ • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 04:17 PM

People often think power is about being a knuckle dragging chest beater.

I think there was a law about knowing your mark and not overshooting it.

**Every time you overshoot your mark you make an enemy you didn't have to.**

The retribution is seldom immediate - and often so delayed / covert that people fail to connect the dots altogether.

Not pissing people off unless you absolutely have to and / or can finish them makes life much easier.

diamxnds • 1 point • 5 March, 2016 02:57 AM

I am in university right now and looking to pursue the STEM field. What kind of engineering degree would get you in to this type of job?

[deleted] • 1 point • 5 March, 2016 03:20 AM

Petroleum would be the easisest, but also limits your other options. Personally I would go mechanical, and then look into hiring on with an Oil services company. Generally, Oil services companies are equipment/procedure/service focused, so geological knowledge is pretty unnecessary. Its hard to get into right now, but if you can get some mechanical/technical experience via part time jobs or internships, that would be great for your resume.

IKickHorses • 15 points • 28 February, 2016 03:38 PM **[recovered]**

Hustles:

Direct report to the GM of a division of a worldwide critical supplier in the automotive industry. I call bullshit on shit in our processes, shit that goes to shit becomes my shit, and I un-fuck that shit a/r.

LTR with a better income. Keeping it in line saves me a chunk of dough, and what falls off the tree has a lot of utility.

Never sold a house, I only buy them. That is only three, but cashed out of one by assumption. I also moved the LTR into renting out their old home, and it has made them happier enough to make them easier to manage.

Bought a home on enough land with the right zoning and government (I am in the government state) to minimize costs and maximize opportunity. I call it the 4 L's Location, location, location, Legal.

Farming. Not "herbs" like so many other /u/s, but seasonal produce and eggs. I sell the produce to restaurants and the eggs to anybody who knows I have them for sale. Most importantly, it is a business that turns a lot of my expenses for increasing the value of my property into tax deductions.

Trash into treasure. Every byproduct is a product waiting to be discovered. I don't clear brush and dead trees on my property, I cut firewood to sell. My chickens and horses don't shit, they make fertilizer that I don't have to buy.

Going forward: Agritourism. It takes time to create the attraction, which is what is going on now This is the launch into "active retirement" and working from home and having more or "The Life"

Influences:

WWI, Weimar Republic, Great Depression, WWII, Bavaria, Bohemia, Mormons, flea markets, The Amish and The Mennonites, Texas, Arizona, The Chicago Machine, Northern Italy, Spanish and Italian languages, Catholic schools, travel, corporal punishment, Vonnegut, Rand, Heller, horses, ex-cons, cats, roosters, motorcycles, bicycles, and Gypsies/Tinkers.

Over all, you may be dead, incapacitated or incarcerated tomorrow. The goal is to live as free and happily as possible doing things of value to others and yourself. Personally, I am one of the thriftiest bastard out there(so is the LTR). I know what my needs are and keep calm about my wants, this lets me keep more money to do work for me. Sure, sometimes you are not good enough and don't win, sometimes others are really out to get you, but it doesn't matter if you hold frame and and keep a strong grip on the reins.

Dividends:

I'm coming up on 50. A week with a fitbit told me I do over 15000 steps per day. I ride horses five days a week. I eat like a king every day with fresh food I produce or get from similar producers. I weigh what I did when I graduated from high school. I have a flock of under 40's that grool to take direction from me that keeps my dread game strong at home. Everything I can not afford to lose fits in a backpack. I have the time to post on Reddit!

IamGale • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 06:12 PM

I have a flock of under 40's that grool to take direction from me

This gave me the funniest image. I'm imagining a mixed flock of women and sheep that you're shepparding in a big field in Scotland somewhere.

But seriously I don't quite understand what you're saying.

LTR with a better income. Keeping it in line saves me a chunk of dough, and what falls off the tree has a lot of utility.

Do you have a bunch of plates in LTRs? You only buy houses and rent them to plates? Are you a sultan with a thousand concubines in your houses?

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:37 AM

I concur that life is better when you're not weighted down by possessions.

Trucks\_N\_Chainsaws • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:48 PM

I fucking dig everything about what you're doing. I have an IBC in my backyard for an aquaponics setup and I want some ducks to lay me some eggs.

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 04:21 AM

[permanently deleted]

AmkSk • 16 points • 28 February, 2016 11:01 AM

Why is Zen important for the programmers and designers?

zue3 • 36 points • 28 February, 2016 01:51 PM\*

Because you have to sit in place and concentrate for hours on end. Can't do that if you're hyperactive and have a short attention span.

Edit: I'm working on improving my attention span and discipline personally, if anyone has any advice or relevant story I would appreciate you sharing.

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 21 points • 28 February, 2016 04:22 PM

Try having ADD and working on interesting stuff. I can barely sit still, but if I find the problem challenging, I can work for 14 hours straight, to the point where I have to remind myself to eat, sleep, and shit before I die. It sucks not being able to control your focus, but it can be super beneficial in the right contexts.

LetMePhillyYouUp • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 04:42 PM

This is incredibly huge for me. ADD is a blessing (in the right situation) but a curse in others. My question is how do you, or anyone else here, find a job or make money without the boredom killing you?

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 01:03 AM

For me personally, creativity and challenge are the key. If the solution is not obvious and allows me flexibility to construct a novel one, then I can work at it all day. Salesforce is like that because its more the paint palette than the final portrait. The end product is creating a process that supports whatever business needs your particular client has. That varies quite a bit.

ThereAndBlackAgain • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:24 PM

Basically everyone will have been told, at some point, to find a job they like and find fun, challenging and interesting, not just one that makes money. This is good advice for anyone, but for us it's more or less the law.

Manmore • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:10 AM

I'm wondering more and more if I have ADD, that description fits me 100%.

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:50 AM

Meh. I wasn't diagnosed until I was 26, at which point it wasn't of much use to me. I tried some different meds, but they cause more problems then they solved. So I just use different techniques to manage it and go on living.

newpua\_bie • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 03:02 PM

Do you have specific recommendations for books?

zue3 • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 03:57 PM

Do you want to read up on Buddhism, etc? Zen is a kind of Buddhism that focuses on meditation and yoga. You can read various religious texts on the subject but I don't consider them particularly helpful.

If you're interested in learning how to focus your mind I'd recommend starting some simple meditation. You can find various guides online on different methods. Experiment with it till you find something that suits your needs. Practice regularly.

SigmundFloyd76 • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 05:11 PM

Shambala meditation is basically all the good of the Buddhist practice, but without all of the religious ideology.

It's a very pure and basic form of meditation. It enabled me to discover TRP 20 years ago

before there was TRP. We called it "enlightenment" back then lol.

But seriously, it forces you into reality. The more you practice sitting, you more you realize how much bullshit in your mind is running the show.

Cheers.

freudianSLAP • 1 points • 28 February, 2016 05:43 PM [\[recovered\]](#)

"Vipassana in plain english" is a good free ebook. Focuses on concentration meditation. You pick one sensation and become aware of that, the breath passing through the nose is a popular choice. Then when ever the mind wanders, you don't judge you, just bring your awareness back to the breath. With practice you will become faster at recognizing that your mind has wandered. 20min a day can have great effect on your frame, concentration and emotional volatility.

Edit: Title is actually "Mindfulness in plain English."

DrDoSoLittle • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:58 PM

Do you have a link for "Vipassana in plain english"? I tried googling it and could only find links to "Mindfulness in Plain English" and this discussion.

archer4768 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:51 PM

siddhartha by Hermann Hesse

AmkSk • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:31 AM

I will definitely give it a try. I am an Android developer and I know what you are talking about. What I always try to do:

It is important to move for a minute or so every hour, do a stretch, workout a little. Helps your concentration and also your back (We have a pull up bar in our office / apartment. It is the greatest thing you can have in an office!).

A lot of developers just work without breaks and then get really tired. Doing POMODORO is a good way to FORCE you to have a break (although I know it is hard to stop, when you are dealing with some problem or algorithm).

Many of the most complicated problems I have solved were not solved in front of the computer. When you are stuck, cannot solve it - just get out. For a walk. For a run. To a gym. You will solve the problem eventually, maybe on your way to the grocery store. I am not saying you should think about the problem all the time, but making this pause and doing other "task" will DEFINITELY help.

zue3 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:57 AM

Thanks for the tips. Although I mostly have a problem with making myself sit in one place rather than staying stationary for too long. Will give the pull up bar a try though, my back gets stiff sometimes.

AmkSk • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:59 AM

For the spine, it is also good to change positions (sitting/standing). They sell these tables which you can highten so that you can stand for a while.

aDrunkenWhaler • 13 points • 28 February, 2016 02:27 PM

Saying 20 \$100 jobs is better than one \$2000 job is poor advice and has many disadvantages.



1. Small task jobs don't make a portfolio. You will only have small nothings to show.
2. Most of your time will be spend on running after customers instead of working. If you'll use sites like odesk or elance, you'll have to bid on 10 projects or more to get one. This will require you to read 10+ briefs and give custom relplies to better your chances. A lot of time wasred without any pay.
3. Small tasks won't help build a relationship with a client. He'll give you a task now, then hire someone else, and you're back to the drawing board.
4. Jogglng beteween tens of projects is time wasting. Humans are not build to multi-task. You will burn yourself out in no time.
5. It's hard to market quality work and ask a higher price for small takss since you're running after quantity in the first place.
6. You'll stress yourself out knowing that each day you don't hustle (low energy, sickness, days off, problems to take care off etc.) your income will stop completely.
7. Deadlines are for yesterday.
8. No time to think of the future since the present is too unpredictable and drains all your energy.
9. Huge competition.

My advice, aim for one or two big clients that give you work constantly. You'll have a constant flow on money that make it easier to add routine and discipline in your life, and you can make plans for investments. Your sanity will thank you for it.

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 03:17 PM

[permanently deleted]

aDrunkenWhaler • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 03:42 PM

I'm not gonna turn this into a debate. Each with his own experiences. Only 2 points

1. I would rather have one or two big reliable clients and forget freelance sites even exist. Too much time wasted, uncertainty and stress involved. I did it both for a long time and it's not even a comparison for me.
2. Regarding \$100 for 15min of work. Sorry, but reading and understanding the brief will probably take more than that. Add the actual work, emails and communication before and afterwards, feedback etc and most likely you'll end up with 1h realistically. And that \$100 is probably \$90 after the site takes it's share, and \$80-85 after money transfer fees and conversions and less than \$70 if you pay your taxes.

But if it works for you, great. Good luck with it.

RedPillDad • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 02:54 PM

Create an offering ladder, so those entry point clients can evolve into premium ones. Similar to plates, investing more time only in those who have proven worthy. And similarly, you want to position yourself as the prize.

aDrunkenWhaler • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 03:18 PM



This could work, but unless you are a novice I see no reason to start small and chew yourself up from the bottom of the food chain. Get bigger clients, and if the dynamic is good, continue. If not, next them. No reason to start with fat ass HB5 in the hopes she'll hit the gym and wear good makeup and elevate herself to a HB8.

RedPillDad • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 03:44 PM

Haha. True for cooch. In a biz, the novice needs to get his dick wet somehow. He's in the testing-learning phase, and limiting himself to fewer clients can stunt his growth. And to continue the seduction comparison, chasing client money is like chasing a HB and giving her all the power. The main priority is to grow an entrepreneurial mindset, not just make a quick buck.

Like you said, once you're better, no need to go after small fish.

aDrunkenWhaler • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 03:58 PM

Agreed. Giving your time for money is a shitty exchange and a lousy way to make a living. Better to aim for automation and have your business run without your presence.

steelerfaninperu • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 07:01 PM

Small tasks won't help build a relationship with a client. He'll give you a task now, then hire someone else, and you're back to the drawing board.

This is not always true. I did some writing work for a work-for-bitcoin post I found on Reddit, that evolved into steady work and consistent earnings.

If you do really good work, people will keep you around. They might try someone else and then regret it, in which case you have leverage and can raise your rates.

MoneyStatusLooks • 1 points • 29 February, 2016 12:11 AM **[recovered]**

I agree. BUT not meaning to counteract your point, I know someone who makes a few grand on Fiverr and other micro gig websites. He started doing them himself, and now has a team of people doing stuff him in 3rd world countries.

So he had guys in India and pakistan carrying out the work, he gets paid \$4 or \$5 for it, pays the outsourcer \$1 or less, then he takes the profit for running the show. Some people run some fairly profitable companies doing stuff like that. It's not my style and with such small sums it seems like it's not infinitely scalable, but you would be surprised how much some people can making doing small gigs for small amounts of money.

I know some other people who build backlinks for websites with automated programs, so its just a matter of sticking the details in and running the programs to complete the tasks. I think that industry is dying though now because people realise that it more or less doesn't work.

I dont know if thats helpful, but just my thoughts on such topic.

aDrunkenWhaler • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 09:45 AM

Congrats to your friend. Having employees to do the work for you is ideal and that is what everyone should aim for. That is a businees, and that is what gets you time and money. Giving your time in exchange for money is a poor man's way and an ilussion of getting wealth, no matter how much you earn.

Momo\_dollar • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:34 AM

The one who needs the other more in a relationship is the one with the LEAST power.

AFPJ • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:37 PM\*

*TL;DR for sanity, leverage is more important than money; hard to have that when you're in someone's pocket.*

aim for one or two big clients that give you work constantly

Realistically, if independence / stability is a goal (which, for a lot of us it is - let me tell you, there's no such thing as a price high enough to put on the ability to say "fuck off" to whoever you want, whenever you want) then you should be very worried if over 30% of your income is coming from a single source. It's an important distinction. Even if you have your own business, when 50-80% of your income is coming from a single source, they effectively own you & your life.

At that point you might as well go get a salaried job and stop bullshitting yourself. Alas I digress, outside of this every point this guy brought up in favor of bigger jobs over smaller ones is spot on - it's always better to go bigger because you go from competing on price to competing on service - an infinitely more nebulous (ergo favorable to us) metric.

Business is relationships, stripped to their true bare-bones of mercantilism and transactional nature. If you have two clients who each pay you 50% of your lot, they own you. If you have 5-8 clients who each pay you 12-20% but they are dependent on you, you own them - and all you need to do from there is not abuse that (too much) to form lasting business partnerships. The extra effort in getting the same money from 5-8 places as opposed to 1 or 2 is always, always worth it - it's the ultimate form of premium-free, pay it forward insurance for when shit starts going downhill.

ToSeeAndToHear • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 10:00 AM

I think a lot of what you're talking about can be abstracted well to other fields. Do good work through an efficient and repeatable process, build skills and accumulate templates to save time on tasks you're doing over and over, and lots of general business/dealing with clients suggestions.

Thanks much.

Essexal • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 10:03 AM

Worked in various aspects of finance until 2013, discovered Bitcoin.

Now work my own hours trading what I mine.

[deleted] 29 February, 2016 05:18 AM

[permanently deleted]

Essexal • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:33 AM

I've been thinking of setting up a Bitcoin Consultancy but can't see it taking off. There are better versed people in this space than I.

It also has to be said the gold rush in Bitcoin mining was over in 2011, unless you make a substantial investment you're mining gold with a shovel while the big boys use land movers.

AUAUA • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 04:41 AM

The most grizzled bitcoin veteran will tell you to buy and hold.

sexmachine90004 points 28 February, 2016 04:27 AM [recovered]

Rentacoder

How is it better than freelancer.com? When I was in college, I coded for a few people in freelancer.com

IamGale • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 02:47 PM

Is this your full time job now or simply a side gig?

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:20 PM

i do html/css and a little js, in addition to 3d animation and adobe cs.

i've thought about getting into the backend stuff. is php still popular enough where i should learn it?

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 06:30 PM

[permanently deleted]

G4RRETT • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 07:54 PM

I learned C++ and a currently taking a class and learning SQL. Is this a good start? Any recommendations on learning how to put it all together for practical use? Really looking for a guide on how to put my knowledge to use to become a freelance designer. Books, websites, things like that. Thank you SO much.

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 09:23 PM

[permanently deleted]

G4RRETT • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:53 PM

Thank you! The zen philosophies applied to programming/design is very interesting, I have never heard of it before.

As I sit here wallowing in my SQL assignments, I can't help but be confused about the differences and interactions between SQL, PHP, HTML, CSS, and various programming languages. If this is too elementary for you to explain then thank you for answering my previous question, cheers for being so helpful!

verdantsound • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:01 PM

How many hours do you invest in this per year and how much money do people typically make?

submitted\_5\_days\_ago15 points 28 February, 2016 11:10 AM\* [recovered]

Occupation: Companies owner.

Started with nothing. Months before starting friended some guy who later told me he got a small idea for something. I propose let's do it and we start to work on it. (It was not much the small idea per se, but rather the possibility of growth that the industry offered.)

We had programming skills, I did much of the work initially. The other guy was the typical guy with the mindset of "I have the ideas, others will just implement it." Doesn't quite work like that, but it can be advantageous to let people think something is true.

I knew nothing on the industry so started to read a bunch of books for the main purpose to improve the initial idea, and of course to be more overall valuable.

Cutting short we worked for some months and I objectively brought improvements on the product ('objectively'

evaluated through A/B tests and some raw QA processes).

At some point it was just obvious it couldn't be a two persons work (one and a half perhaps, since he wasn't working as much as I did). We go out searching and I manage to convince a small group of people to work with (for) us promising future perks. They ended up working for us for more than a year before seeing a good amount of them.

Setting up the legal entity was on the road. The problem was, this guy didn't work as I like and I was better than him, but he still had something useful to me which was a good network. It went equal share equity. We didn't want external investments, all bootstrapping, and the people we found to work for us didn't know much about equity shares.

Cutting short again, we shipped the product with mediocre/good results, then shipped others in the subsequent months/years improving upon the previous ones. We grew slowly but steadily. It's not the most thrilling path, at the end it's your choice how you manage your growth.

What the other guy didn't expect was that while we were working on those products I was secretly working on a legal procedure that eventually made me the sole owner of that company.

The lesson is: you must always play for the long term, pushing others to pay attention to the frivolous and short term matters.

I am but no means an expert on business matters, I've still got a lot to learn and do.

As for now, what I've learned which comes to my mind in this moment is:

Always create value. People relate to you in function of how much you can be useful to them.

Own as much as you can. If you want money there must be your name on the papers as closely as possible to the greatest percentage of the pie.

Secrecy. Never show your cards. Better, show false cards on which opponents will calculate their moves.

Understand the principle of Give and Take (Credit and Debit). Understand that different people want different things; adapt yourself to them, deliver—the right amount—of what they crave and take yours. Most of the people are not out for the money, you will find very intelligent minds who will work their ass really hard all for the recognition.

On leadership: you must be objectively better than your subordinates. They must look up to you in a truly unconditioned way. You cannot demand respect. Punishment must be provided for undesirable behaviors.

Read a lot. As for that legal technique to take sole ownership. Saying like I said it here could seem I'm a greedy pig who wants everything for himself. But as I was reading about that Hegelian Dialectic I found out I can secretly stir others to attack me so I can subsequently justify my defense; my legal move was officially a defense, I saved the company from the bad guy.

Already said it, but I think that one of the most important things to acquire money is to understand what people really want. People's actions are driven by two motives which are just two sides of the same coin: they either act out of gaining something or they act out of the desire to decrease a state of uneasiness.

Know that you can control them by controlling the supply of the entities that can "improve their lives."

As for other practical advises: surround yourself with great consultants (lawyers, accountants, etc.), they will help you make your life easier.

