

REENTRY PACKET

Your Customized Guide to Support your Successful Transition



National Web-based Reentry Resource Center

www.fairshake.net

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PRE-RELEASE INVENTORY

Additional items to add to your list!

1. List the gifts that you bring with you!

- Include your courage, determination and authenticity.
- Your ability to listen well and offer the greatest gift a person can give: your attention.
- The special tools and skills you've developed to share with employers, coworkers, customers and clients.
- Expanded knowledge, compassion and commitment to those who are close to you.
- The unique perspective, and pro-social community-building skills that you have to construct the future with others!



2. Prepare for tough times. Write down book titles, articles, names of friends and family, and community resources you can turn to when things are tough; or when you feel down or vulnerable. When it's difficult to reach out to people; books may be a good place to start.

3. Check for "Over-Confidence". It's crucial to be confident...but foolish to be over-confident! Here are a couple of ideas to locate and address possible points of overconfidence:

- + Play "Devil's Advocate". Be critical and pessimistic. If possible, solicit the help of a friend or a young person. (In general, the young are better at this than adults.)
- + Resist comparing yourself to others. Everyone does things differently!
- + Listen to, and address, concerns or criticisms from others. This doesn't mean you need to argue with them or change course. Just check to see if you are fully considering their perspective.
- + Mix modesty and humility with enthusiasm.

4. Remember: you've got a lot of choices ahead! There's always more than one option, and almost always more than two. Try to find at least 4 options from which you can build or blend options to create your best opportunities!

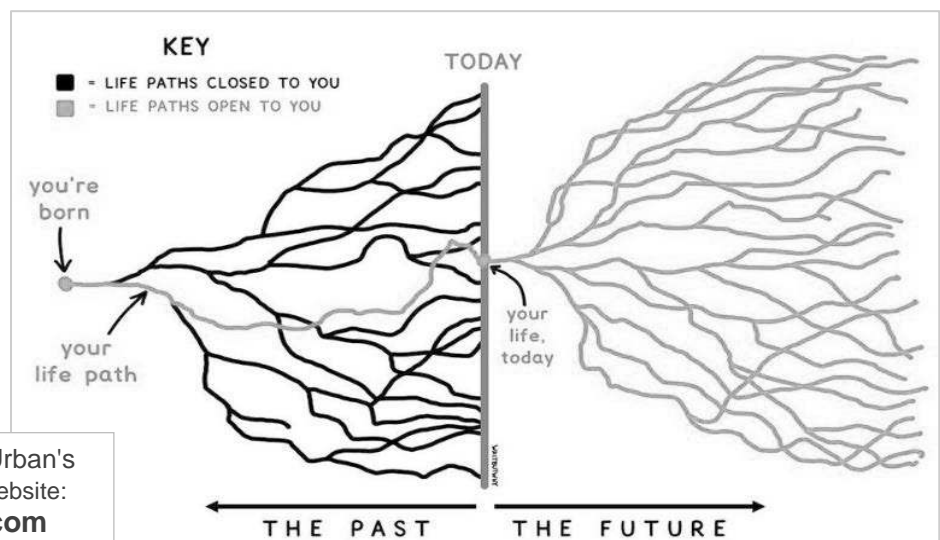


Image from Tim Urban's
Wait But Why website:
waitbutwhy.com

AGENCY and ACTION

What can we do,
with what we have,
where we are,
right now ?

*** We can get ready for change; ready to build what comes next; ready for the unknown! We can read, write, plan, draw, and think – as a strategic problem solver and community building collaborator.

*** We can stay flexible...mentally and physically...so that whatever comes, we will be ready and able to adjust and contribute.

*** We can reflect, and deepen our understanding and compassion.

*** We can consider the things that we would most love to give our deep attention to and consider how our unique gifts could bring strength to the areas we are most passionate about.

*** We can gather tools and build skills that we will need such as attending to issues with anxiety, depression, loneliness, self-doubt; or deepening skills we already have and which are so hard to find such as listening and caring.

