**Affiliate Business Plan**

Starting an affiliate business is one of the fastest and least expensive ways to make money from home over the Internet. An affiliate business gives you the flexibility to choose products you want to promote, and choose the specific ways you would like to promote them. With an affiliate business, you simply generate sales for other companies and you earn income in sales commissions.

**Step 1**

Plan and prepare the affiliate business model you will use. Multiple successful business models work well with an affiliate business. A few examples include: Direct advertising through Pay Per Click search engines such as Google, information publishing through your own website, and reviews or referrals through social networks or online clubs.

**Step 2**

List three to five types of products you would like to market. Depending upon the business model you chose, you may decide to market products you enjoy or you may decide to market only products that have the most profit potential for your affiliate business. Limit yourself to just a few products in the beginning so that you don't become overwhelmed.

**Step 3**

Write down the types of people who like the products you have chosen to market. This is your target market. Women will be more interested in fashion or jewelry than teenage boys for example, but younger newly married women may be more interested in baby or family-oriented products instead. Write down as many details as you can for your target market because being able to speak to them on their level through your publishing and advertising efforts is critical to a successful affiliate business.

**Step 4**

Sign up with affiliate networks and merchants who offer affiliate programs selling the products you wish to promote. Before setting up new affiliate accounts, be sure to read through the terms of use and policies for affiliates. Reputable merchants and affiliate networks do not charge fees for you to sign up, but they may have restrictions on the type of advertising you are allowed to do for their products. If you plan to use a direct advertising business model with PPC advertising for example, you will not want to sign up as an affiliate with an advertiser who does not allow affiliates to use PPC marketing.

**Step 5**

Set up other online accounts that are needed for your chosen business model. If you plan to use a website and online publishing for your affiliate business you will need to register a domain name and setup a website hosting account for example, and PPC marketers need to sign up for advertising accounts at search engines.