IamGale • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 03:00 PM

Interesting write up. What industry is your business in? Software?

Entropy-7 • 14 points • 28 February, 2016 11:39 AM

I design board games. One of those was made into a video game and now I have a hundred bucks a month in

passive cash. So now I want to add a few more titles to my library. . If any of you here are talented artists or the like, then PM me.

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:25 AM

I've heard that manufacturing board games is very expensive due to lead testing, etc., with it costing up to \$30K just to get a prototype approved for sale in the U.S. Is your board game for sale in stores or online?

Entropy-7 • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 04:06 AM

There are places like <https://www.thegamecrafter.com/> where you can make prototypes and print-on-demand for basically zero start up costs.

Back in the day there was a big lead scare in the miniatures industry and the distributors in the USA would only carry pewter figures while Canada and the UK still went with white metal (basically, lead). If you are trying get into Wal-Mart or something then they might have hoops to jump through but as far as I know, there is no official approval process to simply manufacture and sell a board game.

The board game is defunct, although I am looking into licensing it out to re-release it. The computer version is available online at the App Store, Steam and the publisher's website.

<http://store.steampowered.com/app/312440/>

twy3440 • 13 points • 28 February, 2016 12:58 PM

**Day Occupation:** Litigation Attorney. Unlike a lot of attorneys who are miserable Fs, I love my job. But it's not anywhere near as lucrative as non-attorneys think. Of course, I could land the "big case" and wind up a millionaire but so far that's not happened.

**Side Job Money-Maker:** I day trade and longer-term trade commodities and financial futures. This is a pretty amazing way to make money. You use a brokerage account, you analyze specific commodities and you buy or sell depending on the direction.

The financial "experts" tell everyone to buy stocks. When stocks tank, they say "hold" stocks. They never say "sell and sell fast." Stocks can go to zero.

The laws of supply and demand do not apply to stocks. They do apply to futures on commodities as these represent tangible, real goods, raw materials, grain, currency, etc.

**Where Did I Acquire the Knowledge:** I've read a lot of books with perhaps the best one to start is "Trading Commodities and Financial Futures."

Also, read up on the so-called "Turtle Traders." Michael Covel's book "The Complete Turtle Trader" is a great read with good information.

You can read the original Turtle Trading Rules online, here:

Last but not least, I learned the most from this website, which tells you how to trade, what to buy, when, how to sell and there's a free 30-day trial: <http://takeatradeonline.com/>

scorned • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 04:36 PM

Been looking to get into commodities for quite a while, thanks for the info.

TheReindeerGuy • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:42 AM

What was the size and source of your starting funds?

I ask this because the turtle trading rules document states "For smaller accounts, the granularity of adjustment is too large, and this greatly reduces the effectiveness of diversification."

If you didn't start out with half a million dollars, how did you deal with this?

twy3440 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:39 PM

You don't need anything like that. You can trade 1,2,3 or 5-7 contracts. That can all be done for as little as \$4-6K or up to \$50,000.

I don't know the quote you're discussing there or the context. I do know that I made \$9K and \$12K in the last two months in long gold contracts. Next, I'll probably be shorting gold.

TheReindeerGuy • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 12:00 PM

In your original comment you refer to document with the turtle trading rules, very interesting read by the way.

You can read the original Turtle Trading Rules online, here:

The document is found here: <http://www.benvanvliet.net/Downloads/turtlerules.pdf>

My quote from page 15. Here the calculation for the amount of contracts is given. The granularity refers to the fact that you round the outcome down to the next whole number, so 16,3 becomes 16 and 1.6 becomes 1. Obviously when you turn 1.6 into 1 you are a lot further away from the intended investment than turning 16.3 into 16.

Thank you for your reply I am going to look further into this.

true\_detective\_sf90 points 28 February, 2016 05:08 AM\* **[recovered]**

**Occupation:** Startup CEO / Founder

I've founded 3 startups. I began the first one as a side project while I was working as an engineer for a large tech company.

I still own all three businesses. Two of them are self funded businesses, the third is venture capital backed and valued at about 75 million. My share of the profits from the lifestyle businesses is about \$1.5 million/year, and has been for 8 years. I've invested some money into SF startups and my share of those is worth about \$50 million (not liquid at all.)

My businesses are used by a combined 2 million people/month. Most of them find out about us by Google search.

I was an often-bullied nerd in high school and didn't lose my virginity until 21. Instead of meeting girls and partying I was programming on my computer. I used these skills to build the businesses and each business was an evolution from the previous idea.

I was raised by neglectful upper middle class parents, but they were intelligent scientists and I am (in my own estimation) very intelligent (1500 SATs), but had terrible grades and went to an average state university. I even failed a grade of high school.

I have worked incredibly hard for a long time. I've given up a lot, but I don't consider it a sacrifice. Working on my business brings me great joy and satisfaction, and has made me a far better person. My most rewarding friendships are with my cofounders and other founders in my city. LTRs are extremely hard for me, mostly because of my blue pill tendencies. I want to obsessively work on my business but I would give into the female desire for me to come home early / spend weekends with them, then become resentful and end it.

Tax strategy: If you incorporated in the USVI or Puerto Rico your federal tax burden will be reduced to 3.8% + dividends. Before Obama this was 3.5% + 15%. Now it's 3.8% + 20% + 3%.

\*side note: even with a \$50-100 million net worth on paper and being 6'1, having dozens of press about me and



my businesses, and in excellent shape, I still find it nearly impossible to get get laid. I have been working hard to implement TRP for 6 months, and I'm seeing early signs of progress, but I really only get strong interest after a girl sees the inside of my fancy penthouse condo.

My business advice is: become a master computer programmer and keep your eye out for really hard problems that you face in life. Use your technical skills to build the MVP of a product that solves one of them, then raise venture capital. The startup games is a bit of a high stakes lottery, but I have made all three of my ideas into something valuable.

PabloEscoba • 40 points • 28 February, 2016 05:48 AM

Work on your bad boy image. Start with reading No more Mr nice guy. Use your wealth to create status/social proof/pre selection. Use Tinder to start spinning some plates. Learn game. Move on to cold approaches via day game to get a better quality woman once your confidence levels are up.

true\_detective\_sf11 points 28 February, 2016 07:57 AM [recovered]

I've had trouble doing much with the wealth to create social proof, other than recently hiring a stylist to buy me better clothes and driving nice cars.

Can you give me some examples of how I would cultivate a bad boy image?

gosu\_link0 • 40 points • 28 February, 2016 08:49 AM

Donate to/sponsor causes promoted by celebrities. You will be invited to their parties as honored guests. Every man at those parties will be of extremely high social value just by virtue of being there. All the women will be hot.

true\_detective\_sf • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 10:23 PM [recovered]

That is a very interesting idea. I will research this. Thanks.

CHAD\_J\_THUNDERCOCK • 1 point • 5 April, 2016 11:31 AM

Look into joining private members clubs. Rich men and attractive women

PabloEscoba • 17 points • 28 February, 2016 09:21 AM

Watch the mannerisms of Collin Farrell, Don Draper & George Clooney. Pay attention to the leadership and confidence of Clooney in From Dusk till Dawn. Get a leather jacket. Speak less. Learn amused mastery. Be unpredictable. Stop caring.

ArtTheRussian[ ] • 12 points • 28 February, 2016 07:43 PM

Please god don't get a leather jacket, unless your a greaser in the 80s, that isn't apart of the style right now.

ChiefBigLeaf • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:28 PM

OP don't just blindly follow the suggestions of everyone on reddit, these are all merely ideas. Getting a leather jacket is a possibility only if choose to pay attention to and understand style and how a leather jacket might work with your build/features and be appropriate in certain situations. The important takeaway? Nothing is absolute, everything is nuanced.

TRPhd • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 03:28 AM

Motorcycle.

200-lb-vibrator. If you're near the coastal highway (is it Highway 1 to Monterey?) then all the better... make it a day trip to Big Sur.

[deleted] • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 10:47 AM

Hey man,

I read often stuff from TRP but i don't like how they phrase everything as if everyone on this subreddit is alpha male or whatever.

To be honest this is what works for me, all you gotta be is a guy who seems fun to hangout with. Post pictures in social media of stuff you do, skiing, basketball, cars, clothes, whatever.

Basically, just be the kind of guy that when you imagine yourself from a 3rd person view, you'd be like "Damn, that guy is super cool, i wanna hangout with him"

I'll edit my reply and add a bit more soon since i am busy.

Btw this is coming from a 19 year old who gets laid quiet often and i don't have a bad boy image because that's not me and i won't fake it. Just genuine, fun and interesting.

warjesus420 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 12:31 PM

I personally wouldn't say focus on cultivating something you just aren't like a "bad boy image." Now maybe I'm totally wrong since I kind used to skirt the law selling all sorts of drugs in college but I think the fun personality I had brought more people in. It varies for all though.

lakalahehe • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 02:38 AM

spinning

How do you deal with AIDS? Isn't that a deal breaker?

charlesbukowski • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 06:33 AM [recovered]

Question, how many years would you say CS mastery took you? I'm teaching myself through MIT OCW. How necessary would you say CS mastery is for the startup scene - I'm more of a generalist and my inclination is to learn enough to make a prototype then hire/partner with the right guy to flesh it out. Is that a recipe for disaster?

Re: TRP

You can become a master of social acuity and fast. Check out Owen Cook's *Blueprint Decoded*. Owen is an analytical guy and he dissects social dynamics in a way an engineer will understand. His videos are routinely posted here so I'm sure you'll recognize him. BPD is his magnum opus and before the seduction subreddit imploded it was the number one recommendation there.

true\_detective\_sf • 13 points • 28 February, 2016 07:25 AM [recovered]

In 1 year of study and practice, you can become good enough to build something like Tinder or Instagram -- not the ungodly scaling they deal with, but a good looking iOS app with a solid backend infrastructure that works. It probably took me 2-3 years to become really good, although I was never amazing. Once I started running the businesses my engineering skills declined.

If you have the right idea and the right charisma, you don't need the tech skills at all. But that's a much, much tougher path.

The most hard-to-find ingredients to a startup are the idea and the technical ability to get it built. If you can provide those yourself you have a huge, huge advantage. I agree with your approach, although I



would take it past prototype stage to working product.

I will research Owen Cook's Blueprint Decoded. Thank you for that tip.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:43 AM

If you have the right idea and the right charisma, you don't need the tech skills at all. But that's a much, much tougher path.

Come on Steve, everyone knows you worked Wozniak into the ground

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:22 PM

what language do you build an app like tinder in?

true\_detective\_sf2 points 28 February, 2016 09:47 PM **[recovered]**

You'll need a backend / API, which you can build using Ruby on Rails and Postgres as your db.

Your iOS app will be built in Swift / Objective-C.

Your Android app will be built in Java.

Your desktop app (which tinder doesn't really offer) can also be built in Ruby on Rails and javascript.

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:57 AM

In 1 year of study and practice, you can become good enough to build something like Tinder or Instagram

Haha, come on man. I'm an android developer and what you just told that guy was utter horseshit. Most people need well beyond one year to even comprehend CS fundamentals.

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:48 PM

People who are passionate about your idea and good at programming are usually the hardest to find

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:55 AM

What made you choose MIT ocw vs a programming language directly, Microsoft certs, or other online venue? How do you like it?

charlesbukowski5 points 28 February, 2016 07:04 AM **[recovered]**

Not sure what you mean here. Certifications of all kinds are a joke to me, from college degrees to accreditation. I'm in the game to learn. Sure in some industries you rely on accrediting boards, those also tend not to be the ones in which you can make a lot of money quickly.

I read books too. I'd say a good book is usually the best resource for anything (exceptions include those things that you can't learn from a book like singing). Even better than a good book is a good series of lectures/videos, which MIT has in spades. Usually the guy who wrote the textbook is teaching the course, you can't beat that.

I sometimes use EDX, Coursera, Stanford, Harvard, etc. when they have what I need. MIT is just the most thorough for CS so that's why I mentioned it.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 07:21 AM

Thanks for the reply. Haven't looked much at MIT's stuff yet but I'm going to check it out.

I was referring to learning a language or IT skill directly vs a comp sci degree plan. Microsoft, Cisco, Oracle all have certifications for various skills. There's so many options for learning, def makes sense why you'd choose MIT.

charlesbukowski8 points 28 February, 2016 08:38 AM\* **[recovered]**

Learning languages becomes trivial past a certain point, it's something you'd learn just by taking a course on a subject you're interested in e.g. you might learn R while taking a course on statistics. Early on you're going for a strong conceptual framework. If you're serious the two courses I'd recommend to start are Harvard's CS50 and MIT's Intro to CS w/ Python. If you want to understand how computers work from first principles the book everyone recommends is CODE, it's conversational and simple enough for a middle school student.

dr\_warlock[S] • 9 points • 28 February, 2016 05:17 AM

Fucking awesome.

What kinds of problems did your businesses solve?

true\_detective\_sf14 points 28 February, 2016 07:33 AM **[recovered]**

Building software to take on enormous but broken and mostly offline industries. Sorry I can't be more specific but combined with the above information, I could end up revealing myself.

dr\_warlock[S] • 19 points • 28 February, 2016 01:08 PM

Dont fall into the pressure of proving your identity to anybody here, not even the mods. You provided your story, that's all you need.

sharp7 • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 08:13 PM

If I was you I would literally just hire a wingman. Some attractive commanding guy who obeys your every wish. Someone who knows how to be attractive and also how to be submissive to you to give you massive social proof. The hotter the guy who's obeying you, the hotter you are.

It's probably not that expensive since you can hire them per-hour for whenever your going out although I don't know how you would find them. All I know is that I've done this for my guy friends before, and it works.

true\_detective\_sf3 points 28 February, 2016 10:22 PM **[recovered]**

I will do this if I can find one.

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:31 AM

Contact Dante Nero, the comedian. He has a podcast about all of this stuff, and he does email consults for a reasonable fee. The email is save me dante at gmail dot com. Can't hurt, right?

He used to be a stripper and pimp, so he's got some ideas about how to game both normal and "extreme" women. He's also pretty fuckin' funny.

dr\_warlock[S] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 09:20 AM

You're a millionaire. Go into monk mode. Build a backyard gym so that it's well ventilated. Hire a coach. Bust ass. Then hire a sexy maid to make all your lifting meals and clean the dishes.

[deleted] • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 05:39 AM

Can you recommend some ways for someone new to learn and get into programming? There's so much information available, where do you think is a good place to begin?

Rougepellet • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 07:40 AM

For complete beginners check out solo learn apps in the app store such as learn Java. They have a couple

BendAndSnap • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 01:07 AM

Which one is good for say I want to get into e-commerce and websites and make sure I have a solid base to know how website is running and know what to look up to fix unknown problems (i.e. Asking the right question in Google)

dongpal • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 11:23 AM

isnt learning programming as a beginner nowadays dumb because of all the cheap india/asia workers and because there are many coders out there already?

true\_detective\_sf3 points 28 February, 2016 10:06 PM **[recovered]**

Absolutely not. There is software being built for all 7 billion people on earth who will soon have pocket computers (android phones) that need apps. There is so much more demand than supply for good engineers that it isn't even funny.

Becoming a good programmer is a guaranteed way to make > 100k/year.

dongpal • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 08:04 AM

do you have to be good in math?

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:46 PM

To be hired by the top 4 in software engineering, yes, very good. For web dev a lot less.

warjesus420 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 12:27 PM

Dude I would love to have the advantage you have with that money! Just recognize that you depend on no one but yourself and you can have anything that you desire at that moment

spiralings • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 02:21 PM

when people say "work really hard" or "I worked really hard" I'm not quite sure what that means...

I mean, I'll sit down...ready to do work...and not know where to begin. Maybe focus is my issue?

I've been reading a lot and what to rock my life, but never know where to begin

\_lock\_down\_ • 1 points • 28 February, 2016 06:17 PM **[recovered]**

It starts with interests. What interests you? What is something that you're interested in enough to put effort into?

A few years ago I realised I had a big interest in computers. The hardware was easy for me to work with but I didn't know enough about software. So I decided to delve deeper into it. I had heard that Linux was the tech minded OS of choice so I flashed Ubuntu on my laptop.

After becoming familiar with using it on a daily basis I figured I wanted to get into programming. A quick Google search pointed me to python so I started practising that language.

But then I had a problem. I could use Linux proficiently and had a basic understanding of python but what could/should I use it for? This question plagued me for a few months.

Fortunately I was introduced into the world of penetration testing by a friend. It gave me a direction to focus my effort towards. I realised it was a world I was extremely interested in and wanted to put all of my efforts towards it. And luckily for me the skills I had developed and my interest in that world are in high demand.

This is just one example of how an interest in something can be used to your advantage. Figure out what interests you. Even if the picture isn't clear now, take the time to better yourself and fine tune that skillset. You never know if it'll turn into a career opportunity.

And don't think that you have to go to school or pay for the knowledge. Everything I learned and did was on my own time while working a 12 hour/day job.

spiralings • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 08:32 PM

I have a great interest in computers/tech/programming/gaming... but really having a hard time fine tuning it.

I have realized it is unreasonable to learn everything.

I am going to some college classes right now for computer science and networking and such.

it costs me up front, but my job will reimburse me a good amount per year so long as I pass the classes.

The one thing I run into is there is *always* more work to do. I could always take one more step. I look ahead and see that even if I keep taking steps I get overwhelmed by how far there is to go

I keep plugging along. TRP is very motivating in life, way beyond human relationships  
thanks for your reply

uptowner271 points 28 February, 2016 04:17 PM **[recovered]**

This is interesting to read. I'm at the other end of the scale (not broke at all but not balling) and get laid a ton. It always makes me wonder when I see guys like you lonely at a bar or with a girl who's clearly in to you for the money. How do you not see the signs, the mannerisms, the way you hold yourself?

Honestly stumbled here by chance from another subreddit. Don't buy too much into this whole women red pill stuff. I grew up with two beautiful sisters, have an amazing girl I'm dating now (car industry executive who herself is wealthy) and a slew of beautiful girls who hang with me. I'm also 5'7 and 135 lbs so nothing in shape. The secret? There is none! Be someone fun, outgoing who always has something to say. Someone people (not just girls) want to hang out with. The rest will come natural!

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:06 PM

Let me know the next time you're in Denver. I'll wing for you.

eccentricrealist • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:33 PM

1500 GPA is intelligent? I got 1800 and I have a GPA of 3.0, I didn't think I should even apply. I'm not asking sarcastically, it's a genuine question, I want to see if a transfer to the States is plausible.

asm8426 • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 07:10 PM

He's talking about the old scale, out of 1600.

eccentricrealist • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:29 PM

God damn that's impressive

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 05:35 AM

dude, SAT is not that hard

eccentricrealist • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 05:46 AM

No, it's not, and I got an 1800 without studying, but I still think that's a good grade.

Moldy\_Gecko • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:24 AM

Research "Game" and some PUA stuff. You'll get laid. Considering how high the rest of your SMV is, getting better with game is probably all you need.

[deleted] 23 March, 2016 02:34 PM

[permanently deleted]

Fred\_Flintstone • 1 point • 7 April, 2016 01:51 PM

My business advice is: become a master computer programmer and keep your eye out for really hard problems that you face in life. Use your technical skills to build the MVP of a product that solves one of them, then raise venture capital. The startup games is a bit of a high stakes lottery, but I have made all three of my ideas into something valuable.

Great advice. Thanks!