*** We could learn something important for community building, so we can share it with any community we join.

*** Feel free to reach out to Fair Shake to see if we can connect you with a group of people who are working in the area where you would like to invest your efforts: outreach@fairshake.net.

Wishing you all the best through your transitions to come! Your success is important to me...and to our future together. **Ubuntu!**

ELDER SUPPORT

This page is just a sample of resources on our constantly updated webpage: www.fairshake.com/elders

Elders (65 years old and older) make up the fastest growing age segment of the US population. This population will be targeted for support programs, transportation, activities and various types of living accommodations, and they will all change and expand along with the elders. And just like Fair Shake's web-page for Elder Support. We hope you will help us learn about other free resources. We can add them to our webpage so that everyone can benefit from them!

But before we list resources, here are some benefits of a 'gift exchange' with the elders in your life:

Gifts that elders can give to us: SLOWING DOWN. LIVE IN THE NOW. LISTENING SKILLS. HEALTH BENEFITS! REFLECTION SKILLS (How will we want to be treated when we need help?)

Gifts that we can give to elders: CARE. ATTENTION. NOTICING. LISTENING. DEFENDING THEIR DIGNITY, SELF-HOOD & AGENCY

Senior Employment These are federal programs; states have elder employment programs, too.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Senior Community Service Employment Program

Provides training for low-income, unemployed seniors.
<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/eta/seniors>



careeronestop

your source for career exploration

Older Worker Program Finder

Find employment services for low-income, unemployed seniors.
<https://www.careeronestop.org/LocalHelp/EmploymentAndTraining/find-older-worker-programs.aspx>

Senior Volunteer Opportunities

Millions of elders (65 and older) volunteer every year.



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Seniors

americorps.gov/serve/americorps-seniors
They offer many ways you can help others.
Discover the program that's right for you!

Social Security Administration

ssa.gov

Office of Public Inquiries and Communications Support
1100 West High Rise
6401 Security Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21235



Eldercare Locator

eldercare.acl.gov 1-800-677-1116

The U.S. Administration on Aging connects you to services for older adults and their families.

Family Caregiver Alliance

caregiver.org 800.445.8106

We're here to help you. All resources are free, and assistance through CareNav is free, secure, and private.



**Family
Caregiver
Alliance®**

CARING FOR ELDERS WHO NEED EXTRA CARE

Elders are a crucial segment of our community. They have much to teach us and many gifts to share. The elders of today were our caregivers when we were not able to take care of ourselves. They did not charge us for their efforts, and asked for nothing. Wouldn't it be nice to return the favor?

I realize this is not possible in many scenarios. I lived through one myself. But I know that with creativity and willingness, opportunities sometimes arise and we can simply share time with the elders in our life, even when they are getting support in a facility. Care-givers in facilities can do a lot, but they are often quite busy, and cannot slow down to share time to through a magazine, or sing, or go for a stroll.

According to the National Institute on Aging, 1/3 of all adults age 85 and older may have some form of dementia. There are several forms of dementia; Alzheimer's is just one type. Dementia is diagnosed when we reach a specific point in the forgetfulness spectrum. As of this writing, I'm 58 years old. I forget things all the time...like why I walked into a room, or what day it is, and many simple regularly-used words. We ALL, on occasion, forget, get confused, and even need help knowing what day it is. What we want, when we forget, is generosity and kindness from those around us. People with a dementia diagnosis want the same thing. Some nice gifts that we can offer them include:

**ACCEPTANCE * AGENCY * IDENTITY * LISTENING * NOTICING * EYE CONTACT * MUSIC
CARE * CHOICE between two things * OUTDOORS * NICELY SCENTED SOAP * SOFT TOWELS**



Validation Training Institute, Inc. <https://vfvalidation.org/>
P.O. Box 871 Pleasant Hill, OR 97455

Validation can help you improve and integrate new communication skills, gain competence and confidence in dealing with difficult situations. You will have less stress and frustration, and more joy.

