

Legitimate Work-At-Home Jobs

Is there such a thing?

“Make \$5000 in a week!” Wait, “Make \$5000 in a day!” Aw, heck, “Make \$5000 in day doing nothing at all!” We’ve all seen the ads and we’ve all heard the saying that if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. We all know, deep down, that we should run from such “opportunities,” yet many of us are so desperate to find something we can do from home to make some money, we’ll talk ourselves into forking over money we don’t have for a promise that’s completely empty.

Not all ads are so blatantly bogus. Some are quite sneaky in the way they pull people into the nonexistent hope of making a decent living from home. I fell for one such ad. I enjoy doing crafts, so when I saw an ad saying that I could make earrings and sell them for profit, I let myself believe it could be true. I scraped together the money needed for the start-up costs (after all, I did have to buy the materials ...from them) and anxiously waited for the delivery of everything I needed to start my new business. When the items arrived, I immediately went to work making the earrings *exactly* as it was instructed. They were very difficult to make and quite time consuming, but I was promised I’d be able to sell them back to the company for a fair amount. The instructions stated that the company would only buy them if they were put together exactly as the directions stated and were “sellable.” Little did I know that even though my earrings were perfect in every way, the company would never call them “sellable,” so I’d never see a dime from them. I did end up selling my earrings at a craft fair and recouped the money I spent, but it was a lesson learned the hard way nonetheless.

So is one to give up hope that there are legitimate jobs that could be done from home? No, absolutely not. There are opportunities out there. Will you get rich overnight? No. Will you make a ton of money without doing much work? No. Any legitimate job you do from home will take time and effort. You’ll need training for most careers, and you will probably have to pay for that, but if you know that you’ll make money in the chosen field, you’ll be able to recoup it in short order.

Some of the legitimate jobs that can be done at home include medical transcription, medical billing, legal transcription, scoping, data entry, freelance writing, and virtual assistant. Whatever path you decide to take, do your research! Speak to others who are doing the job you’re thinking about doing. Thoroughly investigate any training programs and speak to current and/or former students. Don’t be afraid to ask questions of the trainers and check with the Better Business Bureau for any complaints. A little bit of time upfront can save you a lot of regret later.

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