How important was your experience as an engineer at big tech company, compared to working for a startup initially? Did you leverage those contacts / use the brand name for VC funding much?

Also: any tips on finding hard problems you face in life?

Trucks\_N\_Chainsaws • 15 points • 28 February, 2016 06:05 PM

Occupation: Electric utility stuff.

I pull about \$170k a year. All my bills and savings are collected from one check. The second check is for whatever I want. Managed to save up ~\$200k in my 401k. Took a loan from it in early December, before everything started shitting the bed, and went after two (low end) rental buildings.

Total units: 13.

Gross revenue: \$5200/month

Net revenue: \$2000/month

I'm still in the process of making the purchase but it should all be complete in <30 days. I found a property management company willing to handle my units for 6%, which is more than reasonable.

But that's it really - rental property. Am I slumlord? Yeah. Poor people need to live somewhere too. The goal here is to build enough monthly income to stop working for my employer.

But wait - there's more!

Once I have a few buildings under my belt, and get a feel for what's required, I plan on branching out with investors. Right now I'm projected to make ~60% cash-on-cash. Shouldn't be too hard to wrangle up \$50k for additional buildings with numbers like that.

The 5-year plan is to have 100 units under management that generate a solid \$100 net revenue each.

I came from almost nothing. Even if this real estate venture fails, I'm still making more than I ever thought I would. I regret nothing.

redpillerrr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:19 PM

how much did each unit cost? did you self finance or get loan?

Trucks\_N\_Chainsaws • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:34 PM

Two buildings: \$90k each = \$180k / 13 total units = \$13,846 per unit.

I finance everything I possibly can with a low interest rate. I got the loan for 5% with 25% down.

If you checkout the finance based subreddits, all you'll see is people talking about paying off debt.

Sometimes that's the right move; most of the time it's not. They talk about "peace of mind" of being debt-free and I'm sitting here telling you that carrying cheap debt is fine.

Back to the point, multi-family homes are cheaper per unit but I'm also looking at two single family homes for ~\$45,000 each. On a 20-year loan at 5% (and the min req of 25% down), that will cost me about \$223/month. The units rent for \$900 each.

Let's say the unit actually costs me \$500 a month for maintenance and whatever the fuck else. I will net \$400/month or \$4800 annually. That's \$4800 a year that cost me \$11,250 up front. That's 42% cash-on-cash.

Worse case scenario - the unit is empty and I have to pay \$223 out of pocket. I spend more than that on convenience store coffee and sandwiches.

redpillerrr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:47 PM

a building at 90k each!? I'm going to guess you aren't in a major north american city! Sounds like you're in a great place and making the right moves

Trucks\_N\_Chainsaws • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 09:50 PM

Just outside a major North American city... where the poor people live.

Moldy\_Gecko • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 04:41 AM

And poor people are paying \$900/month? I'm not poor, but I would barely be able to afford \$900/month, especially not in a major city. I mean, you can get places around \$400/month in Tokyo.

BendAndSnap • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:53 PM

Are these people on section 8?

Agent you worried about the place getting damaged, crime, theft, drugs etc?

ampwyo • 39 points • 28 February, 2016 06:46 AM

Occupation : ESL/Kindergarten Teacher in Asia

TLDR: I teach kids, travel, and enjoy an interesting social life. Came for the experience, stayed for the life style, but now what?

I'm basically just an expat doing what most expats do to pay the bills. I've lived in Taiwan almost 4 years and was in Korea for 3 before that. My salary is roughly 2000 usd per month which isn't much back home, but in Taiwan it affords me a pretty good life style. My rent is about 300 bucks for an apartment in a central location in pretty big city. Food and services are cheap- if I really wanted too I could save more than half my pay. I like having a social life so that would be a rare month.

I only really work 5 hours a day (9 - 4 with 2 hours for lunch - I leave when the the kids have lunch and nap). I also pick up some side work. I can get 20 to 25 bucks an hour for private lessons or subbing esl in the evening.

I've pulled an extra 600 - 700 bucks some months. I actually like teaching the 4 - 6 year old age group, back in the states I wouldn't feel comfortable doing so, as someone would probably call the police if they saw me watching them on the playground. Which is unfortunate because kids need more male authority figures and role models.

Taiwan is a good home base for travel in East and south east Asia. Tickets to the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam etc can be had for 100 to 200 bucks if you travel smart.

My friends come from all over the world; Brits, Aussies, Kiwis, Saffers etc. are usually doing what I'm doing, other Europeans tend to be engineers or restaurant owners. I enjoy the mix of nationalities in the expat community here. I also like asian women, its a win win.

On the otherhand, I'm 33 and I should be looking for ways to make my financial future more secure. Its a deceptively easy lifestyle. Real easy to stay right where I am with everything I need, harder to get ahead. There's probably opportunities to source parts or merchandise from factories in Taiwan and China for businesses in other parts of the world, for example, but it will definitely take some work, and connections, to get there.

[deleted] • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 07:01 AM

How did this all begin? How did you start?

Do you speak the native language? Have you had issues if not?

ampwyo • 13 points • 28 February, 2016 07:38 AM

A buddy of mine from university went to Korea, suggested I try it out. He helped me find my first job, but its easy enough to find teaching work without any connections.

Basically you need to have a 4 year degree in any discipline from an accredited college or university and that's about it (There are better jobs for licenced teachers). Other visa requirements vary from country to country.

You don't need to know local languages to teach, as there is often a local co-teacher making half your pay for twice as much work either helping you in the classroom or teaching their own classes while you rotate through. Learning the local language opens a lot of doors socially and professionally though.

Its easy enough to get around and survive without knowing the language, English is everywhere. Plates will always help you translate, and locals like making foreign friends. It can definitely be frustrating, but the rise of the smartphone has definitely helped as well. When I first got out here I had to point and grunt at the menus, sometimes didn't even know what I was ordering, now i can take a picture and run it through Google translate If i don't understand.

nuferasgurd • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 04:34 AM [recovered]

I would love to teach overseas somewhere. Can you recommend any companies that connect teachers with schools?

ampwyo • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 06:32 AM

The best place to look at job listings to get an idea of what's out there is probably <http://www.eslcafe.com/jobs/>

However, Facebook may be the way to go these days. Research countries or cities you might like to live in and there will probably be an english teachers group where schools post their openings directly and expats exchange information.

In most cases I'd recommend not using a recruitment or placement agency unless you absolutely have to. It's always better to deal with schools directly. There are a lot of shady employers in the



industry and when a school gets a bad reputation they'll hide behind recruiters to find teachers. The recruiters are paid by schools so they don't really care about the reputation of the schools. There are definitely some good placement agencies out there, I've heard Teach Away isn't bad, but I've never used them.

If you do use an agency never give them money, they get paid by the school, and also make sure you get paid your salary by the school directly. Some recruiters will get your pay from the school and take a cut before paying you.

You can find pros and cons for different countries on your own, but I will say if I wasn't so close to permanent residence in Taiwan I'd seriously be considering Vietnam. Ho Chi Minh is my favorite city in Asia and the salary vs the cost of living is quite decent. I'd also be looking at Myanmar, as it's just opening up more to foreigners in the last few years so there's probably going to be some interesting opportunities, and stories, to be had there in the next few years.

RPRedhead • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 09:16 PM

I could/could have done this. I could have gone to China right out of college, an opportunity was waiting for me.

I decided not to do that. Let me explain my thinking about this, and how I think something like this could be leveraged.

After college, I looked at what I saw as 2 options: go teach ESL or get a "real" job and pay off my student debt and get on with life. Teaching seemed like a chance to travel and have fun (getting laid), the "real" job seemed like the responsible path forward.

What I *should* have done was to go to China, learn Chinese and look for business/trade opportunities. Seeing as this was well before China's economic rise, I might have become filthy stinking rich if I had played my cards right.

I sense that you see things in a similar light. I suggest re-evaluating what you can do in Taiwan. Opportunities abound, I'm sure. Perhaps you can start your own ESL school, or look to source parts as you mention.

My point is that every endeavor can be a chance to do more than is presented. That job in Asia can be a springboard to success in trade. That vacation to see your relative can be a chance to check out opportunities in your industry. And so on. Similar to ABC. (Always Be Closing), always be looking for opportunity.

Moldy\_Gecko • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 04:31 AM\*

Haha, I was right there with you man. I'm just a hop to your east (Hint: We typically share the same typhoons). I'll be 33 this year and I can agree with a lot of what you say. I did the ESL thing as my first job here, but have moved on. Decent money, hot women, and easy to travel around. Highly recommend for younger guys.

Also, I want to give you a suggestion as it's what I do here. My ex wife and I decided to start our own business teaching Japanese to Americans. I just run the business side while she does the HR and curriculum side. We are "tutors", so we avoid those licenses and what not. Thing is, you can hire part time people (working 1-6 hrs a week) and just take a cut. I pay my teachers about ¥1200/hr and I charge about \$20-25/hr. Perhaps there is a way you could do this with someone you trust in Taiwan. Once my company is bigger, I'll be able to do group classes and rapidly expand.

ampwyo • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 05:33 AM



Unfortunately my work permit and arc is still tied to my school, but in another year and a half I can get permanent residence and an open work permit which will open up options like that.

Moldy\_Gecko • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:59 AM

Well, good luck. I have my permanent residency out here as well. My old visa was tied to my ex wife though. You stayed smart finding an alternative way.

Mgtowredpillonroids • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 09:59 PM

Been there. Taiwanese food is so fucking cheap. I ate like a motherfucker over there haha. □□□□□□□□□□

[deleted] • 12 points • 28 February, 2016 11:09 AM

I work as a programmer in finance in London.

**Positives:** I earn *a lot* for my age. And probably will for the rest of my life. My risk is *very* low - I can fail in so many ways and still end up in a good corporate job earning amazing money (the only exception is, you can't work in finance with a criminal record).

**Negatives:** No risk, no gain. My downsides are extremely limited, but so are my upsides. I don't have a lot of insight into salaries and bonuses for people years ahead of me, but I'm guessing they probably earn at most 3x what I'm earning, 20 years down the line. Combine that with London property prices, and it basically means you can't raise a family in Central London.

To earn more, I'll need to take on more risk. Trading / sales (i.e. bring in money for your employer) or start my own business.

IamGale • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 02:55 PM

What kind of programming do you do?

How did you get the position?

What kind of risks would you need to take on to earn more?

[deleted] • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 03:27 PM

Backend. I program mainly in Python, some Java, but learning a new language wouldn't be a problem for me (also I'm very interested programming, languages and software in general). I know about Linux and bash, SQL and different databases, a bit of networking, concurrency... I'd say pretty standard CS knowledge. The specific work I do is pretty business-specific, like most programming work.

I had "good" education (a reputable university - although I learned programming on my own), and was contacted by recruiters soon after setting up my LinkedIn profile. In general, I would suggest adding some programming skills to your profile and setting your location to London, and maybe add some recruiters yourself... It's an incestuous industry, so once one recruiter adds you, many others will. To get a job, interview well, Know the standard interviewing techniques (you can PM me for example questions).

As I wrote above. As a programmer, you're a cost center. You can jump up by switching jobs, but it's still just incremental progress. Ideally, I'll find a business idea where I can create the same amount of value I do every day for my employer, but capture all the profit myself.

Easih • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:37 PM

I also work in finance(bank) and its true for the back office jobs that you are a cost center, its much

less true for people closer to the money(Front office) and the dev working making the trading algorithmn/implementation; other type of job in programming pay pitance in comparaisn.

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:00 PM

Absolutely, programming in finance pays of *much* better than most other industries (to my knowledge - I don't have a very good insight into other people's pay). At least in London, I imagine it could be different e.g. in the US, where the startup scene is much more developed.

Easih • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 11:08 PM

It's pretty interesting to hear people like you(and other I hear on reddit) easily get recruiters via LinkedIn in US/London but here in Canada even with two degree(CS and Finance) with top grade and the fact I work for a bank currently; im having nothing like that on LinkedIn; Guessing its because the Finance market in Canada is a joke(which it is).

Comeonyoudiots • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 07:29 PM

Great post. How is it possible that youre making a lot of money for your age but yet 3x that can't support a family in central London? I would imagine youre clearing 100k pounds, so you're saying you can't live in London on 300k pounds (\$500k USD ish)? I know London is expensive but it's it really that bad?

mrust • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:26 PM

Not OP, but I am in the same industry with a bit more experience. With that skill set, I'd put the OP at 60k.. He sounds young and has likely been at it for less than 3 years. Your numbers are not that far off though. London real estate is still crazy. Keep in mind above 100k or so you start getting into the 50% tax bracket. So yeah, slash your numbers in half.

No one with a family lives in London long in this industry. It just doesn't make sense. You can get double or triple the space while only adding about 10 minutes to your commute if you live outside of London (fast trains into the city centre). Keep in mind nice properties go for about £1000/ sq ft

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:09 PM

You're right, I should change "can't" to "won't". It turns out that you can even get 3-bedroom apartments in zone 1 for under £1M (at least based on an online search - they probably aren't the most modern), and £300k is £160k post-tax, so you should be able to save at least £100k per year (providing a good lifestyle for couple, or probably an OK lifestyle for a couple with young kids) and pay off/save for the apartment in 10 years. Now if I only didn't need to first work for another 10 as a wage slave to get there...

[deleted] • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 08:07 AM

Are you a quant? I've got degrees in engineering and mathematics. Starting to learn program on my own and revising all my old coursework.

Any tips on how to contact people in the industry?

[deleted] • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:58 PM

Nope, a programmer. Learn how to program, study stats, linear algebra, basic of machine learning.

Contact to learn more or to get a job? The first, I don't really know, I've never been good at networking (typical geek). The second, I've had luck with recruiters on LinkedIn so far - as I've written in another comment, they should contact you when you update your profile to include the right skills, or if you're from an appropriate university/course. You can also search for agencies and add the recruiters yourself,

although I don't know which ones would be the best for a quant.

Or apply yourself, you can definitely try the big banks or some well-known quant hedge funds in London (a quick Google search brings up "London's big four – Man Group, Winton Capital, BlueCrest and Aspect" and also some job pages with further hedge fund names and recruiting agencies).

[deleted] • 9 points • 28 February, 2016 05:51 PM\*

**Occupation:** Senior Data Engineer. Job responsibilities include using Oracle-stack applications (Informatica, Toad, versioning and change management softwares) to ensure proper data flow for a large financial firm.

**How did you start out?** I grew up in rural Colorado with lazy and poor parents. They divorced when I was 8, and my mom spent the next 10 years between crappy jobs and cancer treatments. My dad was in and out, mostly because he wanted to spend time with me but couldn't stand my mother. We lived in Government Assistance housing for ~12 years, and received Food Stamps, AFDC (TANF of the '90s), and a few other government benefits. We went to food banks once a week, got vouchers for things like eyeglasses and car gas, and just generally mooched off of society for most of my pre-teen years. Of course, my mom and dad both smoked 1-2 packs a day, and there were always donuts for breakfast and Pepsi's in the fridge. Later on in my childhood, my mother was one of the "working moms" Bill Clinton worked so hard to create - she was a professional student for 2 years, with the end game being an Associate's Degree in Accounting and a subsequent \$10 an hour job. She got vaccinated to take the job, and claimed allergic reaction to the immunization, absorbing more money from Disability and later settling a lawsuit against the medical insurance company of her employer for her "pain" due to Fibromyalgia.

I worked a part-time job pushing carts and a full-time job answering phones at a call center at the same time I was a senior in High School, and I graduated High School shortly after all of the immunization lawsuit stuff (2.7 GPA at a charter school), I took about a year off from college, and then kept working a full-time job as a cell phone salesman while I plugged away at Junior Colleges for the better part of three years to finish my first two years of Undergrad.

**Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?** I began my career as a Workforce Analyst for a major flight retailer, then transitioned into Business Analysis and, later, Database Development. I took Robert Kiyosaki's "find the one skill you need to double your income" advice to heart, and for the better part of 6 years, I bought every single book I ever needed on Amazon.com. Using books and spare time, I taught myself Microsoft Office (Excel and Access particularly), ANSI SQL, and all of the necessary organizational knowledge (Kimball DW methodology, Agile / Waterfall SDLC concepts, etc). I also made good use of student discounts to pick up cheap, legal versions of Microsoft Office, Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio, and a few other components that helped me hone my skills. I built a database with baseball data and used my knowledge of advanced baseball statistics to teach myself everything at a conceptual level.

**What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?** The most important takeaway from my life is that ***FORTY HOURS A WEEK IS NOT ENOUGH IN 2016 AMERICA***. I grew up poor, and had to work 60, 70, 80 hours a week at a full-time job, night school or online classes, and self-taught software / coding / scripting skills. While my friends were goofing off in college, wasting their 80k on worthless degrees and generally being dumb, I was in my homemade lab learning how to query. While my buddies were out at bars hitting on chicks, I was studying for certifications. While my buddies were getting married to the first pretty girl that winked at them, I was learning Python. If you come from wealth or means, your parents can probably float you the money you need to only have to work 40 hours a week. If not, ***you'll have to do what I did: work 40 hours a week to support yourself and then find another 40 hours a week to do the same amount of learning as everyone else.***

**What strategy did you implement?** To offer a baseball metaphor, there are two strategies towards building a

World Series-caliber team. You can either tank for a few years and start to build a dominant farm system that you can then use to get talented players at the Major League level (think about the Cubs this year), or you can take a roster, and just start replacing your worst player over and over until your team is really good (think about the Detroit Tigers of the early 2010's). Both strategies work, but some teams don't have the luxury of tanking for a few years, so they just need to fix their biggest weakness and then move on to addressing their next biggest. To me, this is very similar to how you get a \$100k+ career - either you go completely into the tank for 4-6 years, borrow a shit ton of money for college, intern for a good company and get into a good job when you get out, or you take what you already know, add a skill, add another skill, add a third skill, and move up the ladder every time you learn something else. Both paths work if you do them right, but my strategy was definitely the latter and not the former.

**Where do you look for customers?** I live in a major market with less than 3% unemployment in the tech center. I haven't posted a resume online in 4 months and I still get 5-10 calls a week offering me jobs. When you're good enough, they come to you.

**Are you married? Do you have a family?** I got married a little more than a year ago to a TRP woman 6 years younger than me. She knows that the most important thing in my life is my career, so she willingly takes a backseat and doesn't give me any shit. She currently works as a nanny and does all the cooking and cleaning while I finish my Master's Degree and take the next step in my career (likely to be Machine Learning). We don't have kids yet, and we'll likely wait a few more years until the house is paid off and I've doubled my income twice more before we consider children.

**How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?** I've been on this career path for a little more than 6 years. I enjoy the quick upward mobility and the daily focus on learning how to do new things. The pay is also quite good, and it sure as hell beats dealing with idiot customers or social justice coworkers like I've done at other jobs.

**Comments** 95% of people in this country live two paychecks in advance. Be the 1 in 20 who doesn't. Either completely tank for a few years to turn your life around, or fix your holes one at a time until you're worth 100k+. Don't rely on worthless idiot politicians to fix things for you, and don't wait for the right opportunities to find you - identify what you need to work on and do it on your own time.

Side note: I am legally required to disclose that, although I am employed by a large financial institution, I am not a Professional Financial Advisor, and that all of the following advice is generalized and descriptive of a simple overall investment strategy, rather than being an advocacy for any particular type or form of investment.