Fair Shake Book Recommendation:

Dignity for Deeply Forgetful People by Stephen G. Post How Caregivers Can Meet the Challenges of Alzheimer's Disease

Learn to notice and appreciate expressions of continuing self-identity and include deeply forgetful people in your vision of a shared humanity! Drawing from years of experience, author Stephen Post challenges us to set aside 'hypercognitive biases' to learn from 'differently abled' people. He inspires us to deliberate about inalienable dignity, autonomy, identity, worth and authenticity. Post stresses the continuity of selfhood in persons (not patients, not victims, not disposable objects) experiencing the increasing challenges of cognitive decline. He argues for a deeper dignity grounded in consciousness, emotional presence, creativity, interdependence, music, and a self that is not "gone" but "differently abled."



Music can support mind and heart:

Music is deeply rooted in conscious and unconscious areas of our brain. Music can awaken the rich trove of memories that are associated with familiar songs or beloved pieces. Help the elders in your life connect to joy through music! You can sing, play favorite songs, play the soundtrack to musicals, leave the classical or jazz music station on all day.

Other ways to engage:

Art, Crafts, Gardening, Cooking / Eating, Looking Through Picture Books. These are all great activities for living in the present moment, and also for triggering good memories.

Advocacy - Justice Involved Organizations

Prisoner Visitation and Support (PVS) is a volunteer visitation program to Federal and Military prisoners throughout the United States.

1501 Cherry St
Philadelphia PA 19102
Phone: (215) 241-7117
PVS@afsc.org

<http://www.prisonervisitation.org/>

Advocacy - Justice Involved Organizations

Are you facing a legal issue, or just looking for more information about a specific legal topic? FindLaw's Learn About the Law section is the perfect starting point. Learn About the Law features informational articles about a wide variety of legal topics, as well as specific information about subjects such as how to hire an attorney and understanding your state's unique laws.

<http://www.findlaw.com/>

Employment - Employment Services

We are dedicated to helping you find your next career! The National Urban League is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to elevating the standard of living in historically underserved urban communities. Founded in 1910, the National Urban League spearheads the effort of its local affiliates through the development of programs, public policy research and advocacy.

<http://www.nuljobsnetwork.com/>

Employment - Employment Services

21 Workforce Connection Centers around the state!

<https://www.jobs.state.nm.us/vosnet/Default.aspx>

Food - Food Pantry

Find local pantries, soup kitchens, food shelves, food banks and other food help.

https://www.foodpantries.org/st/new_mexico

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Clinic

Clinics listed on our website offer services for free or at a reduced rate. Many clinics are operate under a sliding scale schedule. This means that costs to patients are calculated based on income.

<https://www.freeclinics.com/>

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Dental Clinic

We continuously update our website with new information on dental clinics. Many of the resources for dental care are free, but many are based on income and/or discounted in other manners. Please review the listings and contact the dental clinics through the websites provided (and/or phone numbers listed), to obtain full details. We do not offer guidance. If you find any of our information improper, or if you have any question, please email us at support@thedentistsneartheme.com. We will immediately reply to your email.

https://www.usdentalservice.com/?gclid=EAlaIqobChMIyaH1p9_k9gIVWZcAAB0lrg1FEAEYASAAEgK7cvD_BWE

Health - Reduced Cost Medication

(888) 311-6224 x115

Advocacy - Justice Involved Organizations

122 Commerce Street
Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 269-1803

EJI is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the U.S., challenging racial and economic injustice, and protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. EJI is working to end our misguided reliance on over-incarceration.

<https://eji.org/criminal-justice-reform/>

Computers and Technology - Equipment Internet and Training

Everyone On helps unlock social and economic opportunity by connecting low-income people to affordable internet service and computers, and delivering digital skills trainings. Find Low-Cost Internet Service, Computers and Free Training in Your Area!

<https://www.everyoneon.org/find-offers>

Employment - Employment Services

New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions, Attn: NMWorks Program
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, NM 87103
1-800-283-4465

We can help you acquire the skills, training, and knowledge you need to find the right job! You can also get paid to work in a full-time State government job with wage subsidy or part-time job with Career Link.

