

How to Start a Production Company (Checklist)

1. Do market research.

- a. Survey consumers. \Box
- b. Research economic studies. \Box
- c. Study competitors. □
- d. Analyze the demographics of your target market. \Box
- e. Pass out samples. \Box

2. Write a business plan.

- a. Decide what you want to produce. \square
- b. Describe your company in one sentence. \square
- c. Gather feedback.

3. Give your business a name. \Box

- a. Decide on a name. \Box
- b. Check if it is available. \Box
- c. Trademark the name. \square

4. Create a business plan. □

- a. Executive summary.
- b. Business description. \Box
- c. Market analysis.
- d. Organization management.
- e. Sales strategy. \square
- f. Financial projections.

5. Create a legal entity. □

- a. Choose a legal structure. \Box
- b. Register with your State. \Box
- c. Get an Employer Identification Number (EIN).

6. Secure financing.



- a. Attract investors.
 - i. Sell equity in your business. \square
 - ii. Secure a private loan from friends and family. \square
- b. Apply for a loan. \Box
 - i. Meet with the lender. \square
 - ii. Fill out the application form. \Box
 - iii. Provide collateral and your credit history. \square
 - iv. Sign a loan agreement after approval. \square

7. Purchase insurance. \Box

- a. Find out what type of insurance your business needs. \square
- b. Find a provider or agent. \Box
- c. Purchase a policy. \Box

8. Find office or retail space. \square

- a. Determine if you really need a space. \square
- b. Calculate costs. \Box
 - i. Find out what your budget allows for. \square
 - ii. Total utilities. □
 - iii. Total technology costs. □
 - iv. Total rent and maintenance. \square
- c. Shop around. \Box

9. Hire employees or freelancers. \square

- a. Write a job description. \Box
- b. Post on a job board. \square
- c. Review applications and resumes. \square
- d. Interview candidates. \Box
- e. Check references. \Box
- f. Send job offers.
- g. Fill out the mandatory IRS forms. \square

10. Brand and advertise. \square

- a. Craft your brand.
 - i. Write an elevator pitch. \square
 - ii. Find out who your customers are. \square
 - iii. Decide what kind of brand personality you want to have. \square
 - iv. Determine what you want people to associate your brand with. \square
- b. Connect with customers through advertising. \square
 - i. Set up email marketing software. \square



- ii. Set up SMS marketing software. \square
- iii. Create social media accounts for your business. \square
- c. Network. \Box
 - i. Attend industry events. \square
 - ii. Join relevant guilds and societies. \square