**ALWAYS PAY YOURSELF FIRST.** Learn to save 10% of your income in a bank account that you don't even consider touching. Take all possible free 401k match from any employer who offers it. Once you've got enough money saved to cover all of your bills for 6 months, begin moving money into less liquid, higher-yielding investments. **DO NOT SPEND MONEY AS FAST AS YOU EARN IT.** Establish a standard of living and do not change it, no matter what happens to your income. Read Robert Kiyosaki's writings and learn the difference between assets and liabilities, and only invest your money into assets. **A HOUSE THAT YOU LIVE IN IS NOT AN ASSET.** I fully and whole-heartedly recommend meeting with a Professional Financial Advisor who can give you much more specific and detailed information that is tailored to your individual situation.

redpillerrr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:22 PM

is the masters in machine learning? how much did that set you back? i'm assuming you do night school for it, how does going to a night school type school affect your job prospects vs top tier only during the day?

abdada • 35 points • 28 February, 2016 03:27 AM

**Occupation** Business consultant

I've been working on a fluctuating real time pricing rate for almost 10 years.

My clients book me on my calendar and see the rate for any time frame, which fluctuates based on demand.

Last week I worked for \$280/hour emergency rate one morning and later that day took a \$12/hour rate for the last 3 hours because I was nearby and the client said he didn't care what day I came in.

Works great.

I also don't take weekends or holidays -- instead of 140 days off a year in 2-3 day runs every week, I take 20-28 vacations a year totalling 140 days in 5-7 day runs.

dr\_warlock[S] • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 04:05 AM

How does one become a business consultant? What kind of things do you consult on?

abdada • 10 points • 28 February, 2016 04:09 AM\*

One and two man startups are my pride and joy but my main income for the past 20 years was/is B2B integration on new hospital projects.

Starting next year I hope to double the first category and halve the latter, if this go well this year. I want out of the medical market before I'm 50, and the future of this economy is more small businesses again.

**edit** How does one become one? Intern under one. I had two mentors from 16-19 and I came into my own by 21. Busted my ass for 4 years for shit pay absorbing everything I could because I had the opportunity.

dr\_warlock[S] • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 04:44 AM

What makes a 16 year old seek mentorship in business consultancy? What topics did you cover? (ie marketing strategy? customer acquisition? price models?)

abdada • 15 points • 28 February, 2016 04:54 AM

I hated being in high school and college looked like monotony. I started my first successful business at 13 and sold it successfully by 18. They say my race has entrepreneurship in our blood but dad was an immigrant grunt working for the man so maybe it's true.

My primary role as a consultant is to mediate lies, deceit and trickery between two contract companies. I look for bullshit and then arbitrate before the toxicity turns deadly to the job. You can't have a soft or shy demeanor when working with trades who are used to yelling and screaming on the top.

In helping small startups my guidance falls towards finding a profitable niche in a sea of options. Everyone thinks that life is above the waves and forgets to look in the books and crannies under water. I help small businesses find niche markets to target. Profitably.

I think all young men/boys need more time interning during high school. Shadow a mechanic. Help an accountant during tax season. Unload supplies at a production company. Whatever you can do to watch a pro at work. Right now they hire Mexican day laborers for so many jobs that young guys can be doing before or after school or even on weekends.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:50 AM

I help small businesses find niche markets to target. Profitably.

If you're good at finding business opportunities, why don't you start a business yourself? I'm not trying to criticize, I'm genuinely curious as to what your reasons are. I would imagine that

having a business is much more scalable (more money for less time) than being a consultant - unless e.g. your compensation is also based on the subsequent profits your ideas bring in.

abdada • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 01:11 PM

I do, sometimes a few times a year. This week I am helping start a Serengeti safari business in Tanzania I have been thinking about for years (I go once every year or two). I own a few print shops and have had money in bars and restaurants.

The thing is, I'm not rich. Not by any means. You don't need to be rich to succeed in business.

Consulting is more fun and much more exciting as I get to work the riskiest part many times a year versus once or twice a year.

When a business I own and startup succeeds, it gets boring. Accountants and lawyers and Yelp and shit. I like the bootstrapping, the risk of failure, etc.

wakocid • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 03:06 PM

Did anyone in the US catch the 140 days off, a year....?

abdada • 7 points • 28 February, 2016 03:13 PM

Everyone world wide gets around that much time off a year.

Saturdays off: 52

Sundays off: 52

Paid holidays: 4-8

Vacation days: 10-20

I take anywhere from 110 to 140 days a year off depending on income. I just don't take the same days off that you do.

I work Sundays because 75% of America is out spending money today. So I'm making money when the market is ripe, my competitors are all closed.

If you were considering quitting your job and starting a business, would you more likely be free Wednesday at 2pm or Sunday at 11am?

KurrKurr • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:33 AM

How does your pricing scheme work? Do you have a tool, a website? How are you calculating your "fluctuating hourly rate" AND make it stay "fair" all the time? (i.e. customers don't begin to say "But last time it wasn't urgent either and now you charge more. We'd like the price from last time, because nothing is different now...")

abdada • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 01:08 PM

The calendar code looks at my income trends and if I'm overworking myself or overearning it sets my rate higher.

I love working so this has the advantage of forcing me to rest as my rate trickles up.

KurrKurr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 01:20 PM

This is so cool! Can you maybe share this somehow or do you consider it a trade secret of yours?



abdada • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 01:35 PM

I don't have any trade secrets -- I don't even believe in IP rights.

It's a pretty simple process: I know how many hours a year I should work and I know how much money is too much. Based on those values I know my average rate per hour. That's the target goal for 2-3 weeks ago, but if I'm really slow it'll drop close-in.

If I get busy, my rate goes up automatically to reduce demand or delay demand to later. Once I am way ahead of income goals I'll just block 5-7 days and take a vacation (I sometimes allow customers to cancel my vacation and fly me home if they're willing to pay a ridiculous rate). I generally take a small 5 day break every 2 weeks, sometimes a 7 day. If I'm working on a given day I'll keep my schedule open from 4am to midnight but close hours once my day hits 6 hours of booked work.

I know pretty well what my busy seasons are so my expected income is pretty consistent year to year. I also spend a few hours a week doing pro bono work with young dudes, so I book that in the calendar manually and make those hours unavailable.

If I'm having brunch with mom or seeing a gal, I block those hours. If I'm visiting my dad out of state, I open the hours but change my location to his city/area for those days.

It works great for me and for my clients because they can get me at a cheap rate if they're patient but the wealthy ones can have me today if they want me. I met a client last night for dinner at 11pm for 2 hour chat at a cheap rate, this morning I'm doing a 2 hour session with a different dude for 3x the price because it was a last minute booking and I'm ahead on income already this year.

htbf • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 03:03 PM

Somehow this reads like the chronicles of an escort.

Your job sounds great man ! People flying you over to solve shit for them is, to me, the epitome of being valued for your brain power.

abdada • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 03:14 PM

We are all desirable whores or unloved wives, in the basic definition of the terms.

suubz • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:18 PM

I just received the T-shirt I ordered from you a couple days ago. First time wearing it out at a bar I had someone offering to trade me stuff to get it off me right then and there. It was hilarious.

KurrKurr • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:51 AM

Thanks for taking the time to answer!

This thread got me thinking, to start some side business and become independent down the line.

That's why I'm very interested in this kind of flexible pricing that reacts to demand and supply of one's available time.

I do understand the mechanism of your flexible rate, but one question remains, though. How did you implement this rate calculation? Do you calculate it manually or do you have something that helps you with that? Maybe an elaborate Excel sheet, some kind of VBA that queries Outlook, a proprietary time management software, an app...??



LolBrah123 • 32 points • 28 February, 2016 01:20 PM

**FTSE100 Index Trader.** A year out of high school, studying as well.

At the moment, you'd need about 400 USD to get in on a share. With one share, you could safely make up to 80 USD of profit a day. I live in Central/Eastern Europe, and if you do this 5 days a week, you'll have a great part-time salary allowing you to study or do your 'main' job.

The initial investment can be easily made doing part-time work. Took me about 12 shifts at a warehouse to get the sum needed.

Rules:

Actively trade only in the morning, during Asian/European hours. Once the US gets in, the index becomes a little more chaotic.

Set a very low loss and profit ceiling. About 10 points of loss is acceptable (~\$12) from one share, and 25 points of profit (just under \$30). As soon as the index starts moving towards your goal, set the loss back to the price you bought/sold it for, so you don't lose any money if it drives back before it hits your profit target.

Only trade at 'round levels', e.g. 6000, 6050, 6100. People like round numbers, each 'level' will have many buy/sell orders by the big players which will shake the index up.

Get in on a share at round levels if there has been a build-up movement before. A fall/rise of the price will have inertia, just enough to get to your small profit ceiling, after which you wait once again for the price to approach the next round level, rinse and repeat.

*(To explain why we set the profit low (midway through our round level - e.g. if you bought at 6100, you will sell at 6125), is because once the index starts moving, the big players begin to set up 'traps'. They will attempt to throw off us (the peasants) at certain stop-loss and target levels from the movement. Sometimes it's better to set up your profit at 15 points, or even lower, depending on how much the index had already fallen/risen over the course of the day, and previous working days.)*

Set goals for the night - once the European market closes, you set up a purchase/sell (short) order according to the above strategy, and go out and do your thing, and check your account the next morning.

Set a profit goal (e.g. get 50 points net profit a day) and a loss goal and shut off the PC and go outside once you reach either. It's easy to get carried away, especially when you've lost a few deals in a row and are feeling bitter.

This isn't a fool-proof strategy, of course. For example, quarterly reports (especially in countries like the USA) will shake up the index, so it'd be best not to trade on those days. Events like a terrorist attack, a controversial statement by a politician, scandals etc. will also make everything a little hectic.

But overall, it's a great low-risk investment, especially for a poor student. You could even make this a full-time job, devoting a few hours a day and only looking at the index once it approaches our round levels (in the meantime, reading, listening to music, watching a movie, working out... you name it).

twy3440 • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 02:59 PM

Are you using technical analysis or just watching price movement? Have you looked at the Turtle Trading methods and so-called trend trading?

I think what you're saying is really interesting. Try to make a little bit on trades. Could you make larger amounts seeking longer movements backed by fundamental or trend analysis? You might have to seek other markets as well. I've learned a lot from this website:

<http://takeatradeonline.com/>

And this one has good information and webinars:

<http://www.trendsinfutures.com/home.php>

Both have free trials.

LolBrah123 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 07:10 PM

I do a bit of technical analysis, but most of my work comes from simply watching prices. This is a pretty 'brute' strategy, I'm essentially a monkey that clicks buttons when appropriate. I'm still trying to perfect it, but so far it has worked well as a low-risk part time job.

I go on a traders' forum and get a lot of my information from there, plus some 'classic' books (e.g. Japanese Candlesticks). I plan on having a salary based job in the future though, so I wouldn't consider investing too much time into it.

Thanks for the links!

twy3440 • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 08:38 PM

What traders forums do you use? Thanks.

Darkone06 • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 11:44 PM

I just got started in the forex markets this year. I had a bit of experience with the terminology and concept from trading bitcoins in btc-e.

I'm still in the hole right now but in the last two weeks I have had a \$200 day on my live account.

I go back and forward between demo and live. I feel confident that if I keep at it I could easily make \$1000 a day by the end of the year.

It's just about getting online and learning it.

If you want to get started go to babypips.com and tradersway.com and just start a demo account.

There are lots of different strategies on YouTube. Experiment with different ones and find one that is realistic to your time frames and realistic staying point. Do \$500 or \$1k demo instead on \$100k unless you can really put that money on your account don't demo with it. It will set really unobtainable goals and expectations in your head.

TrevWest • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 02:36 PM

Did you choose to trade on the FTSE100 because of quality or would you say other stock exchanges such as the TSX in Canada would provide similar results?

LolBrah123 • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 03:00 PM

I live in Europe, so I went for the bigger index there was (also recommended by the guy I opened my account with).

I have spent many hours looking at the index movement, looking for certain patterns, and a couple months going into theoretical deals until I started making consistent progress.

I haven't considered other exchanges simply because they all probably have their own quirks, their own big players and investors, and thus require a different approach.

You could always apply the above. Theoretical deals can take about an hour of your time a day, just write down where, when and why you would get in, watch the market whilst ironing your clothes, and take notes of what worked and didn't.

TrevWest • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 03:13 PM

How do you simplify the industry specific jargon?

Do you use an APP or website to facilitate your trades?

Do you deal with a banker or stock broker of any kind?

Thank you for the reply.

LolBrah123 • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 07:32 PM

My parents are involved in the field so I have heard a lot of the terms (including for candlestick combinations) before. There are also trader forums (specific one I use is non-English) which break it down quite well.

I have an account with Saxo Bank, they act as my broker when conducting trades.

I use websites to look at charts at times (due to smaller delay), but to conduct the actual trades I use SaxoTrader, the software that came with the bank.

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:47 AM

can someone from the states trade on that index?

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:45 AM

awesome post. can you explain a bit more where you trade? i.e. which broker you have your account with, etc. you mention about \$400 to get in on a share, but the index is at over 6k pounds. can you elaborate?

LolBrah123 • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 12:55 PM

I use SaxoBank, they act as a broker for me. I just sit at home and open and close when the opportunity arises.

I don't actually trade the share - I make a what's called Contract for Difference (CFD). It has significantly lower margins, so I don't require that much money to get in on a trade - but I never really own a part of the index either.

However to me, it doesn't make much difference - I open at one price, and then close at another, just like you'd do with a share. The benefit is that I get virtually the same profit (minus some broker fees, in my case about 2 points or ~\$3 a contract) as I would having traded that share, without actually requiring thousands of dollars.

Darkone06 • 2 points • 1 March, 2016 10:48 AM

You can start trading Forex with \$100, but I would just DEMO until I got used to it.

Go to Babypips.com and do the classes.

Open a Demo Account, I would open two so I could experiment with both Ctrader and Metatrader. I personally prefer Ctrader but the leverage is lower.

Download Metatrader or Ctrader and start experimenting.

If you do it on your phone you can start without opening an account with Tradersway. Just look for Metatrader or Ctrader in the app store.

jeezydasnowman • 58 points • 28 February, 2016 03:23 AM

I work for minimum wage and sell weed only.

I have found a niche delivering to the wealthy since I have a nice car and can get good quality for my area (bible

belt). I am very lucky that I have quickly learned from mistakes and is been a huge strengthening of frame + outcome independence.

sir\_wankalot\_here • 48 points • 28 February, 2016 03:41 AM

Not sure if this guy is serious or not. But he has a good marketing model. Since he only has elite clientele that minimizes his chances of being prosecuted drastically.

He hints that some of his clentele are pillars of the community and he lives in the Bible belt. If he goes down he will bring a lot of other people down with him.

Not advocating illegal activity, but his method has a lot of merit to it.

jeezydasnowman • 24 points • 28 February, 2016 04:22 AM

It's huge social proof too I could get a real cushy job based off who I know once I get there.

dr\_warlock[S] • 10 points • 28 February, 2016 04:02 AM

How do you manage to stay under the IRS radar?

Minimum wage job + nice car = alarm.

VectorVictorious • 24 points • 28 February, 2016 04:13 AM

IRS doesn't care how you earned your money, only that you pay them their share.

forgetful\_storytellr • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 04:26 AM

So how do you file "weed salesman" on your I-9?

VectorVictorious • 26 points • 28 February, 2016 04:31 AM

You tell them you are self employed or recycle cans or whatever. They are accountants not law enforcement.

[deleted] • 18 points • 28 February, 2016 05:13 AM

There is a line to declare income obtained through illegal means.

htbf • 7 points • 28 February, 2016 03:40 PM

Seriously ? And people just fill that ?

[deleted] • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 09:46 PM

Probably not, but maybe. The law states they can't use it as grounds to investigate you. It also doesn't protect you from being arrested/charged for your activity. However it does protect you from being arrested/charged for tax fraud. That's what Al Capone was convicted on.

Not a lawyer, but it might make it significantly harder for the government to seize your assets.

It should protect against, "He's got piles of money but we can't link him to the crime. Good thing we can take all these assets/\$ and take him to court for tax fraud."

Let's say you did a drug deal that made you more than enough to retire on, and you did retire on it. It's unlikely you'll ever be connected/convicted for that drug trade. The drugs are long gone. But you do have a boatload of cash. If you use that cash, the government can come after you for why you didn't pay tax, x, y, z.

If you're now completely legitimate, your options are to launder that cash (doing more illegal shit), or maybe, your accountant/lawyer would have a good reason for convincing you to declare it. Especially if they think an investigation is in the pipeline.

IKickHorses • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 12:33 PM

Nice enough car to not offend the clients' neighbors, low key enough to not trip alarms at the IRS. Having lived near a prestige university, no real income and a nice car is not incongruent.

Str8\_Pillin • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 03:02 AM

Buy all your small stuff in cash (appliances, clothes, food), and throw all of your "real" income at the stuff you finance so it looks legitimate.

They explain it in *The Seven Five*. It's a pretty cool documentary about NY cops that became corrupt drug dealers back in the 80's

jdot21 • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 05:29 AM

How did you go about getting wealthy customers?

jeezydasnowman • 17 points • 28 February, 2016 05:37 AM

Being even a decent plug word gets around quick especially if you are good at building trust quickly. It's all networking - meeting potential customers face to face, effectively communicating my value, then doing the same thing with their friends.

I find people through word of mouth.

warjesus420 • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 12:39 PM

I sold weed among many many other things from the age of 15 to 24, it's really not as hard as they make it out to be. Not recommending getting into it btw.

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 05:59 AM

selling that dodo is how i paid for my college while i attended. what a time that was..

Darkone06 • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 10:39 AM

Honestly it sells itself. After a while you can be picky about who you do business with. You keep a guy under you and pass to him shitty customers.

\_redme • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:40 AM

Do you consume your own supply? That minimum wage might be a bit better off.

jeezydasnowman • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 12:15 PM

Never solo but I often offer to help people after a sob story, long as they come to me. I also bring some with me when visiting girls or going on dates.

RedBigMan • 1 point • 3 March, 2016 05:08 AM

Sounds good. Now for some follow up questions.

How do you manage to maintain a nice car? Are you living at home with your parents or something to that effect where the minimum wage job basically is all your disposable income.

What are your plans for the future? I would assume your life plan doesn't involve maintaining a good vehicle and delivering weed to wealthy individuals for the rest of your life. Are you planning on saving and/or investing to build up some passive income streams so that you can avoid the (albeit low) legal risk of getting caught on a drug trafficking charge?

jeezydasnowman • 1 point • 3 March, 2016 12:09 PM\*

I have no plans at this time. Things move way to fast, I took in \$600 two days ago, spent \$800 yesterday morning then took in \$250. It's very day-to-day.

Edit: the car isn't really an issue. I don't deliver small amounts so the extra money offsets expenses.

Ideally I'd like to grind for a few years, maybe quit my job and do easy creative or handyman gigs, dabble in investing as an income source, or get back into sales. Bartending would be cool too. I really have no idea what I want.

[deleted] 3 March, 2016 07:53 PM\*

[permanently deleted]

jeezydasnowman • 1 point • 3 March, 2016 09:13 PM

I'm not sure what my numbers are like since there's no paper trail. I pay for everything except my student loan and cable bill with cash and spend it all whenever I can on bigger quantities. I try to keep cash minimal and max out on product.

Computationalism • 1 point • 1 June, 2016 11:38 PM

Selling weed is pointless. Everyone and their mom is selling it, it's not worth much and the penalties for trafficking/distributing aren't worth the low profits compared to other drugs.