<https://www.dws.state.nm.us/NMWorks>

Employment - Employment Services

America Works includes work readiness training, vocational training, career placement, career advancement, and employment retention services. Our mission is to equip each individual who comes to our offices with the right tools so that they are able to provide for themselves and their loved ones. People find employment, and employers find talent! Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, you must contact the office first before you can engage in in-person services. Click on the link above to find the location nearest to you.

<https://americaworks.com/virtual-contact-info/>

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Clinic

1,400 Free and Charitable Clinics and Pharmacies provide access to healthcare for uninsured and underinsured people in communities across the U.S. Find one near you!

<https://nafcclinics.org/>

Health - Free/Sliding Scale Clinic with Dental

Listings that can help low-income and uninsured people connect with a clinic or community health center in their area. These clinics offer free and discounted rates for medical and dental care. Our county listings include contact information, a listing of services and any further remarks that may be pertinent to our users, such as free services provided, discounted services provided and clinic operating hours.

https://freeclinicdirectory.org/new_mexico_care.html

Save an average of 15-55% on your prescriptions! Print a free card or download the app to your phone.
<https://www.americasdrugcard.org/index.aspx>

Money - Finances/Budgeting

GreenPath will work with you to build a personalized plan of action for regaining control of your debt. We assess your household budget, find places for you to save, and help you prioritize your payments to creditors and plan a lifestyle that you can afford. It all works toward helping you achieve your financial goals, better manage debt and avoid problems in the future. Available in Spanish.
<http://www.greenpath.com/>

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

Our findhelp technology powers Americas leading social care network. Our network features more than 300,000 free and reduced-cost programs in all 50 U.S. states, territories, and Puerto Rico, powering social care systems for hundreds of customers nationwide.
https://www.findhelp.org/find-social-services/new-mexico?ref=ab_redirect

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

211 staff connects those in need with health and human services, government agencies, and community-based organizations that can help. Reach us at (505) 245-1735 for callers using a voice over IP number including Google Voice
<https://tinyurl.com/2s3nx3n5>

Special Considerations - Disability Support

Government agencies and disability rights organizations in New Mexico.
https://www.olmsteadrights.org/self-helptools/advocacy-resources/item.7021-New_Mexico_Disability_Resources_and_Advocacy_Organizations

Special Considerations - Elders

The New Mexico Aging and Long-Term Services Department is dedicated to promoting the independence and dignity of elders and individuals living with a disability
<http://www.nmaging.state.nm.us/>

Health - Health Department

A Healthier New Mexico. The New Mexico Department of Health works in many ways to promote, preserve and protect your health. Find programs and services in the website!
<https://www.nmhealth.org/>

Health - Reduced Cost Medication

HELPLINE (800) 503-6897 in English or Spanish. Find help with the cost of medicine! We offer a free drug discount card that may help you obtain a substantially lower price on your medications.
<https://www.needymeds.org/drug-discount-card>

Money - Finances/Budgeting

800.388.2227
Free Credit Counseling! Our mission is to help all Americans gain control over their finances. For over 60 years, NFCC and its member agencies have helped people just like you pay off debt and grow in their financial capability. Our services help people overcome financial challenges at nearly every stage of life.
<https://www.nfcc.org/>

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

Search for benefits in Education, Grants, Loans, Social Security, Housing and Utilities, Employment and Career Development, Financial Assistance and more.
<https://www.benefits.gov/categories>

Reentry Resource - Multiple Resources Available

Scroll down the page to find your state. Titles in the left column will lead you to resources available nationwide. If you scroll down the page to find your state name, you can click on that for statewide resources.

