

How to Start a Restaurant (Checklist)

1. Conduct market research.

- a. Research and outline your concept. \square
- b. Survey consumers. \Box
- c. Conduct industry research. \square
- d. Study your competitors.
- e. Get people to sample your food. \square
- f. Develop a menu suited to your target market. \square

2. Choose a name and trademark it.

- a. Get ideas from existing restaurants. \square
- b. Name your business.
- c. Check domain name availability. \square
- d. Register your name.

3. Write a business plan. □

- a. Complete an overview of your business plan. \square
- b. Create your business plan. □

4. Form your restaurant business. □

- a. Create a legal entity.
- b. Obtain an Employer Identification Number (EIN). \square
- c. Open a business bank account. \square
- d. Apply for licenses and permits. \square
- e. Purchase insurance. \Box

5. Decide on a location. □

- a. Research local areas. \Box
- b. Make sure you have ample parking. \square

6. Secure financing.

- a. Contact the National Restaurant Association. \square
- b. Apply for a loan. □



- c. Obtain a business credit card. \square
- d. Get an SBA loan.
- e. Find investors. \Box
- f. Try crowdfunding. \Box
- g. Strike a deal with your landlord. \square
- h. Use your own money. \Box

7. Secure and prepare your space. \square

- a. Make a list of everything you'll need and compare prices. \square
- b. Secure premises. \Box
- c. Complete shopfitting. □
- d. Purchase small appliances, utensils, and more. \square
- e. Purchase electronic equipment.
- f. Purchase office equipment and basic office furniture. \square
- g. Purchase uniforms.
- h. Purchase consumables. \Box

8. Build your team.

- a. Write compelling job descriptions. \square
- b. Identify and interview the best candidates. \square
- c. Train your team.

9. Market your restaurant.

- a. Create a website.
- b. Set up social media accounts. \square
- c. Create marketing campaigns. \square
- d. Use local SEO. □
- e. Be a walking, talking billboard. \square

10. Complete the final checks before your grand opening. \square

- a. Double-check your inventory. \Box
- b. Have a dress rehearsal. \Box