DaphneDK • 10 points • 28 February, 2016 09:32 AM

I'm partner in two IT startup companies. So far they haven't made me filthy rich, but I do get to work when I want, travel to and live where I want. And there's a pretty good chance I will become filthy rich in a few years, and in the meantime even a modest salary will give you a pretty good life in Asia. Daily commute to a 9-5 cubicle job would kill me.

whatwhatinthebutt19 • 9 points • 28 February, 2016 05:37 PM

I sell cars for a living and at times it can be very slow. I have an investor line account up on my computer. I trade stocks on my downtime. I track my my progress an have made 18 percent since I started. Started in the November with \$20000 and now I have \$23600. So in 3 months I have made \$1200 a month sitting at my desk instead of twiddling my thumbs.

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:34 AM

any tips on how to learn investing. it seems pretty overwhelming and i'm trying but its an overload of information.

whatwhatinthebutt19 • 2 points • 1 March, 2016 02:18 AM

If you want to day trade the best wy is to set up about 10 or 20 stocks that are more than \$1 and less than \$10 and put them on a watch list. You have to make sure there is enough volume in trading of those stocks before you buy. Always buy once you have made between 4 and 9 percent profit.....don't get greedy. Get out quick and have zero regrets if the stock ends up going through the roof.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkH-vR2IR\\_E](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkH-vR2IR_E)

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 05:13 AM

Always buy once you have made between 4 and 9 percent profit

you mean always sell once you have made between 4 and 9%? thanks for the link. very cool info.

TRPsn • 9 points • 29 February, 2016 05:23 AM

TIL I should've learned how to program and build websites in high school instead of joining the Marines.

IamGale • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 09:39 AM

Yea that's this moral of the story. Learn a skill that can scale online. Then invest it wisely.

RedBigMan • 1 point • 5 March, 2016 04:20 AM

Well it's a trade off... In the Marines I'm guessing you learned a good bit of survival, fighting, firearms and stuff.

Most people who spent high school learning to program and build websites aren't going to be prepared if say the power grid goes down.

ThisManHasNoDick111 • 1 point • 4 June, 2016 07:12 AM

Product Architect

i know, I feel like a wasted so much time doing dumb Army shit

Meat-on-the-table • 31 points • 28 February, 2016 05:37 AM

Recommended reading: The Richest Man In Babylon Simple, straightforward advice to get you on the road to financial independence.

sharp7 • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 08:17 PM\*

Yep. I listened to the audible audio version. Its great, the voice and writing used makes it seem so simple that it really infects your brain.

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 03:21 PM

[permanently deleted]

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:34 AM

It sounds like you're stagnating. What are your plans to enjoy your life more? You could theoretically work from overseas, yes?

[deleted] 29 February, 2016 03:47 AM

[permanently deleted]

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:29 AM

Cool, but it didn't sound like you had any fire in your belly for a minute there.

ChristopherBurr • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 06:29 PM



Occupation: Infrastructure Engineer - Investment Banks and Hedge Funds

What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional : A - I have a small apartment that I rent out B- I teach classes at a local University part-time

How did you start out:

I'm from a lower middle class family -

My parents didn't have money to send me to college, so I worked the night shift at a local hospital, and did weekends at local bars and clubs as security. I used the money to put myself through community college (part-time) and continued on to a 4 year university (also part-time). As I went through school I was able to pick up a very entry level job in IT, so quit working at the hospital in favor of getting industry experience. As I went through school, I increased my responsibility at work .. and graduated without any student loans.

When I finished my undergrad coursework, I was offered a part-time position teaching UNIX for an adult education course, so I used my income from that to invest in my Masters degree. Again, no student loans.

College is invaluable in my job. There are a lot of IT guys who would say otherwise, but you really can't get a gig in the investment banking industry without one.

What were the struggles/obstacles?

time management ... otherwise, just put your head down and get it done.

What strategy did you implement? Just hard work. As technical as my job is, I view it as more of a customer service gig. The people that work at the banks, like dealing with me, because I provide a service. If you have a problem, you come to me and it gets fixed. Other people do only what they have to do - nothing more or less. You won't get a head with that attitude.

On taxes - I have a good accountant that is always looking for deductions. on Investments, I have a financial advisor, that manages some of my money, and I use Charles Schwab Intelligent portfolios for other things .. I like Charles Schwab because it's no-fee, and a really good ETF. I contribute the max to my 401K (18,500) and get a 9% company match at my current job. And i look for other investments from time to time. I keep thinking real estate, but I don't want to do the leg work. I recently invested in a few real estate funds, but it's too early to tell how they are doing yet.

Are you married? Do you have a family? Married with two very young kids (6 months and 2) - I'm 45 now so I started with the kids a little late, but I'm established in my career so a lot of the leg work was put in when I was in my 20's and 30's. I have money and time now so the family thing is working out well for me. My wife normally works, but got laid off a few months ago. She's able to spend some time with the kids, but is itching to get back to work. The marriage works well for me. My wife is completely supportive (as I am with her career options). And it's good when two people are working/saving for retirement and a comfortable life - I wouldn't recommend getting married unless you definitely find the right person. Be careful.

jackrabbitd7 points 28 February, 2016 07:58 PM **[recovered]**

Occupation: Product Architect.

I'm not doing this entire thing but don't mind elaborating should someone have a direct question. I'm 22 finishing up my last term of university and I earn \$3k weekly (12k monthly, \$150k annually USD). I work 5 hours a week and my agents are scattered throughout asia and soon will also be in South America.

I find trending shit, find someone to do house calls in a city that I'm interested in finding a product manufacturer, they negotiate on my behalf and begin manufacturing overlooking the entire thing. I invest about \$500 and can turn that into \$5000 within a week.

House Calls cost me like \$50 USD and gets me priceless info, quite recently I got a MOQ dropped from 300 to 50 and price cut in half.

Proof

Proof 2

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 07:27 AM

i have more than one question actually. i don't even get what exactly you're doing. what agents do you have? do you invent products?

Mihawk01 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 08:15 PM

So what area are the products in? Clothes? Also, why would you need to do the house calls? Is that to get info on whether anyone would buy stuff? Bet the questions sound silly to you...

IamGale • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 08:58 PM

Congrats, I've never heard of doing house calls before that's interesting. \$500 investment into \$5000 is really good. I see that most of your traffic comes from Facebook.

Is that how you get most of your sales, from facebook ads?

jackrabbitd2 points 28 February, 2016 10:24 PM [recovered]

Yeah its the only place I do ads. I can always optimize and open up new sales channels but I dont want to overwhelm myself yet. Im a fairly lazy smart worker. I value peace of mind the most

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:44 AM

Yes, do you have any tips starting out? I've never been that successful with Facebook ads?

Rooster1111 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 08:49 PM

So are you dropshipping the products or do you store and deliver them yourself?

ThisManHasNoDick111 • 1 point • 4 June, 2016 07:11 AM

Could you elaborate more on this, because I have no idea what your talking about.

War2kali • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 08:09 PM

My two cents on this topic has nothing to do with me or specific professions. When thinking about your lifetime earnings and eventual retirement, never lose sight of the fact that our economic system is called "capitalism." One of the ways to "win" is to accumulate capital. One way to do this is to spend less than you earn and invest the difference.

If you don't know what to invest in, just put money in the stock market in a low risk way: large index funds with low expenses. Vanguard is king for this. You could simply do half in the largest companies in the world outside the US and half in the largest companies in the US. Done.

No matter what your career choice, the above applies. You could be a plumber earning 100k/year+ (plumbers and other skilled trades can make great money, by the way, if they are self-employed and work hard), starting work at 18, investing \$30k/year, and you will retire much sooner than someone who makes \$250k a year and spends \$240k a year starting at age 22 after college. I'm not recommending skipping college, it depends on your field. The point is to invest early, invest heavily, and you will accumulate capital and retire far sooner than your average person who spends as much as they earn. It's funny how 99% of people's spending scales directly with their earnings. Live beneath your means and invest, invest, invest.

awe\_some\_x • 6 points • 29 February, 2016 04:37 PM

Occupation: Cover band musician

While it's not amazing pay(typically \$100-200 a night), once you get your branding and become recognized you can start playing anywhere from 1-5 nights a week. I still maintain a day job(IT consultant), because the money is just too good, and rely on the health insurance and 401k which are things you can't get from playing music unless you get signed by a major label.

Playing music is much more than just the easy \$100 and free drinks though, it's a pretty decent SMV boost as well. "Oh you play in a band?", especially if you're the guitarist, this becomes like shooting fish in a barrel, and can also be an easy way to get females to go out without any money. I've had them come out to a show, buy their own drinks(because I'm too busy on stage), then go home with me that night with literally zero monetary or time investment other than me just doing what I would have done without them at my gig.

Now this does take some amount of talent, so if you already play an instrument or two, just scour Craigslist for a group looking for one more member. Get yourself a website and Facebook page, and get to work. If you don't already play, you'd be surprised just what you can learn from a couple months of lessons and YouTube tutorials. I'm lucky in that I play several instruments(been playing since I was 8), so I occasionally fill in on guitar/bass for other groups that I know. It really comes down to who you know, just like every other profession.

The pay is typically cash under the table, but once you get more recognized and play nicer venues, they will start paying with a check and/or getting you with a 1099. In this case, keep a detailed log of all your shows, and how far you drove. In my situation, I play on vintage amps that require semi-annual maintenance, so I keep those receipts as well for deductions come tax time. I claimed an additional \$10,000 on this year's taxes, and thanks to all my repairs and travel, was only very minimally penalized on my return for 2015.

tl;dr: play music, get a benjamin and drink for free every night, instant SMV augmentation. Keep records if you play more than once a week.

BendAndSnap- • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 05:25 PM

What typically happens after a show is over? You go into the crowd where people can come up to you and socialize or you stay backstage and women come to you guys?

awe\_some\_x • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 05:39 PM

Depends honestly. If it's a bigger show there will be a backstage area/green room where you can single them off. It's another SMV increase if it's all locked down with a security guy and you drop that line "she's with me" as you flash your wristband. Instant validation, and basically a LMR killer. I play with an original band or two on occasion, and these types of shows are more common with original music. It's the one redeeming thing about playing in small, undiscovered original music, since you don't make even close to the same amount of money. Cover bands play bars, and if they're really good, casinos or festival type shows. That's where the money is at.

For bar gigs, we typically play three 1-hour sets, so there's a break in between to chat with the crowd and build rapport. Definitely harder to play the rockstar card in these situations(at the break I become just another asshole in the bar), so I'll go overboard on looking the part for these shows. Flashy jeans, those gaudy embroidered button up shirts, watch, bracelet, necklace, etc, whatever makes people look at me and immediately think "he must be in the band". Usually if the girls stick around for the third set, they will have had a couple hours to drink and get the liquid courage in them to grease their promiscuous decision making process. This also gives their hamster some good exercise; I will casually mention, "this is kind of work to me, but I love to play back at my house. I've got a fully stocked bar, you and your friend should stop by afterwards." Tell them that before we start our third(final) set, and let the hamster do all the work for me. Easy peasy.

BendAndSnap- • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 05:55 PM

Haha that's pretty fucking awesome!

Edit: Do cover bands get big? As in, become the headliner?

awe\_some\_x • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:04 PM

They can, but it's rare. In my area we're all a close knit kind of family, so I've gotten to know some of these bigger acts. Couple of my friends play in a super popular cover band, and even for the smaller bars they bring out the whole lights show, smoke machines, pro level sound equipment(as opposed to the house sound). They also get paid almost double what my regular cover band makes.

Another good example are "tribute" bands, or show bands. Another friend plays in an 80's hair metal show band, and they wear all that ridiculous getup; tight leather pants, ripped up shirts, eyeliner, wigs, zebra striped guitars, and the girls go absolutely batshit crazy over it. I think that might be my next adventure lol.

BendAndSnap- • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:39 PM

Dude that sounds like a really fun lifestyle!

Do you personally care about getting into a bigger band or you're happy where you are?

[deleted] • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 08:38 PM

Occupation: High paid salary man who lives like a college student.

I have a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering, did 6 years in the Navy, and probably going to take a job as a maintenance manager at a pharmaceutical company, or a sales engineer for a boiler company.

I am going to work no matter what, and I am not against working for the man. They only get out of me what I am willing to put in. The thing that has allowed me to stay financially free, is just living like a poor piece of shit. I had fun in college living off very little, so I keep doing it. All the while I am making more and more money.

dons90 • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 11:03 PM

I swear I'm going to take all the advice I read here and become successful within the next 5 years. Thank you TRP in advance. Wish me luck.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 09:44 AM

How are you going to do it?

dons90 • 4 points • 29 February, 2016 10:01 AM

1. I'm going to become an amazing programmer
  - a. By continuously creating new programs and applications which are actually useful to people.
  - b. Building a portfolio of completed projects to increase my reputation.
  - c. Working on major freelancing sites regularly
  - d. Possibly creating my own business/brand.
2. I'm going to gain weight and become fit
  - a. By going to sleep early 8/9 PM
  - b. Eating 5-6 times a day

c. Working out after breakfast 4 times a week

That's what my sights are set on right now. My goals will undoubtedly grow as I grow more and more successful.

IamGale • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 10:41 AM

Alright well good on you. Don't neglect the psychology behind humans as well. It's ultimately one of the most important things to learn.

thenakedwarrior1 points 10 July, 2016 07:17 AM\* **[recovered]**

How's it going so far? Taken any steps?

dons90 • 1 point • 10 July, 2016 07:35 AM

Many actually. So far I've been accomplishing much of #1 and a bit of #2 but I still need more gains. Trying to increase my consistency with workouts so that I'll keep the gains.

Currently on track towards completing my first app, as well as a couple websites, and hopefully the next stage in my freelancing career.

Thanks for asking btw, always nice to know someone is even interested in my progress.

sunderfrost • 7 points • 29 February, 2016 05:38 AM

I work as an information security engineer in one of the top 5 fastest growing markets. Only been in the industry for ~2 years, and achieving certifications right now. Underpaid (\$57k/yr) atm for market value, but company does have a great work life balance, so while I'm not complaining, I will seek to change this mid-year due to me also doing penetration testing, vulnerability assessments and social engineering. Basically playing the hacker. That's \$\$\$ experience.

Since the market is severely in demand but understaffed link for proof I've been brainstorming an idea that applies to the specific industry I'm in, that I could work up on the side.

In the past I owned an eCommerce store that sold candles that smelled like high octane gas and burnt rubber, inspired from a Yankee Candle photoshop. It was doing alright, I didn't put forth a lot of effort once my main job shifted me to days and demanded more of time and attention. A competitor offered me \$250k + 10% of all sales, so I sold it.

Not married, no family. At this point, burned out from dating, so about to go monk mode, focus on myself and my career, since I'm 28 now, I can make six figures by 30 just by working 40 hours a week at my main job. Leaves me the time and money to work on passive income.

[deleted] • 16 points • 28 February, 2016 08:56 AM\*

On my way to building my construction company to the point where I can step back and simply manage projects without the need to always be on site. All trades sub-contracted out i.e Tiling, plastering, electrical, plumbing. And eventually find a trustworthy foreman who can manage the framing and apprentices/labourers.

My end goal is the ability to take 3 to 4 months off each year to go surfing in indonesia, training in thailand or similar. And when I am back home all I will be doing is tendering for work, meeting clients and working on systems to make the business as efficient as possible.

A huge bonus that comes with working in a trade, especially in domestic construction, is the ability to do cash work. Almost any client will pay cash when you give them the offer of a lower price for paying cash. we recently did a deck and some outdoor seating and the client paid 25k cash. 25k that won't be subject to tax, and

can be used to pay other trades for their services -also at a cheaper rate as they avoid tax too. We all win.

ChasingPaper26 • 1 point • 7 March, 2016 05:09 PM

How much capital did you need to start this business?

TheRedChemist • 10 points • 28 February, 2016 09:35 AM

I'm going to have to be pretty vague here but hopefully it will still be some use. I live in an industrial warehouse.

I work as a CAD engineer in the automotive sector. I recently switched from permanent staff to working on a contract basis - it's more lucrative. In my industry contract roles have basically the same job security as permanent but none of the benefits. However, they are paid more to compensate, and enjoy some financial perks because they pay themselves through their own small company, and thus have a number of (perfectly legal) options how to get money out of the company and into their own personal account, meaning you can do it in a more tax efficient way than a permanent employee. I hopped from my permanent role to an entry-level contract role because I wasn't trained in the software the new company uses (still a pay increase), then after 6 months in that role hopped to a better paying role with the same company. I'm now looking at branch swinging back to the company I used to be permanent with (including a higher contract rate of course). I'm not in the US but I'm currently paid approx \$36/hr for 40hrs a week and this is about the average in the field, with very experienced guys able to command \$45, maybe \$50 if they are unusually valuable. For context, the rent on my last place - a small 2 bedroom house - was \$970/mo.

The warehouse came about because I want to develop and sell my own products, and I can now do so through my company that I had to start for the contract work. Although I'm proficient in design using CAD, it's expensive to produce things that way, so I thought I'd try to do it by hand first. I need a large dry space to work for that, and in my country it's rare to find a house with garage at all unless you're paying top end rent - even then, it'll be too small for me to work in. I couldn't afford a place of my own AND a separate workshop property, and I don't like housesharing.

I took the plunge and signed a lease on this warehouse through the company. It's well located, a decent size, clean and light etc. Using it as sleeping accommodation is strictly forbidden in that contract, but my research suggests that the worst that could happen is forfeiting my deposit and being kicked out. Hopefully, even if the landlord finds out, he will turn a blind eye as long as he keeps getting his rent. It's a calculated risk that I decided is worth taking. I immediately built a walled off bedroom area so a cursory inspection doesn't see anything unusual.

In terms of products, I mainly want to develop this stuff for my own use, and if I can sell a few and have the hobby pay for itself then that's great. If I can one day give up the day job that would be incredible, but I'm not holding my breath. Basically all the money I earn from the day job gets funnelled back into the project. Since I now don't personally need money for rent, as the company rents the warehouse making it tax deductible, I end up only needing enough personal money for food and my previous debts etc. Everything else stays in the business and is used for development, making it tax deductible. I'd be doing this stuff as a hobby anyway, but back in the day I'd get taxed on the money I earned and then have to pay tax on the stuff I bought with what was left. Now I bypass most of that.

I'm halfway through developing my first product and have discovered I definitely do not have the skills or patience required to do it by hand in future. I'll still finish this project, but future projects I will do exactly as I do in my day job - CAD design parts and then farm them out to external suppliers to do the production work, receiving completed finished parts in the mail a few months later. It's also wound up not being much cheaper doing it myself anyway; I've spent 60-70% of the cost of paying someone else to do it all BUT I'm not even finished yet. I was expecting total spend to be around 30%. Lesson learned.



Arguably farming the entire production out to external suppliers makes the warehouse redundant, but it's still useful for other stages of the development process - and if nothing else, I could use it for pure storage. To be honest the lifestyle kinda suits me. And yes, I do have women back here. It's now seen as much action as my last actual house.