<https://www.needhelppayingbills.com/index.html>

Special Considerations - Disability Support

State of New Mexico
491 Old Santa Fe Trail
Santa Fe, NM 87501-2753
Phone: 505-476-0412
Toll-free (in state only): 877-696-1470
Support for:
Blind & Low Vision
Deaf & Hard of Hearing
Physical
Cognitive
Intellectual & Developmental
Brain Injury
Mental & Behavioral Health
Chemical Sensitivity

<http://gcd.state.nm.us/resources-by-disability/>

Special Considerations - Elders

We help New Mexicans achieve lifelong independence and healthy aging. Many resources and services can be found on this website.
<https://nmaging.state.nm.us/>

Employment Tips

We often have to work our way up to the job we want; either because it is not available when we go to find it or we need more experience, education, preparation or time to get ready. Although we will spend time working at jobs that are not our preference, we can enjoy the interim more when we stay focused on our goals.

Start by asking yourself:

- What kind of job or career do I want?
- What am I willing to do, learn or sacrifice to get that job or career?

Before venturing out into the world of work you will have to obtain necessary documents.

The most frequently requested documents are:

- Birth Certificate
- Driver's license or Basic Identification
- Social Security Card

The birth certificate and driver's license forms offered in our Employment Documents are samples. You can find links to the applications that you need in our Resource Directory!

Next, ask yourself the following questions

- What occupations or industries in your area are in need of employees?
- What are your employment limitations due to your particular crime?
- What is the income you need in order to pay for housing, food, energy, phone, child support, restitution, transportation, etc? (check out our [Build a Budget Worksheet](#))
- Which strategies do you think would be most effective for "selling" your attributes?

To prepare to apply for a job you may want to create the following worksheets:

- Inventory your work history in and out of prison
- List your training, skills, limitations, and health considerations
- Gather all the information you will need to fill out employment applications. Are you ready to fill them out online? (Several companies only accept online applications.)

Considerations and Preparation

What are your employment resources?

- Classified ads (in the paper or locally found on-line)
- Applying for jobs with companies you want to work for
- Job Assistance and Job Training centers
- Craigslist, Monster.com, other job-search websites

Skills Assessment and Personal Strengths Evaluation

Consider taking a free online self-assessment test help us see what careers we are suited for. If you type the phrase 'self-assessment test' into any search engine, several options will be available for you to check out.

Do you need clothes for your interview or new job?

Check out Dress for Success, a global program that may have a location near you!

(www.dressforsuccess.org)

Resume' and Interview tips:

Two good places where you get the chance to show a company why they cannot afford NOT to hire you. Keep these tips in mind as you write your application or resume', and prepare for job interviews:

- Be cheerful in your in-person or telephone job interviews.
- Talk about the benefits of your experience and the relevant expertise you offer.
- Speak about the value you would bring to the company.
- Share stories in the job interview about success in prior assignments.
- Talk about your ability to work with a diverse group of people.

Typical Barriers to Employment:

- Lack of updated resume
- Appropriate clothing for job search
- Transportation
- Stable housing
- Substance abuse
- Poor interview skills
- Poor job search skills
- Not a high school graduate
- No documentation (ID, Social Security card)

SMART: What is your strategy for overcoming barriers and creating success?

You can create a clear strategy by following SMART guidelines:

Specific Measurable Attainable Realistic Timely (or Tangible)

Specific – what is the specific goal you wish to achieve?

Can you answer these questions?

- Who do you need to be involved?
- What do you really want to accomplish?
- When do you want to accomplish it?
- Where do you need to be to accomplish it?
- Why do you want to achieve this goal?
- Which things do you need to get in order and which are the constraints to achieving your goal?

Measurable – How will you know when you've achieved your goal? What criteria have you set up to measure your progress and reach your target dates?

Attainable – Can you see yourself achieving this goal? Can you see the path to get there and then see yourself in that place of having reached the goal?

Realistic – Are you willing and able to achieve the goal?

Timely – How long do you need to achieve your goal? Work out your goal date and then the smaller goals that must be met to meet that goal date?

