

FREELANCE GUIDE

FROM RAGS TO... A DECENT LIVING

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INTRODUCTION

This guide is intended to help new freelancers glide with ease into their first contracts, and beyond. It isn't going to make you an expert writer, or an expert at any other skill. That part is up to you.

In order to be successful in the online world, and make a well-earned living off your trade, you must be able to provide a valuable product or service that clients will love, and you must be able to prove it.

An intensely practical guide, 'From Rags To A Decent Living' will take you, step-by-step, through the

ins-and-outs of setting up your business, finding your clients, and showing that you are at the top of your game.

ABOUT ME

This book is heavily rooted in my own personal experience. What can I offer you that is more valuable than that? Here is a little bit of background:

I took up freelancing three years ago, mostly because I love writing and I was absolutely sick of my previous career. I expect many people share this dream of doing more of what they love, and getting paid for it.

I have always been pretty good at writing, and quickly found that I could adapt that skill to whatever my client's needed. At the time though, it has to be said, I simply could not understand why people paid for words.

I started where most people start; at the bottom of the heap with an empty profile and not a shot in hell of knowing how to land a well-paid job.

I went on the grind, and soon I had produced dozens of articles for a measly \$4-5 a pop. I set my targets higher, and soon made my first \$100, and then my first \$1000. It was a lot of work, and by no means good pay at the time, but I was happy to be earning money doing something that I enjoyed.

By that point my heart was set: I wanted to be a professional freelance writer, and nothing was going to stop me.

Now, I am regularly awarded \$1000 projects, freelance full time for a living, and earn more than I have ever earned before in my life. I am a 'Top Rated' freelancer on Upwork, with a 100 percent rating, as well as a Level 2 Seller on Fiverr. Many of my clients are repeat customers, who come to me for all of their content needs. I rarely have to look for work anymore.

This guide is a reflection of my journey from struggling to make that first \$100, to regularly making \$150 a day or more, to gaining \$1000+ projects that take just days to complete.

I am by no means rich. But right now I make a decent living doing something that I thrive off. I work for myself, often for only 5 hours a day. I get up when I want and take time off when I want, for as long as I want. I have the opportunity to travel, and to work independent of my location. It is this that I want to share with you; the chance to live a different sort of life.

You too can make a better world for yourself, and you can do it without the need for any startup capital, and without having to quit your day job. You can earn money doing something that you love, whether it be writing, drawing, graphic design, accounting, assistance, admin, or any other freelance service you feel you would excel at providing. This guide will help you along the way.

WHAT IS THIS GUIDE?

It is important that you understand how this guide can help you, and also appreciate its limitations.

Most of the advice that I give here, is derived from my own experience. I believe this advice to be of exceptional value. I am at a level of success with freelancing that is not unrealistic for you to attain in the next year or less, depending how quickly you adapt your talents to the online world.

The advice that I can offer is not out-of-touch with your position. I can remember exactly what it was like to be at square one. I know what it's like to have a talent, but not know how to apply it to making money freelancing. It can all seem very daunting at first.

I think the hardest part for anyone who is already talented, is to take the steps from having a bare profile, to securing your first few clients and settling in to your new role. This guide can help to take you from the very beginning, to a position where you will be free to sail on your own course.

YOUR EFFORT IS KEY

This guide cannot do all of the work for you. First and foremost, you need to be really good at what you do. Ultimately, you need to find your own way to be the best, to sell your service, and to keep your clients happy.

Each freelancer's journey is a unique one. That is the beauty of this trade. You won't have a boss anymore. You won't have someone to tell you what to do, and how to do it. You just have to carve your path, and give 100 percent to becoming irreplaceable for your clients.

LIMITATIONS

Without doubt there will be elements of the freelancing game that are not covered in this guide, and information and methods of success that I have neglected.

The guide is written from the perspective of a freelance writer who works mostly on the Upwork and Fiverr freelance platforms. However, most of the advice here is applicable to other platforms, and nearly all of the advice can be readily applied to any kind of freelancing. This is not a guide on 'freelance writing', but rather on the mechanics and politics of freelancing itself.

What I know I can offer you is a big step in the right direction. With this guide, you will be comfortable setting up your business, finding decent paying clients, and getting the money you deserve for your service.

Along the way you will learn many aspects of what it takes to be successful.

LESSON BREAKDOWN

- ✦ Lesson 1 - You Can Do This!
- ✦ Lesson 2 - Creating Your Profiles
- ✦ Lesson 3 - Gaining First Few Jobs & Initial Feedback
- ✦ Lesson 4 - Shine (Standing out from the crowd)
- ✦ Lesson 5 - Setting Your Rates & Earning Your Living
- ✦ Lesson 6 - A Client's Success Is Your Success
- ✦ Lesson 7 - Over-Delivering

Advanced:

- ✦ Lesson 1 – Settling In
- ✦ Lesson 2 – Here Comes Trouble
- ✦ Lesson 3 – Balancing Your Lifestyle

Conclusion

Resources