I have a game plan for at least 2 more products after this first one is complete, one of which has quite a broad potential customer base and may make for a nice income. Ideally I'd totally detach myself from the actual physical products side of things and work purely on design, but I want to build a recognised brand, I don't want to just license out my designs. Call it vain I guess but I want that respect and "fame". Totally detaching from production but maintaining the brand requires trusting a partner to handle sales and distribution on my behalf, and I'm not sure about that yet - I could draw up all the legal contracts I like but the nature of the market means the kind of businesses I'd be dealing with are pretty small operations that could very easily rip me off, and the only way to get the money they owe would be lengthy and expensive court proceedings. So for now I think I have to do it myself.

chaserjacer • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 09:21 PM

This is actually amazing! I've been playing around with some CAD Software for a few months now and really enjoy it a lot. I've been looking to find a way to actually monetize it in a significant way, aside from small side projects. How did you get into this, was this all post-degree? And if you could give me some pointers or resources to read up on, on how to be able to work those tax deductions, I'd greatly appreciate it!

TheRedChemist • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:22 AM

I learned CAD in my degree, when I left university I did an engineering apprenticeship type scheme at a small automotive OEM where the first year was a low paid internship type deal. After the first year it bumped up to a normal engineer position, with a salary escalator for the subsequent 2-3 years. I bailed out at the end and switched to contract work - which in this industry in this country as I said is basically indistinguishable from actual employment in terms of day to day life.

CAD is a tool to use, a skill, like being able to carve wood. You need to either go to a big company that needs wood carvers to realise their products, or be more creative and use the skill yourself on realising your own products. I'm sure you could make a few bucks doing odd jobs on a freelance basis - there's a lot of older guys or unskilled guys who need CAD done for a project but can't do it themselves - but a consistent decent income is via the routes I said above.

I do know that the CAE engineers (crash testing etc) make a fair chunk more dough than I do, entry level positions are about the same pay as mid to high end CAD roles - so if you're just looking for something in the field and don't have your heart set on CAD I would recommend going that way. For me it was always going to be CAD as I'm a designer at heart, it's a tool to help me realise my vision.

RedBigMan • 1 point • 5 March, 2016 01:07 AM

I took the plunge and signed a lease on this warehouse through the company. It's well located, a decent size, clean and light etc. Using it as sleeping accommodation is strictly forbidden in that contract, but my research suggests that the worst that could happen is forfeiting my deposit and being kicked out. Hopefully, even if the landlord finds out, he will turn a blind eye as long as he keeps getting his rent. It's a calculated risk that I decided is worth taking. I immediately built a walled off bedroom area so a cursory inspection doesn't see anything unusual.

Yeah I doubt the landlord would have a problem. Especially if it looks more like an office that has a place to take a nap than a place you've converted to permanent living space. It's not uncommon for engineers and



stuff to work long hours and then probably not feel like risking driving home when they're ready to fall asleep.

Lord\_shitmeister • 14 points • 28 February, 2016 11:16 AM\*

Occupation weed wholesale grower: so I grow some plants in a box, don't forget to use odor neutralizing ONA gel, carbon filter. Then I dry them, package them and sell them wholesale (less risky). They grow in 2 months, Use autos it's much faster, they sell for about 5000. I'm growing in 3 m2. Grey legality where I live making it perfect risk/reward ratio.

ALSO

Occupation website local seller: I get guys on freelancer that are dirt cheap, get them to work for me on a basis that they get paid only if we have a contract then I advertise a CHEAP website design business locally in my town and sell apps and sites that I don't even make, I'm just the middle man. People want someone close by. Income from that about 3000 per month for 5 sites. Sometimes more.

ALSO

Cialis pill vendor on small ads: Go to a doctor, get a prescription for limpdickitis, buy a box of the cheapest ones (5 mg) then sell them pill by pill on a web site like craigslist. Narcs don't give 2 shits about dick pills. Income: about 500 per month. 1 sells for 30.

IamGale • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 03:06 PM

Interesting.

1. How much do you charge to create a website on average?
2. Is it annoying to meet up with random people on craigslist or do you just have them come to you?
3. Where do you advertise cheap website design?

Lord\_shitmeister • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 11:57 AM

1. from less than 1k to 15k depending on content and complexity
2. yes very much, sometimes they don't show, sometimes they ask a million questions, but it's not a criminal offense where I live (civil offense - fine only) so I endure because it's easy money
3. Facebook objects for sale pages (local), instagram, locally with people we know, google ads, network marketing (pyramidal), dedicated re-sellers with 20% margin, any way we can really.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 12:19 PM

Thanks for your answer, you've given me like 5 ideas how I can make money with the skills I already have.

1. What is facebook objects? Is it a business facebook page that you drive traffic to?
2. Network marketers, and re-sellers, where do you find these people?
3. What's your most effective advertising at the moment? Any tips for people starting out advertising their services?

Lord\_shitmeister • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 12:45 PM

nah it's like objects for sale locally, in my country we have pages like that. It's a facebook group with stuff for sale locally in your area. The people you put an add out on a jobs website, people answer looking for a job. The best is word of mouth. People buy websites from people who are recommended to them so treat each client like he's worth 50 times more than he is right now.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 01:02 PM

Thanks, any tips for getting started?

[deleted] • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 04:56 PM

And with Cialis your customer base is probably all dudes which is good.

dr\_warlock[S] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 08:05 PM

Occupation website local seller:

Could you expand on this topic a bit more?

Mgtowredpillonroids • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:55 PM

Interesting. I've had some black market dealings in the past, including underground labs. Gave me quite an insight how this market works although I've never been a big buyer and never acted as a reseller. Would you ever consider getting into the research chemical market? If not, why not? Given that the raw materials are incredibly cheap on alibaba and it shouldn't be that difficult getting a decent contact provided you purchase sufficient quantities it could be quite a cash cow. The cons would be trouble with customs, changing laws (making substance x illegal to produce & import), costs of lab tests to ensure purity, costs of buying laboratory equipment and perhaps having to learn some chemistry (although according to my experience underground lab guys rarely do more than press the powder into tablets or add some oil and stabilizers to make the juice - there are a lot of homebrewing guides that make the whole thing sound rather easy)

r3dast3rik09 • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 10:08 AM

Private tutor/college consultant.

Finished undergrad, needed to start making money the summer before grad school. Started teaching math and science prep courses and 1:1 at a private tutoring academy by my house and HS (I live in a city in the Bay Area where competitive high schools and Asians/Indians in STEM/business are the majority residents). I went to the high school where my company gets 90% of its students from and I aced these subjects in college and HS.

Continued this on my summers off during my MS. Took the past year off to apply for med school and began working more. Realized in September how much of a cut the company was actually taking (70%) considering I was doing all the actual work and they were simply matching me with students. The parents, while they have the money, are paying way too much tbh, it's outrageous (mid-\$100s). I write all my class and tutoring materials from scratch and my record with students has been raising their grade an entire letter grade at least, consistently. I know the teachers at my alma mater and their styles, so I model my teaching and prep to be tougher than what they will be expected in the classroom so that they know their shit well. Internal changes in the company too were starting to be annoying to deal with and too much extra bullshit. Plus while I didn't have any issues with parents, many other of my coworkers were getting fucked over by ingrate parents and their children complaining about dumb shit without basis. Sadly, my company bends over backwards for parents while nailing staff.

Our new manager started in August, a man replacing the woman who ran the place. She wasn't bad, but there's

finally a system of order and accountability where teachers/college consultants are protected. In the event of a complaint rather than censuring the staff member without actually thinking (how the woman did it), our new male manager actually speaks with us to figure it out. According to him 80-90% of the time, it's an incorrect assumption made by parents or a ploy to get either a refund or something we contractually cannot do. She was hot for sure but trash at the finer aspects of management. The head of our company doesn't like that our new manager is firm and impartial claiming "we're pushing away clients and families" but our branch is the top performing one ever since our management changed.

Once I got into med school in October, I decided to privately tutor freelance. Made a website, ordered business cards, began working with family friends as my client base. As well as referrals, also began advertising in my neighborhood via social media apps. I charge 1/3 of what my company does but I get all the cut. Make my own schedule, don't got to deal with any management bullshit. I still work for my company but I'm not poaching any clients. It took off a bit slowly but I wanted to established a solid baseline. Also began college consulting on the side as well so applications, planning out HS activities and summer programs, the works.

Having gone to a top 25 undergrad with a half-ride on merit, being a success in a way with getting into med school, and having gone to the same HS as most of my students are probably my greatest selling points and parents . And my work. I have always made sure from day 1 I'm great at what I do.

Right now I still work for my company and independently, probably a 50:50 split. Got 10 regular students from each. It's hectic some days, working in last minute sessions and shit of that nature. It's hard learning to keep these two jobs separate. But I love it bc I get to be my own boss, it keeps me engaged and busy, I feel like I'm actually making somewhat of a difference, and the money is superb, much better since I started going independent. I live at home with my parents so I'm essentially saving 70% of my income and the remaining 30% on repaying student loans and socialization/personal expenses.

I'm about 2/3 of the way to my personal goal of \$25K in my savings account and by the time I leave in July/August I'm on track to get there.

powderhound100 • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 04:34 PM

Honestly from reading this I sounds like there is no need to charge 1/3 of what your company does, no need to undervalue yourself. You took the time to make a website, business cards etc, you write your own lesson plans, increase people's grades and are great at what you do. You offer as much value as the company, parents are clearly willing to pay a premium price when their kids are tutored by this company, they would be willing to pay that for you.

r3dast3rik09 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 01:15 AM

My company charges \$135/hr of which I am paid \$35. I realize my percentages were off, they take 75%. I charge \$45/hr and tutor out of my house (I use the formal dining room table). Paying 1 person \$135/hr is a bit steep for one hour of tutoring imho. Plus all my lesson plans and content, I've already had for quite a few years of working for my company so I don't necessarily have to recreate as much content.

I was a student at this tutoring company when I was in HS a while ago and my parents were paying \$60/hr of which tutors got \$28.

RedBigMan • 1 point • 5 March, 2016 02:50 AM

as dr\_warlock said in another comment. Customers are willing to pay a premium. What you should do is jack your hourly rate up to like \$60-70/hr and focus on the customers you attract and cut the middle man out entirely (IE. the company you are working for).

Want to make some passive income, hire some tutors to work for you at the going rate of like \$30-35/hr and give them your materials to teach from and keep charging like \$70/hr or even more.

dr\_warlock[S] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 08:14 PM

What /u/powerhound100 said. It's proven that these customers are willing to pay a premium. Match your company to increase profits.

SneakyTouchy • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 05:58 PM

I'm in the same situation you were in and find this inspiring. I need to make more but \$13/hr is not enough where I live. I just haven't put effort into the freelance stuff because I'm still a fulltime student. I don't know if my sanity can handle that much shuffling.

r3dast3rik09 • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 01:17 AM

It was hard at first, figuring out client bases and all the management of time. I'm going to miss the inflow of \$\$\$. I would try advertising on the app Nextdoor. That's what I began using, but also would depend on the surrounding areas of where you live, how far students are from where you are, how far you would be willing to travel.

Start small and see how it goes (a few students here and there). If that's manageable then add more. But just don't overextend yourself for your own sake.

ShekelBanker • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 10:42 AM\*

### **Occupation**

I work selling options to people, essentially cold calling anything between 200 to 400 people a day around the planet in order to assist potential clients who have shown an interest in starting to trade to open up an account. The company I work for is legitimate and regulated, so there is nothing of the Boiler Room sort going on. Aside from that, when said clients open accounts, there is a department essentially holding their hands through the entire trading process, so with them it's easy money to be made. There have been cases when customers decided to take the entire thing by themselves and absolutely annihilated their own account and tried to pin their fault on us. There are certain limitations present, like no more than 20% of the account's total can be used for a single trade, there is no leverage to talk about and so on and so forth, so from the company's end a lot had been done to reduce risks.

### **Income**

Still have to look into that, since I just started last week. While the initial pay can just cover average rent where I live, there is some reliance on commissions, and the commissions scheme is nothing obscene (again, this isn't Boiler Room) but if you close a minimum of, say, 10 deposits a month, depending on the sum of money clients deposited you could be making anywhere from 50% more to 125% more over the average salary of the average person.

### **Other details**

The catch is, and the main thing I'm struggling with is that, since the company isn't big nor well-known, you can't act or sell in a professional or serious way, since 99.5% of people you're calling are Average Joes. People who do best here are those who talk in a clever/funny way on the phone, and that is something I'm struggling with because, as much as I don't like appealing to stereotypes, I'm German and Germans are not known for their sense of humour or lack of seriousness, and it's not only me who has spotted this affecting my performance. Other people who are way higher than me on the totem pole but who I trust, most importantly, told me exactly the same thing. Issue is that, for better or worse, that's who I am and changing that is a bit like pissing against the wind: you risk getting wet.

### **Plans for the future**

Well, saying "plans" is a bit of a longshot since I realised that things are not set in stone. Originally my background is in trading securities (stocks mostly) and anything to do with finance: accounting (not yet certified nor intending to get certified, not my kind of thing to crunch numbers all day long), marketing and economics. I picked this job because it allowed me to develop my sales expertise, as in having a practical way to learn and apply as well as form a style of selling things. In the longer span on time, I want to own a set of cars, have the ability to work on car projects and own a house to, well, house all these things in. Family-wise I'd like to have at least 2 kids, but that in particular will remain to be seen.

IamGale • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 03:02 PM

How have your sales skills improved? I always found cold-calling to be quite difficult, do you have any tips?

ShekelBanker • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:27 AM

It is difficult to the extent of how much you dedicate yourself. To some people I saw in my office, the most difficult thing was to strike a balance between not giving a fuck what people tell you and actually give a fuck. Yes, it sounds like a paradox but your responsibility resides in finding clients which the company would work with, meaning that you got to stop giving a shit when you get "fuck you's" from people, but switch immediately when you spot the ones with potential.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:41 AM

Yes not caring what people think is very important, until you've reached the right candidate.

Marr0w1 • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 02:36 PM

Occupation - 9-5 low paying public sector However it's usually pretty relaxed which means I can spend a lot of time working out and focusing on 'side game'. This generally means investing in stocks, studying uni papers, and other projects. Due to public sector, my living costs are very low. Currently I just sold my house and I'm spending most my time at work organising a cafe/bar I'm opening this year. Even then I'll continue with my 9-5 because I enjoy it and the perks are good.

TIDr: not super unusual, but work a shit paying job I enjoy while trying to make extra on the side. Sorry for formatting.

get-a-way • 5 points • 29 February, 2016 04:54 AM

This looks interesting. Bit late to the party but what the hell:

What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?

I am a cadet, i 'work' about an hour a day plus one weekend a month, and two weeks in the summer. From this I get paid around 36k a year. About 12k of that goes to pay for my tuition leaving me with about 22k a year tax free.

As for passive income i have about 3k in a website called prosper.com, which nets me about 14% return a year. Its basically a peer to peer lending site where you pool your money with other investors and loan it out to people who pay it back like a regular bank loan. You may have heard of its competitor lendingclub, basically the same thing.

The prosper is my savings, the cadet thing pays the bills and gives me enough money to hit the bars on weekends without having to worry. I feel pretty independent, just have to give up a small amount of free time and i get to live the college life

BendAndSnap- • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 05:30 PM

How big is the risk with prosper

get-a-way • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 08:04 PM

The main risk is that people default. To counteract this, instead of putting all your money into one loan, you split it up into 25 dollar chunks into hundreds of loans. Site wide, the average is about a 3% default rate, and the average return is around 13%, so you get an average of 10% return.

However thats only if you dont bother to do any work and just let the computer decide which loans to invest in. If you are willing to do a bit of work, you just select loans that seem risky but actually arent. For example, certain states are far more likely to default than others, this is due to some states having bad economies, some states having liberal bankruptcy laws, etc. So if you just only loan to the states that have the lowest default rates, your returns go up. Ive developed a whole list of criteria that an average credit score doesnt check for and filter the loans based on that. As a result I get about a 17% average interest rate and a 3% default so my returns are around 14%

BendAndSnap- • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 09:37 PM

Wow that is fucking awesome

[deleted] 3 March, 2016 08:01 PM\*

[permanently deleted]

get-a-way • 1 point • 16 March, 2016 06:27 AM

Its 14% a year, i put about 500 bucks in every 3 months. Its mostly my retirement account/savings

Gelu\_sf • 8 points • 28 February, 2016 12:34 PM\*

**Occupation:** self-employed developer

Been programming since the 80s, currently on my own.

Right now I'm working on a mix of my own projects. On top of that I'm consulting/freelancing which allows me increase my monetary safety net with about 2-3 months per worked month. Also have a stake in companies that bring some revenue each year.

The pluses of this field is that you never do the same thing twice. Even if you make a clone you still have to work on something new and think about new solutions. Keeps the mind sharp. Also, from the money point of view there's a chance of getting a huge burst of cash if you do something good.

The minuses are the incredible competition and luck with discovery for your projects. Everyone and their dog makes games and apps, so having something special to stand out from the crowd is critical.

tekn0\_ • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 01:48 AM

Have you made a ton of money? Have you ever been divorce raped?

Gelu\_sf • 3 points • 2 March, 2016 08:29 AM

I've made enough to live comfortably and to be able to say "no" to people. Divorce rape doesn't happen to the same extent in eastern europe.

JugglingSoManyThings7 points 28 February, 2016 07:55 PM\* [recovered]

**Occupation:** Recreational Herbalist

I live out of a backpack on the beaches of Hawaii. I sell people their medicine and relaxation. I myself rarely



partake in the medicine though, as the need to be sharp is important. While at present time I'm only making a couple grand a month, it is an ever growing demand, and am in with those who make much, much more.

Skills necessary for this line of work are discretion and networking. The start up cost can be nothing if you get someone to invest in you. It's the easiest most lucrative form of income I've ever ventured into.

I quit my job and sold nearly all my worldly possessions before moving out here, as I don't find much of that important. I spend my days mastering the skill of audio engineering for my own enjoyment, and as my long-term plan. The audio and music industry is full of abundance.

Though I am currently MGTOW, my lifestyle seems to actually inspire and create value in womens eyes, especially when they realize I'm not a bum and generally support myself quite well, despite my homelessness. The fact that I upkeep my personal hygiene and cleanliness, as well as being in good physical shape usually leaves people unknowing to the way I live.

By the time I leave this island I will have enough savings to build my own music studio, which will not only help in progressing my main trade, but also provide low-energy high-yield income through renting out my studio space.

Fortune favors the bold. Those who break the mold.

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 5 points • 29 February, 2016 07:29 AM

you mean you sell weed on the beach?

Moneyley • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 05:57 AM

I work full time as a csr however had previously passed a test to become a licensed insurance agent. So I get my hourly pay close to \$20 an hour but if sales calls come in, I close them and get lifetime commissions off the sale. I probably make an extra \$1000k a month just from accumulated commissions.

ShekelBanker • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 10:17 AM

CSR being Corporate Social Responsibility, or something else? Sorry, you've been a little vague there.

Also is the \$1000k figure real or did you add another zero by mistake? How can you make \$1mil out of commissions alone?

Hamilton950B • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 01:51 PM

Customer Service Representative

Moneyley • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 05:17 PM

You're right, I put zeros behind it. It was just supposed to be \$1,000 monthly. I put the zeroes plus the k vs using either or.

DopamineDripz • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 07:42 PM

I work a physically demanding factory job that pays 18 an hour and has great benefits, decent for Midwest . We walk 10-12 miles and work is fast paced daily but I enjoy it. On the side I do massage therapy for 1-3 clients weekly.

GodDamnManlyMan • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 09:48 PM

I make \$400 a day tree planting for 5 months and spend the rest of the year living in Thailand

Mihawk01 • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 09:58 PM



How on earth do you make 400 a day tree planting? Is that a normal rate for planting trees in US?