Tangible – Imagine: can you taste, touch, smell, see or hear the results of achieving your goal?



www.fairshake.net

PO Box 63 Westby, WI 54667 608-634-6363

Fair Shake Employer Support

All of this information and much more can be found at <https://www.fairshake.net/employers>

Although tremendous responsibility is on the shoulders of those transitioning from prison to society, their success is made possible only when the entire community is involved.

Employers have the opportunity to help create one of the first and most stable bridges to reentry success. Fair Shake supports an employer's desire to understand formerly incarcerated applicants by offering tools and information to help you make informed, careful hiring decisions.

Fair Shake has also created tools for our members to more fully demonstrate their character than may be available on a standard job application through our free "office in the clouds", which includes a Personal Web Page.

The FAIR SHAKE PERSONAL WEB PAGE (PWP): What you learn about these applicants

Building a Fair Shake personal web page is not an easy feat! Formerly incarcerated people who create this page demonstrate many things to you:

- **HONESTY:** They are open, honest and direct by letting you know s/he has been incarcerated. As you may well imagine, this takes an enormous amount of courage. We know that honesty is imperative to building trust. Is honesty something you are looking for in your employees?
- **SELF-MOTIVATION:** Creating this page demonstrates the applicant's perseverance, tenacity, and desire to succeed. S/he had no coercion in building this page; there was no class for it nor did anyone recommend they do this. They built the page of their own volition.
- **TECH-SKILLS:** A variety of computer skills were required to create the Personal Web Page including: scanning, storage, typing, and understanding 'cloud' technology; to name a few.
- **HUMANNESS:** In addition to the above, the applicant offers information here that describes more than skills and experiences; you learn who they are and what they bring to your organization. This information is very important in building company culture, but is not requested on standard job applications.

Why hire a formerly incarcerated person?

- To keep your options open for hiring the best possible candidate!
- Many formerly incarcerated people have received extensive training
- Many formerly incarcerated people are motivated to work
- Many formerly incarcerated people have a job coach or advisor
- Support is available for training and reducing risk

Fidelity Bonding Program

The **Fidelity Bonding Program** offers six months of free bonding support to businesses across the country to lower their risk when hiring applicants who have been incarcerated.

Federal Fidelity Bonding Program: <http://bonds4jobs.com>

Bonding can:

- Reduce your risk when you hire formerly incarcerated people
- Provide six months of FREE insurance against employee theft
- Be obtained quickly and easily by just a phone call to confirm your hire

To bond a formerly incarcerated new hire today **call toll-free: 877-US2-JOBS (877-872-5627)**

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC)

The WOTC is a special tax credit available for hiring former felons (and others) and must occur within one year of their release date. The WOTC is available to any size business from small organizations to national corporations. The credit is also available for any type of job. The work can be full-time, part-time, temporary, or seasonal.

Facts about the WOTC tax credit:

- Employers can save as much as \$2,400 in taxes
- Applies to the first year of employment
- The new employee must work 120 hours for the employer to begin to receive credit

Exceptions:

- Not for independent contractor work
- Not for a business owned by a close relative

To find out more: <http://www.doleta.gov/business/incentives/opptax/wotcEmployers.cfm>

Or call: 1-800-829-4933

Employee Training Support

Your business may be eligible for a state or federal training grant (or other funding). To find out what you may qualify for, check with your Workforce Investment Board, Small Business Development Center, or economic development agency.

- Workforce Investment Board: <http://www.servicelocator.org/contactspartners.asp>
- Small Business Development Center: <https://www.sba.gov/tools/local-assistance>
- Economic Development Agency: <https://www.sba.gov/content/economic-development-agencies>

Ban the Box:

Are you ready to remove the box that says 'Have you ever been convicted of a felony?' from your job application forms? If so, we can help! <https://www.fairshake.net/ban-the-box/>

On our page you will find:

- Best Practices and Model Policies
- Fair Chance Fact Sheet
- Community Hiring Model
- Which states, cities and counties *Ban the Box*
- Learn from dedicated states like Minnesota who have Banned the Box for both public- and private-sector jobs. They freely share information for you to do this, too.