GodDamnManlyMan • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 08:58 PM

Its a rate that comes with experience.. and a love for the job. it's piece work and done in Western Canada.

minneapolisbiker • 11 points • 28 February, 2016 07:12 AM [recovered]

i make 300k a year. i'm a consultant in the healthcare space, i try to streamline workflows and maximize the revenue in client hospitals.

about me. pretty smart i guess (1550 SAT, top 10 uni), but pretty lazy. tried banking, didn't like it much, mostly because of the hours, but it was in the healthcare vertical and i made some contacts there which i managed to leverage into what im doing now.

the hours are nice (work 4 days a week, probably about 35 hours), the work is pretty good/low pressure, and it affords me time to pursue my hobbies and interests (weightlifting, learning coding, traveling).

IamGale • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 10:46 AM

Where does your interest of coding come from?

minneapolisbiker1 points 29 February, 2016 04:50 AM [recovered]

i believe predictive analytics is the next frontier in medicine, and i want to be able to intelligently converse in data analysis systems (most machine learning is done in python) in a few years. the short term goal is to do a part time masters in computer science, with the long term goal being having my own company within that space.

IamGale • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 10:42 AM

Predictive analytics. Never heard of that field before. Good luck with the masters.

[deleted] • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 05:51 PM

Please talk more about this. How did you get this job? What qualified you for the job? How did you outcompete others?

\_J\_J\_ • 7 points • 28 February, 2016 06:08 PM

Occupation: Online Entrepreneur

I'm a Computer Science student and have a few online income streams.

I run a semi successful website with an Android app + iOS app, averaging €30/day profit with income from ads and affiliate links

I sell cheap automation software, averaging €20/day profit

I also develop custom software from people ranging from scripts to websites to apps.

The great thing about online income streams is that you earn money every day. Once the product is online and you establish customers the money keeps flowing in. I earn €50/day for every day of the month, roughly €1500/month. Updating and improving the software only costs me 5-10 hours a week. I earn more than people working 40 hour/week entry jobs.

How I started out: I started programming four years ago and I got hooked. Turns out I can learn things very quick and remember it forever. This is also when I decided to study Computer Science. I used the knowledge I

gained during lectures and classes on my sideprojects.

How I got users: word of mouth really and rising in the charts. People know I'm a good programmer and deliver updates on a solid bases. I'm a very honest and blunt guy. Customers know exactly what they can expect.

Anyways, I should graduate this year and hope to get accepted into a Master programme with a focus on entrepreneurship and software engineering, with no tuition. My website has the potential to grow even bigger and I want to start selling my own products instead of linking to others with affiliate links. I'm working on a new paid app which might earn me some extra money as well.

All in all I'm strongly considering to work full time on my own range of software. All of this has been developed in my spare time, roughly 10 hours a week. Imagine what I can do if I spend 40-60 hours a week..!

silent\_protector3 points 28 February, 2016 03:20 PM **[recovered]**

Alternative revenue stream: youtube partner

penworth • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 04:07 PM

I have a fledging youtube channel, any advice?

Are you in an MCN?

silent\_protector1 points 2 March, 2016 05:20 PM **[recovered]**

I was, but it's not even close to worth it. my only advice is to make videos that you enjoy watching and to actually make good videos. once you have good videos, advertise them and your channel will grow

penworth • 2 points • 3 March, 2016 07:26 AM

How'd you advertise? Sharing thru fb? Tweeting it out?

[deleted] • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 05:11 PM

### **What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?**

Technical College Student at the moment but on leave I shall become an Automation Controls Systems Engineer.

### **How did you start out?**

I have been programming and doing Electronics for a long time (Since I was 10). While I was still at High School, I went on a School Trip to a STEM Event for Robotics. Now, robotics was an industry I had a big interest in but nothing big but I thought for the trip I would bring along some of my projects that I had done in the past.

An Engineer who was volunteering at the event came over to the table I was sitting at, I introduced myself and we began a small chat about robotics and I found out he was in PLC Programming/Robotics so I showed him my work. He offered me work experience which is something that Year 10 Students in the UK have to do and usually it is at a shitty corner shop but I managed to snag a multinational engineering company!

The work experience was fantastic as I was around people with similar interests, similar values (No PC BS), and knowlege. In contrast, when I got back to school I found myself counting down the days until I left school becuase it became a culture shock and I had enough of Education.

### **Did you go to community college, university or receive graduate or doctoral education?**

I am currently attending a Technical College for Engineering. In the UK, Higher Education is set up into:

A) Sixth Form's offering A Levels

and

B) Technical Colleges offering BTEC's. The general consensus for Sixth Form was that they were for the more academically able while Technical Colleges were more practical in delivery.

This factor caused me a lot of grief with my School as I had to deal with Careers Advisors who had no idea what they were talking about and insisted that I did A Levels purely for the reason that "It gives me more options if I change my mind". I was pretty adamant that I was going to go into the Engineering Profession so I didn't listen. This was because if I did the BTEC, I would gain practical skills in Lathe operation, Milling, Welding, Soldering and theoretical skills in Mechanical and Electronic Engineering which would have put me in better stead for a Job than some A Level Student who had to do BS such as General Studies and Critical Thinking.

Once I finish, I want to go down the self employed contractor route asap and possibly do a Part Time HNC/HND in Electrical Engineering to supplement it. There is lot of highly paid work in the UK ATM in this field and I dont know how long it'll last so I plan to gather all the money up in the next couple of years.

**Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?**

There were some resources for PLC, but a lot of it is hard to understand due to thick Indian accents but the best way I found was to buy a second hand PLC from ebay and experiment with it and the help files that come with the software.

Another reason why PLC work is highly paid is because it is not for the faint hearted, lots of software hasnt been updated since in the Windows 95/DOS days and most of it is crap to use.

**What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?**

**Social obstacles to expect?** Lots of people wanted me to go through and do my Degree via A Levels. I just ignored them.

10211799107 • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 06:18 PM

I'm in DTC as well. I'm assuming here.

redpillerrr • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:23 PM

what is average salary for automation engineers in your area?

eccentricrealist • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 06:30 PM

Right now I'm a student but I give tutoring when I get the time. I get paid 250-300 pesos per hour, which is more or less the minimum wage of a week around here. Still ain't much, but it's all right. If you're a good tutor the kids will start recommending you and you don't have to go through the hassle that real teachers go through of having to register with the school and getting permission and blah blah blah. I was also employed by a tutoring company for a while but they pay less, it was more for a little curriculum.

\_Madison\_ • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 11:04 PM

Occupation: Automotive Designer (Freelance usually on 6 month contracts atm)

Trained to Masters level in Automotive exterior design so I'm doing sketching, Photoshop rendering etc for the majority of projects I'm on. However work can get a bit slow sometimes so I got trained in A Class surfacing on Autodesk Alias (CAD software, NURBS based) and also do clay modelling for smaller clients. Clay modelling is a very very niche job, as a result I can charge £65 an hour for that and pick up a contract pretty easily.

I got into the industry in a slightly unconventional way, I did go through the usual university route to get an Ma however I also finished some personal projects. The biggest one was designing and building my own car which I finished when I was 21, turning up in that is what really helped me get internships and my first job.

How did you start out?

-Private school in Singapore where I grew up as an expat -Came back to UK for University, crucially whilst at uni i did internship design for no pay. Some will say this is a bad idea but quite frankly it gave me a huge advantage. -Worked on and finished the aforementioned car project over the summers during university. -Did another unpaid internship before finally getting a paid graduate position. -Once you have two years of studio work experience getting contracts is easy so I hop from multiple Automotive manufacturers.

Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?

-The unpaid internships I did. You learn far more from a real workplace than university lectures, this is why i think unpaid internships are extremely valuable for anyone looking to enter a skills based industry. Plus you will have industry contacts ready to go upon graduation when my peers were starting from scratch. -Youtube is also a really great resource for tutorials, I became much better with things like Photoshop just from spending a couple of days watching everything I could find. -University lecturers were not the best, the industry pays very well so nobody who is any good will bother lecturing.

What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?

-At uni I was VERY boring. I ignored women and drinking and concentrated on building my skills. Too be fair I grown 'slightly' bored of the club scene in Singapore anyway so I made my return to the UK a fresh start where I would actually focus on something productive.

-Jobs are EXTREMELY hard to get as a graduate. I am from a wealthy family, if you don't have money to cover living costs whilst you do internships you have no chance of getting your foot in.

-You have to be very good. It's a skills based job, you can read all the books you want and know all the lingo but if you can't sketch well you have no chance you can't bullshit your way in. It's also a very tight knit industry so you cannot afford to ever burn bridges, this means you just have to accept getting spoken down to by design chiefs. Take it on the chin and shut up.

How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?

-Just turning 27 now only been working professionally for 3 years already know I love it. I've worked on the cars for the new Bond film which was great and you end up at some pretty spectacular launch parties.

jakeinmn • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 03:22 AM

In my spare time in college, I dove into mobile phone apps. I decided that these things are in the hands of nearly everyone in western society. I took some classes in uni and made a few and published them.

Four years later, I have 13 published apps and 300k total installs. I didn't add ad screens for revenue until I hit 200k. I have 120+ apps ready to be published as well... But I keep making new ones.

App development for android is mostly a gamble. There are thousands of new ones getting published every hour and what the difference in profitability between a subquality app that took a weekend to make and a project that took a year... But never will take off because everyone's already using Instagram/tinder/etc.

The two most searched webbars in the internet is Google.com's and YouTube's. Now Google play is getting a lot of searches for seemingly random things like a specific song lyrics or a video game character bio.

In the past year, I've made a cookie cutter design that when cloned and given a new "look" will allow me to publish a new app and generate income. I made 120 that way, each a soundboard/background setter app... I don't expect for it to take off, but an ad will show at least a few times. On launch. On choosing a background. On setting a background. It generates a few cents per user that session. It ads up.

I've spent a few weekends on much more quality apps, but it doesn't generate as much as the spammy ones.

Some have 10-20 downloads that took 40 hours to make that improve your life hell, but doesn't show up on the

search... And one has 250k+ and it took me literally 30 min from scratch to publishing.

If 30 minutes of work generates 30 dollars passively every month, then I just need to spray and pray.

dabrah1 • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 04:12 AM

**Occupation-** Train drivers for Lyft (Ubers competitor). I'm one of their mentors, aka the guy who interviews you and inspects your car before you can start driving. It pays better than most people would expect- 35 a person, and i average 3-7 people a day. I made 1200 this week. Best part- only worked 20 hours max, maybe less.

This gives me time for other ventures- either driving for Lyft/Uber on the weekends when its crazy busy, or working on building my Real Estate Clientele (just got my license). I am also a "Handy" professional which is essentially Uber for cleaning houses (you take jobs that work for your schedule, and have no mandatory minimum amount of jobs you need to complete). I do that more for fun than income- my primary income is mentoring and real estate.

Best part about all of these income streams? I make my own schedule with all of them, and the amount of money I make is directly correlated to the amount of work I put in. I also just bought an investment duplex, so add landlord to this mix. My plan is to buy 5-10 properties and then live off the cashflow. So yea.. I def live an unconventional life. I also have a bachelor's degree that as of now, I plan to never use.

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 07:22 AM

didn't know there was a position of training drivers for lyft. how did you get that? can i apply on their site or what?

dabrah1 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:35 PM

You basically have to be a driver, and keep your ratings super high for a couple months, and do 200+ rides. I used to drive after work at a full time job, and on the weekends. Once I got promoted I quit my job and have been doing this ever since

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:01 PM

that's interesting, I didn't know they had positions like that. did you ask for a promotion or they promoted automatically?

dabrah1 • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:36 PM

They asked me if I wanted to be a mentor , and I said yes. Honestly I thought it would just be another couple bucks a week. Now I don't even drive, I just mentor

chances\_are\_ur\_a\_fag • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 06:59 PM

thats pretty cool. i don't think uber has positions like that.

TRPhd • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 04:14 AM

Occupation: scientist

Income: salary based on grant funding. If you can get grants, or works for someone who does, you will always have a job. Basically as a scientist you are a profit center for your university; they take half of your grants for "expenses". The next largest part goes to "salary", so you pay yourself, but fucking believe your department will have something to say about what you pay yourself. The National Institutes of Health has a salary maximum of about \$180K per year, but PhD scientists rarely get that high. MD scientists tend to make that much, though they can always work in the hospital to cover extra expenses.

Unconventional income: you might get named on a patent... but that's pretty rare as an academic, and in industry you don't get extra pay for it. In a start-up is the only way to get a decent piece of patent money, and even that's a longshot.

Start Out: You have to get into grad school, so you need a science undergrad. Then you take an entrance exam (usually the GRE). How well you do on that determines if you can get directly into a PhD program, and how prestigious of a program you can get into. Masters degrees are pay-your-own-way, science PhDs are usually paid for by your professor and you get a small stipend (~\$1.8K/mo). PhDs in science take 3-7 years, and it's full-time work ~50 hours a week or so, with irregular hours and some academic responsibilities. But mostly you are a lab rat (who experiments on lab rats).

After your PhD, you do a post-doctoral (postdoc) or two for about \$40-50K/year. Hopefully you generate enough interesting data to get your own grant and a job. If you're unlucky or if your boss doesn't have/use their connections on your behalf, you're stuck doing another postdoc basically indefinitely. You can go work for industry sometimes for about \$60-80K, or go back and get a teaching degree like Walter White for about \$40K a year. If you want to get into a start-up your best chance is if your boss is starting one, otherwise, good fuckin' luck.

As a principal investigator (PI) running your own lab, your life sucks. You get students and postdocs of variable quality and your career depends on their data, because you are so swamped with writing and other responsibilities that you can't ever set foot in your own lab. You make about \$80K to start, but once you get that sweet-sweet NIH money you can bump your pay to the low \$100's. Don't get too big for your britches, though; if your salary money comes up short the Uni will cut your "extravagant" pay and farm you out as a "mere" instructor for their overpriced classes (teaching the masters' students).

Academia is shitty, no one has vision, everyone backstabs each other -- crab bucket to the extreme. Fuck academia. Industry is no paradise either -- science in cubicles. Puke. Your only hope is a startup, but science is so speculative you are going to have to work your ass off to even get any meetings with funding sources, and good luck if you don't have a track record to show them... oh, and who are the "experts" they consult about the feasibility of your projects? The aca-fucking-demics. Hah. The system is fucked.

Just go to med school. It's a shitty gig, too, but at least you're pretty much guaranteed a \$150K salary on the other side (and a \$250K debt, but that's another diatribe)...

tekn0\_ • 2 points • 2 March, 2016 02:01 AM

Hey thanks for the reply. I just finished my PhD in Engineering myself. I was wondering what your field was? Since you mentioned NIH, I suppose it is biology or biochemistry or medical science. Also, I wasn't really happy with the academic system in place. But it is what it is. Have you only looked for funding through grants? What do you think are other means to earn income stream with a research background?

TRPhd • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 02:28 AM

Molecular biology.

Honestly, you should look into working for a patent attorney evaluating other people's patents.

I've heard that a PhD in engineering sucks because a lot of companies consider you unemployable since you are "overeducated". Sorry.

tekn0\_ • 2 points • 2 March, 2016 03:39 AM

Yeah. I have thought about patent attorney route. Unfortunately I am a foreign national which kind of sucks, since citizenship issues are something I run into here while searching for a job in a typical company. For the time being I am looking for the post doc route since that will give me enough time



on the side to get some other projects of mine going.

Over educated or not really depends upon the kind of industry you get into. In certain research oriented industries you really need a PhD to even put your foot in. While some companies do consider you as being over educated. Really depends upon the area.

So have you secured your tenure and the like? How does that work?

[deleted] • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 09:30 AM

Occupation: Entrepreneur

I am from a poor family. Dad did not work due to serious injury. My mum and dad were great, a loving and supportive family but we grew up in a poor working class/ welfare neighborhood. I started work at 17 and put myself through law school while working full time in the legal industry. I earned good salaries during my working career and I have taken months and years off to travel to Europe and enjoy a holiday lifestyle while not working.

At 30 I left employment and started a private investigation company. With the profits from that I set up a marketing company and later opened my own law firm. Since I commenced self employment I have not worked long hours. I prefer to rely on outsourcing and delegation and use strict quality control with employees. My charge out rates are between \$250-500 per hour depending on which employee does the work. We settle large cases, the legal bills are regularly over \$50,000.00 per case.

I enjoy a leisurely lifestyle. I was married and I have two kids. I get to spend as much time as I like with my kids. The divorce has been relatively pain free for me (it helps being a lawyer plus my ex has been remarkably reasonable). Money is not really an issue as I own two properties, my three businesses and my annual turnover is above \$1 million.

If I could give any advice it would be to try and become an employer. It does not matter what you do, anything from a guy who mows lawns, to a doctor. If you want to make more money becoming an employer is a good way. Just hire more people to do the work that you would be doing. Better to be the boss of ten plumbers or ten doctors then do everything yourself.

I love my lifestyle. No one tells me where to be or what I have to do. It feels like I am in a position in life where I make the rules rather than follow them. Happy to answer any questions.

penworth • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 04:01 PM

Hey mystik! I just took the bar, any advice on being a lawyer?

I'm not in the US, if that changes anything in you giving some tips. I'm somewhere in SouthEast Asia

[deleted] • 2 points • 4 March, 2016 04:51 AM

I think it is best to aim for self employment. This means learning what you can from your early jobs always with a vision to setting up your own practice. Learn how your employers acquire clients. try and see what the cost per lead is. then get together a budget and try it out when you are ready. Try and secure your own stream of clients then hire people in the future. good luck

jewiger • 1 point • 15 March, 2016 01:12 AM

What made you get a divorce?

sir\_wankalot\_here • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 03:43 AM

I started from a middle class family, conservative. Basically the attitude become a corporate slave.



I do online consultancy gigs. Since they are in other countries and I get paid in US dollars I don't pay any tax.

dr\_warlock[S] • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 04:07 AM

How does one become a business consultant? What kind of things do you consult on?

sir\_wankalot\_here • 5 points • 28 February, 2016 04:36 AM

I have some programming skills, I then made a website and then look for gigs on freelance sites. You can do the same thing with copywriting skills (I don't have this skill), design etc.

I live in a developing nation so my monetary needs are quite small. I also dabble with selling rubbish online as I call it.

Any venture, invest small to start. If the venture does not appear to be prospering, either try something new or bail out. Don't throw good money after bad. A few times I didn't follow my own advice and that is when I lost big dollars.

Also remember cater to your audience. Just because you might think the product is rubbish who cares. Your audience is the one buying it.

Doing business is a lot like picking up chicks. And it is a numbers game. Like chicks don't be pushy. So if the potential client shows interest but hasn't made up his mind, then wait a month contact him again. Keep on doing that.

Also don't waste your time on clients or potential clients that waste yours. So if the guy keeps on saying he wants feature X for the same price and he keeps on raising the bar. Stop wasting time with him.

Keep in trying new shit no matter how stupid it might seem to you. If it doesn't work out then try something new. The key is an initial small investment.

Be prepared for lots of failure/rejection when that happens try a new angle and learn from your mistakes.

Everytime I screwed up I didn't follow my own advice. We have a tendency to fall in love with our project (or I do sometimes). So someone on my Trump language analysis post said he doesn't like Trump because he speaks at a grade 4 level and uses words like "great" and "tremendous". A large percentage of Americans like these type of words.

dr\_warlock[S] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 04:47 AM

When did you start doing this? What languages did you learn? Where did you acquire these skills?

sir\_wankalot\_here • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 05:09 AM

Mainly node and python. I just basically picked it up myself. I started playing around with C around 1995.

ruboski2 points 28 February, 2016 09:23 AM **[recovered]**

How did you get your first couple of clients? I've looked into this but it's hard without anything on paper to show that I'll be a good worker.

dr\_warlock[S] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 08:18 PM

There was a programmer in this thread that said to do a few side projects (ie templates) on your own to display. Then do a few cheap gigs to get some references (but never for free).

Look for it.

### **Occupation: Enlisted Military (Air Force) - Intelligence**

I can't talk say much about it; the military will provide for you but the pay is never really great. You'll get by, you won't need much revenue due to the low cost of living (housing, insurance, all that is covered.) I'll say this - if you are going to go into the military *go Airforce* especially if you're enlisted. Trust me, the army treats its enlisted like shit.

**Supplemental income** I play mid-stakes (500nl) live and online poker to supplement my income. I'm certainly not a pro but it can bring in a few extra grand a month (live, not online - online is tougher.) I can't understate how important it is to not let your job fully control your total income stream because thats in effect total control of your lifestyle and budget. You become dependent on the system which makes it easier to "drink the blue kool aid" and invest large amounts of time going through the bullshit and chasing pitiful promotions/raises (hundreds of hours of study and volunteering for a few extra hundred a month.) I'm not saying it's bad, it's just not something I could do.

**On to poker** - you need a stomach. Some days the cards will just say "fuck you" and that's that. But at least to me there's nothing like being on a run and raking in people's stacks. I can't teach you it here - there's too much to it, but I'll say this - No limit hold'em is a game of image. It's kind of like game - to be a good hold'em player means being able to hide or push past your insecurities (you'll often have a weak hand, it's hard to make strong hands in this game!) and just kind of getting by bravado, image, and bluster. It means picking your spots - being able to pick out an opponent's weakness and smell opportunity which again often means ignoring your actual cards and just going for it. It's also about getting paid off and cashing off when you're strong. You make yourself an image at that table and people do take notice.

Moldy\_Gecko • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 05:00 AM

| if you are going to go into the military go Airforce especially if you're enlisted.

Or better yet, don't join the military and get your life started straight away. However, yes... if you're looking for the "easy" life, AF all the way.

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 03:47 AM

| Trust me, the army treats its enlisted like shit.

My relatives agree that the Army and Navy treat enlisted like shit.

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 04:18 PM

Occupation: Economist

Side gig: Freelance Salesforce Admin/Developer

Essentially I do the initial setup of new Salesforce instances. It requires very little knowledge of programming. Mostly just how relational databases work and some basic HTML. SQL helps a little bit but only if they want to get fancy. Otherwise the Salesforce software takes care of everything. I make between \$500 and \$1k per setup on average and it takes me about 8-10 hours of work.

If you have basic level programming skills, you can easy get into this. I haven't updated my resume on LinkedIn in over three years but I still get 4-5 messages a month from headhunters looking for Salesforce Admins.

IamGale • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 05:51 PM

| Interesting side gig. Do you get all your clients from headhunters on LinkedIn?

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 12:55 AM

Nope. Mostly non-profits. They get 10 free licenses for Salesforce, so it's an easy sell to get them started because all they are paying is my fee + any basic training, but they avoid the big yearly subscription fee.

toothdude2 points 28 February, 2016 08:05 PM [\[recovered\]](#)

How can I get experience with Salesforce to get started? Any recommendations?

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 3 points • 29 February, 2016 01:12 AM

Salesforce will give you a free developer account. Then just work through their workbooks, and mock up your test environment to different businesses. I've actually sold some of those mock ups to clients after the fact. They had interesting demands/needs and I did a much more complete version than I would have normally. A few of them saw what their contact and donor management system could actually function like and jumped on board immediately.

Also join the Community site. There are a lot of great groups like Button Click Admins that are great for beginners and intermediate admins and developers. Finally, if you want to get paid, take the certification tests. They aren't that hard if you study and it only costs \$200.

madhatter393 • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 09:30 AM

Hi shadow bans. I'm currently in my 3rd year of University. After the completion of my 5th year I expect to have a Bachelor's of Science in Economics/Mathematics (Dual Degree) and a Bachelor's of Arts in Political Science.

I was wondering what are the kinds of jobs I can do to make money in the off time. I usually take 18-20 credits/units a semester to stay on track so I'm pretty busy. I already have one job that allows me to work from home, but am looking for another form of passive income.

Also could you describe to me your time as an economist? I don't expect to walk into one of these jobs fresh out of college but I was wondering what it's like from someone who is doing it.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to reply to this. It's a lot to ask, but your counsel will be appreciated.

Fuck\_shadow\_bans • 1 point • 2 March, 2016 12:35 PM

If you want the job title of "Economist", you have two options. One is to work for private finance firms, aka banks and Wall Street, and the other is to work for the government. If you choose the government route, you will spend most of your time writing cost benefit analysis for regulations in some boring part of the government until you can work your way up to a GS-13 position (or you can qualify directly for a GS-13 position with a PhD.) Once you get your 13, then you get to move to better agencies, like the Fed or the SEC or the FBI, and do the fun stuff. Until then, you rarely get to use most of the stuff you learned and it's pretty tediously boring if I am being honest. The pay is pretty good and the benefits are great, and I never had to worry about staying late or bringing my work home with me. Plus I should be at 13 within 2 years, so I can live with it.

That said, I know hundreds if not thousands of government workers, and I know of exactly 2 people who have "white collar" type positions (basically anything above a GS-9) that got their jobs through USAjob.gov It's pretty rare. I got my job because I had special hiring privilege due to AmeriCorps. Presidential Mangement Fellow is the other common program that people use to get their foot in the door.

[deleted] • 6 points • 28 February, 2016 04:50 AM\*

Occupation: Work for criminal appellate defense attorney.

I have 3 job offers from him and another firm. The market I am in is healthy for my field and I met them through LTR family and other connections. Grades helped as well. Wanted to be an attorney for some time. I had no illusions about what life was like and did my homework to make sure I could succeed. I did not go to law school for idealism or the idea that money will just be handed to me. I do not live in LA or the Northeast. Am curious to hear about other dudes occupations.

Blackierobinsin • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:34 PM

Can someone get me into porn

LuckyLuke23 • 2 points • 29 February, 2016 03:12 AM

What is your alternative revenue stream/unconventional occupation/unconventional lifestyle?

I sell vinyl records on a facebook page.

How did you start out?

when i bought my first record: I went into a shop with my girl at the time, Just a kid, 15. saw bob Dylan the greatest hits II. his big face on the cover with wispy hair, the deep dark blue cover just looking back at me. I had to have it.

I set up my vinyl store last year since i was broke and had no job. It's not going that well, only because I'm in school now and don't have time / money to put into it.

Where did you acquire the information you needed to get started and become successful?

I didn't, I've been in sales before so i know how to hock shit.

What were the struggles/obstacles? What is the reality that most get wrong or need to prepare for?

vinyl is hard because mostly hipsters and oldies buy them, so you need the indie shitty pop rock, or some metal like black sabbath. which i don't have either.

though, another challenge is no sales coming in. make sure you have some money behind you when starting a business i did not.

What strategy did you implement?

hey I'm broke, I like vinyl... hmmm... I KNOW! let's sell vinyl!

Where do you look for customers?

online mostly through facebook and local sites such as gumtree.

Are you married? Do you have a family?

I'm broke and I live with my folks.

How long have you been at it? Do you enjoy it?

all day wigga!

I do love it, once i get a job and a house i will be able to set things up more properly and then i can have people start flooding in.

riverfish7 • 2 points • 2 March, 2016 10:38 AM

## **Occupation:** Doctor turned online entrepreneur

Graduated from a top medical school in the UK in 2012. After finishing my Foundation training as a junior doctor (equivalent of internship in the US), I decided medicine wasn't for me and looked towards other career alternatives.

Currently I work as a locum doctor. What that means is I go through an agency and fill up shifts whenever a hospital is in desperate need of doctors (and often they are).

I get to work whenever I want to and make £7000-9000 per month.

This lifestyle has allowed me to take time off and travel extensively, sometimes for a few weeks at a time. Last year I travelled to 10 different countries. It has also allowed me to save up a chunk of money to start my own business (more on that below).

| Tax reduction methods most people don't know about?

The best part is, I get paid through my own limited company. Last year I was due to pay circa £15,000 in corporation tax. Instead, I managed to exploit a loophole in the system to legally avoid paying for it.

Accountants will definitely not be willing to do this for you so PM if you want more details about this.

After a summer of travels through Eastern Europe, I came back refreshed and decided I wanted to start my own business, despite having no experience whatsoever.

I stumbled upon the world of Amazon FBA Private Labelling. I started in October and my first PL product just launched 2 weeks ago.

Initially I gave myself a target of 2 months to reach a goal of 10 units sold per day. I've reached that target in 2 weeks. So far haven't made a profit yet, but I'm very optimistic with how the figures are running at the moment and am getting prepared to make a 2nd order and launch a 2nd product at the same time.

My goal is to have 5 different products under my brand, each selling 10 units a day.

The Amazon FBA PL business is a very popular business because of the amazing growth rates. For example, I have a friend who launched his first product in November and last month he made \$30k in sales.

| Are you from a rich family?

From an upper middle class family. Not obscenely rich. My parents always taught me the value of money. They are both self made entrepreneurs. But I've never had to struggle in my life.

| Was your home environment terrible?

No. Growing up I thought most people's families functioned the same as mine. Boy was I wrong. I'm extremely fortunate to have a strong-knit family. I use to be somewhat embarassed about my dad because he always seemed temperamental, stubborn, unreasonable and at times, rude. Only in the past year or two after reading about TRP have I grown more respect for my dad. I've slowly come to the realisation that my dad is in fact, a very red-pilled and alpha business man, who personifies the attitude of not giving a fuck.

| Did you go to community college, university or receive graduate or doctoral education?

I went to a top medical school in the UK. I was a diabolically shit student however. It was clear from very early on that I was not that interested in medicine. I did the absolute minimum to pass and it's a miracle that I did.

Despite the fact that I didn't like medicine, I'm extremely glad that I didn't quit. All too often, people quit their majors/careers because they don't like it, which is the wrong way of looking at it. My brother told me only to quit my profession because I have something better waiting for me. Spot on advice I'd say.

Staying on in medical school has allowed me a lifestyle where I get to make great money whilst funding my

travels and my online business. If all else fails, I can always fall back on continuing my training as a doctor (I don't believe in backup plans though).

More importantly however, when you are a lazy and unmotivated student like I was, medical school really kicks you up the ass and forces discipline down your throat. In many ways because of its hierarchical and conservative culture, training to become a doctor is very much the same as training in the army.

Did people shame you or not believe you?

Big time. My RP journey started about 1.5 years ago after I broke up with my ex, who looking back, probably had BPD. I wasn't entirely BP back then, but I was a guy who was seemingly content with letting life float by.

Back in high school, I was part of the popular crowd and even had a gf. But after going to medical school, I became very detached from society and life in general. I gained 20kg in my 2nd year. Smoked 20 cigarettes a day. Spent all my days playing computer games and poker instead of studying. Pretty much made zero friends during the entire time. And girls were completely out of the question.

After graduating, I managed to lose the 20kg. Gave up on computer games and poker completely. There were a few girls here and there. But the problem is, I constantly felt trapped being a doctor.

It wasn't until after I broke up with my ex that I really started taking serious action with my life:

I started lifting weights more seriously. A few years ago, I could barely do even 1 pull up. Now I can comfortably do 3x10.

Gave up smoking completely (18 months and counting). More recently, I have just given up caffeine, which was even harder but something that I highly recommend to everyone. Once I got through all the awful headaches, I've noticed that I have more focus and energy throughout the entire day.

Day game. This was huge for me. I'm not a daygame nut and I know I will never be, but in the first few months of daygame I had done a few hundred approaches. I'm a firm believer that daygame improves all aspects of your life, not just with women. Even if I didn't live up to the expectations of getting laid by 9s and 10s every week, just the very fact of knowing that there were some seriously hot women who were attracted to me did wonderful things for my confidence and sense of entitlement. And confidence begets confidence. Even though I haven't approached in months, the IOIs I get when I walk around the city with my gf has quickly gotten rid of the scarcity mindset I was plagued with before.

Actively applied for jobs outside of medicine. Worked a few months at a top digital health startup. Even worked in a favourite restaurant of mine because I thought I wanted to become a chef at one point.

The downside of this all is that once you start improving all aspects of my life, you start to see who really are your *true* friends. I've had friends make seemingly innocent comments veiled over jealousy and contempt. I've had to distance myself away from these friends simply because I realised they added no value to my life. It's sad but on the whole I'm better for it.

probpoopin • 3 points • 28 February, 2016 04:49 PM

I grow weed. I work too. But it basically pays all my bills and a nice vacation every year. Which allows me to save more.

[deleted] • 1 point • 1 March, 2016 04:11 AM

Can you elaborate on this as much as possible?

Investment, time in business, current income, expenses, police presence, etc. I'm curious because I want to start a side business growing weed but I know nothing about it other than I love smoking it.



SingAlong\_Original • 2 points • 2 March, 2016 04:54 PM

You gotta research the shit out of it it's too much for me to explain.

If you do it right a dank plant can get between 2-3 ounces. Sell for about \$200 an ounce. In my state you can have up to 6 plants before its a felony so that's minimum \$2400 every 3 months. But theirs allot of risk, anyone can learn to grow dope but flipping that correctly and not get robbed is a art in itself.

I can elaborate more on that part but you also need to think. It's 20% growing 80% business.

Im not speaking from experience but i have friends who do this shit and I've seen a few go down in some way because they do their important shit high

Rougepellet • 4 points • 28 February, 2016 06:18 AM

I'm currently a student, first year uni, no source of income yet. I'm a bit of a content (entertainment) creator making videos on YouTube. Apart from my personality and sense of humor I don't have many markatable assests or skills, working on that. I have experience with video editing softwares so I suppose I should try and market that or turn that into a source of income no matter how small somehow. I'm in the IT side of engineering so I'm learning Java right now

MORKET • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 09:32 AM

How long have you been learning java for? I'm in the same boat (also learning it), a few weeks in. What resources do you use?

Rougepellet • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 01:53 PM

Since the start of second semester, uses Solo Learn's app learn Java for the basics. Usually code on Dr Java or eclipse

el\_pildora\_roja • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 11:18 AM

Not in business yet but I think this is an appropriate thread to get some needed insight.

About to finish my undergrad right now after many starts and stops along the way. To be honest I've come to believe that my degree wont really be useful to me in the future and am only doing this out of respect for my dad who has been paying for me this whole time.

Right now I have two choices after I finish: stay where I am, try to find an entry level job somewhere and hope I get enough experience and opportunities to start something on my own or; leave the country I'm in to go back home, work with my dad who's currently trying to expand the family business and eventually take over everything.

### **Pros and Cons**

#### **Option A**

While I consider myself pretty sharp and have a decent range of employment experience under my belt, I don't have any tangible skills to show for all my years in school

To this end I'm both limited in the jobs available to me and the jobs that I can go into

This makes my long term goal of being independent and a business owner highly contingent on other factors

#### **Option B**

I would have to work under my dad who in spite of his years of business experience, is somewhat beholden to his family members to the extent that they can often interfere with business practices



To this end I would have to somehow consider this behavioral tendency in all business decisions until I have sufficient control, a potentially more challenging prospect

The path to independence in this way is quicker albeit requires more maneuvering and could be more challenging i.e. I either make the company grow or it sinks and I'm on my ass with nothing.

Having said all this I feel more inclined for option B. However I concede that I am young and prone to being over confident in my own ability which can make me impatient. Thoughts?

UniversalFapture • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 06:17 PM

*WARNING*This response contains cheating, Piracy, and violating apples terms of service.

Alright. Ill contribute. This may sound stupid, but here we go.

If i were you, id download this all called Taps for Money, And another one called Tappt. Along with a hacking website that can generate paypal and amazon credit called Apiesoft. You must pay for the software though.

Anyhow, for both ios apps, tappt and taps for money, you should get a jailbroken device.

Once in cydia, download the hackyouriphone repo or biteyourapple repo. With those you can download payed tweaks.

Taps for money pays 15 dollars after you tap a button a million times. You get payed after a month of your chose between amazon and paypal. You also have to send in proof of identity in PDF format by email. I used my permit.

In cydia, download Autotouch. With this you can set it to tap something as many times as you want as often as you want. You can record taps as well. Say you want to tap every corner of the screen. You can record, tap those corners yourself, end the recording and boom. Your done. You can now tell the software to use the recording to replicate everything you just did . Say, 1 million times. In an interval of 0 seconds. Or 10. Or however long you want it to wait.

Do the same with the app called tappt. Same premise, except it pays \$300 to paypal only. Within the first week of the next month. You have to have the most taps out of anyone in the contest though. Sometimes it will ask you to punch in a code to continue. Ive experienced that while using autotouch on it.

Be careful though, you can get locked out the competition if you go overboard. You'll be able to join back in after the contest is over. I join back today.

[deleted] 28 February, 2016 07:09 PM

[permanently deleted]

R3v4mp3d • 2 points • 2 March, 2016 10:16 AM

I've gone a few times to a Chiropractor.

I am both optimistic and skeptical, but always open minded. I have back issues (like most white collar office workers) from sitting at the desk and being sedentary for too long.

The cost: the price is relatively high for the country I'm in (~20\$ a session) so (I or most people I know) can't really afford more than 3-4 times a month because the costs quickly rack up. Recommended for me would be probably 10 sessions a month, a few months in a row.

The experience: AMAZING! Great effects, I feel better, less pains, regained some mobility and unlocked some swollen/ locked muscles which were stiff for years! This is no bullshit practice to rip you off. It's just expensive for 3rd world countries.

The business side: I talked to my practitioner and he has over a decade in the field, is also teaching his

practice part time at a university and he's an independent practitioner. He didn't tell me directly, but based on our discussions I gauged that he made well over 1500\$/ month (post taxes and all). Remember that we're in a 3rd world here, he's charging about 20\$ per session (1 session being 40 mins - 1H). This 1500 gives him a well placed seat somewhere between middle-middle class and higher-middle class (I incline to say higher-middle class). If you change setting to a first world setting (say America, UK, Germanic countries, etc), I presume that his net income (again post taxes and all) would be around 5000-6000\$ a month.

[deleted] • 2 points • 28 February, 2016 08:48 AM

Reminds me of this one

[TheRedPill/comments/43u591/fr\\_pretend\\_to\\_be\\_a\\_girl\\_men\\_buy\\_you\\_stuff/](#)

[deleted] • 1 point • 28 February, 2016 11:37 AM

UK ONLY - don't know what the situation is in America. But look into Matched Betting. Guaranteed profits from free bets and bonuses from bookies.

It can be tedious but I've made over £4,000+ in just over 9 months. PM me if you're interested because it's a difficult concept to get your head around if you've never done anything like that before. But now single mum's and students and everyone are doing it.

TRPhd • 1 point • 29 February, 2016 04:01 AM

If "everyone" is doing it, someone will profit by breaking it at some point. Call me cynical, but that's been the historical perspective on that type of thing.

The men selling supplies to gold miners in California during the Gold Rush made a lot more money than the miners ever did.