Self-Employment

CAUTION: Entrepreneurship is NOT for the weak!

The idea of owning a business is attractive to many types of people. Some are drawn to 'be their own boss', to work closer to where they live, or to provide a product or service to an area where it is needed. Some people feel they can take more pride in their work and also be recognized for their efforts, still others feel they can have greater job security and may even be able to sell their business or pass it on to their children. Our shared *American Dream* features a 'rags to riches' story that includes a plucky protagonist that pulls her- or himself up with their bootstraps to achieve financial and social success.

One of our basic human needs is to feel we have the power to determine our destiny. Owning your own business is certainly one way to take control. Unless the start-up is handled cautiously, intelligently and with a long-term commitment, however, a person can drive their dream right into the ground.

This brief document will only cover the very basics (mostly using bullet points!) of things to consider in starting a business. It is merely a check list to assess if this is the right path for you, and also to consider some of the many things you'll need to address to get started...and then to keep it running.

Let's begin with some simple questions to ask yourself:

- What kind of business do I want to start? Will I provide a product or a service?
- Where will my business be located? What type of community supports my business? (examples: neighborhood, city, state, internet)
- Who are my customers? What makes them different from other consumers?
- How must I organize my company: What regulations must I follow? Does this business require special licensing or permits? How should I incorporate? (examples: LLC, S Corp, B Corp, non-profit)
- Where and how will I advertise or otherwise communicate to my customers?
- Does my business benefit all of the members of the community in which it is located?
- What is the name of my business and what is my 'tag line' or 'elevator speech' to describe it?
- How will I explain my business to my grandmother? (good practice; even if she is no longer with us)
- Can I tolerate book-keeping or am I able to pay someone who can?

Are you willing and able to:

- Start organized and stay organized?
- Follow legal procedures (including lots of paperwork!)?
- Ask for help?
- Pay taxes willingly?
- Be flexible, creative and responsive when things don't go as planned?

Now let's look at some difficult things to consider in starting a business:

- Can I handle a lot of rejection and nay-sayers?
- Will I feel jilted or jaded when my friends are not willing to be my customers or backers?
- Can I live with little to no income for at least 1 year and up to 3 years?
- Am I willing to sacrifice much of my leisure time or social life for up to 3 years as well?
- Do I have a super-strong moral base? (The temptation to cheat can be powerful for many.)
- Can I provide clear proof I will be able to succeed - and that I am a worthwhile risk - to small business loan officers?
- Do I have solid back-up plan for repayment?
- Am I comfortable with risk or will I worry?
- Am I physically strong enough to endure hard work, stress and exhaustion?
- What aspects about running a business matter most to me?
- Am I a 'people person' and if not, can I hire this person, or how will I communicate with customers?
- What are my 'competitors' doing? What do I do similarly or differently to what they are doing?
- How long will it take to start my business before any money begins to come in? Can I start it while I work at another job?
- Am I willing and able to trademark, copyright or patent my name, logo, written or recorded material or invention?

Some possible snags or ways to fail at starting a business:

- Need others to do work or research for you to get started.
- Blame others or 'the system' when things get difficult
- Require more resources from outside investors than you are willing to contribute yourself.

A couple of resources for entrepreneurial hopefuls:

SCORE: <https://www.score.org/>

Small Business Administration: <https://www.sba.gov/>

US Patent and Trademark Office: <http://www.uspto.gov/>

How to Write a Business Plan: <http://articles.bplans.com/how-to-write-a-business-plan/>

Free Government Publications: The Consumer Information Catalog lists approximately 200 free and low-cost publications available to you from various federal agencies. The publications cover topics such as money, health, employment, housing, federal programs, travel, small business, and education.

To write for your free catalog, send your request and address to: **Federal Citizen Information Center**

Also ask for "How to Write a Business Plan Pub #173

Attn: Catalog
Pueblo, CO 81009

Please share your thoughts, ideas, questions and concerns. Your questions, suggestions and ideas will help me improve this page to better serve our future business owners!