

The Ten 'Most Experienced' Business Obstacles Solution



Presented By The FRED67 Community

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Common Financial Problems That Most Businesses Face:

Starting and running a business is not easy, or simple.

Anyone who tells you that - is wrong.

Maybe it's easy to perform your duties. Perhaps it's easy to do something you love, and get paid for it, but there is a lot more that goes into running a business than just doing your "job". Many times, financial issues cause serious problems for businesses. If you are aware in advance of the issues that might affect you, you'll be ahead of the rest.

* **Understanding the Financials** – Each industry has its own rules and commonalities when it comes to bookkeeping and finances. Read reliable information about your specific industry and get advice from only professionals in the accounting industry, not your best friend's cousin who once worked for a CPA.

* **Paying Taxes** – Believe it or not, some successful businesses actually end up going out of business due to the failure to pay their taxes in a timely manner. It's important to understand how self-employment taxes work, and how you pay quarterly taxes, as well as the pitfalls of not doing it.

* **Cash Flow** – Very small businesses usually do not have the large cash or credit resources to deal with slow cash flow. Therefore, it's imperative that a small business owner be prepared for issues with collecting money and cash flow. When you get a big payout, don't spend it all; figure out how to budget what you get for the months when you get little or nothing.

* **Managing Money** – This is an outflow of cash flow, but you must set up a budget and live off that and not put your hands in the drawer willy-nilly. It takes time for a business to be profitable, and if you keep putting your hand in the till you will never be profitable.

* **Getting Paid on Time** – The first part of getting paid on time is having a solid contract and understanding with the client about when and how you'll be paid. The other is having an easy-to-use invoicing system to send out timely invoices.

* **Getting Paid a Fair Price** – The bottom line is, don't undervalue your products or services. Charge what you deserve to be paid, and then you will remain joyful about the work that you do. If you under-price yourself, your finances will suffer and resentment will grow.

* **Anchor Clients** – Business owners have to be careful, especially service businesses, not to have one client that pays them most of their money. Good financial software can help you determine what percentage each client is paying so that you can expand to avoid any one client being an anchor client.

* **Too Much “Office” Work** – The bane of any business owner’s existence is unpaid work such as data entry, filing, and even marketing. One way to avoid this problem is to automate most of the financial processes with the right software.

Educating yourself about financial issues, bookkeeping, taxes and accounting, and then setting up a system to deal with these issues, will help you avoid many problems. In addition, using the right tools can help you more than almost anything, especially if some of it is automated to make it as simple as possible.



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Common Problems and Solutions for Managing Projects:

Project management is an essential element in running any type of business, whether it's an online business or a bricks and mortar business. In addition, all industries have project management issues, whether they are service based or product based. That's why project management skills are in such demand. Here are some common problems and how to deal with them.

* **Lack of Cohesive Goals** – It's important to be able to set goals as to what the deliverables will be. The deliverables are the end result of the project. The successful conclusion that makes everyone happy and satisfied requires knowledge of exact outcomes and goals.

* **Not Controlling Scope Creep** – Setting up projects requires a clear explanation of what is expected. You should get that from the expected deliverables but you have to watch out for scope creep which can happen during project changes in the middle of the project. Be sure to account for potential changes in your original planning phase and contract.

* **No Accountability** – Consensus is fine, collaboration is fine, but someone has to be ultimately responsible for different parts (and the whole) of any project that is in progress. The reason is that if no one feels accountable the project can run amok and nothing will get done. Usually the project manager is accountable, and the PM makes other individuals accountable for various parts of a project.

* **Skill Deficits** – If no one on the team working on the project has the skills to do a particular part of the project, that gap must be filled. If not, the project cannot be completed. Without proper advanced planning and a full understanding of the deliverables it can be difficult to know what a project takes. Know what a project takes so you can fill the skill sets needed for every project.

* **No Plan B** – Always pad the schedule for a project so that you have room for mistakes, errors, technology issues, and even bad weather or illness. If you cut a plan down to the last minute on paper, you will be late. Things happen and any project will have roadblocks arise that can be fixed, given time. So never forget your plan B.

* **Lack of Resources** – When presented with any project, it's important as you are planning it to ensure that you will have enough resources to take it on. Many businesses stall due to failure of planning for things in terms of money or human capital before it even gets off the ground. For example, if you want to create and sell software but you don't set aside funding for marketing, you'll fail at the most important point of the project.

* **Unrealistic Deadlines** – Everyone has that boss, or client, who wants things done yesterday. But yesterday is gone, and is obviously not possible. It's up to you as the project manager to give the client or the team the deadlines based on accurate projections and not wishful thinking. It's just not possible to do things faster than they can be done.

* **No System in Place** – Systems can include software solutions like a project management system such as Basecamp.com, or it might consist of a way or process of doing something such as following up with customers, leads, or even process accounting and conducting data entry. If you don't have systems and procedures, your project could get stalled with reinventing the wheel.

If you want to manage projects with fewer problems and more successful finishes then it's important to consider all aspects of any project from A to Z. In this way you can set yourself up for success. Ask first what the deliverables are, and then work your way back to how you'll accomplish that by adding the resources you need. Resources include money, technology, human intelligence, and more. Add on until you have a plan of action along with the right tools to succeed so that you can avoid the common problems with managing projects.



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Five Tools to Help You Manage Your Business Finances:

One of the most important factors in running your business is managing your business finances. Believe it or not, you can have a wonderful and profitable business but lose it all due to poor money management. Not managing your cash flow and responsibilities correctly can cause the death of your business faster than almost anything. Here are five tools to help manage your business finances.

1. Go Daddy Bookkeeping – This bookkeeping app does a lot more than bookkeeping. While it is single entry which might make a few accountants cry, it works great for the small online business owner. The system also offers tax information and reports, including the ability to print out a Schedule C for US taxes. They've recently added some invoicing and timekeeping features too, so this might become an "all in one" system that is a must-use.

Link - <https://bookkeeping.godaddy.com>

2. FreshBooks – While FreshBooks often bills itself as an accounting app, it's really just an invoicing application with some project management features such as teams and time tracking, as well as the ability for clients to sign in and look at what's happening with their time, and more. To get full accounting features you'll have to export to QuickBooks (see below). There are an enormous amount of third party apps you can connect to it, too. What really makes it stand out is how simple it is to understand and use.

Link - <http://www.freshbooks.com>

3. Shoeboxed – Every small business owner needs to keep track of receipts for tax time. It's one of the hardest things to keep organized. But, if you don't do it, you could either lose out on deductions, or you could risk taking a deduction you know you deserve without proof and then risk losing that deduction in an audit. Shoeboxed lets you keep your receipts organized better without worry of them being lost.

Link - <https://www.shoeboxed.com>

4. PayPal – Love it or hate it, most people are very comfortable paying with PayPal and you'll likely increase your income if you offer payment methods that are easily to use, respected, accepted, and provide the customer with options. Payments can be made via PayPal, or they can pay via credit card if you have PayPal for Business.

Link - <http://www.paypal.com>

5. QuickBooks – No discussion of managing business finances can leave out QuickBooks, often thought of as the gold standard of accounting and financial management software for business. Today, you can use QuickBooks Online for less than \$10.00 per month and it has all the bells and whistles that you could want for small micro businesses to super-large corporations.

Link - <http://quickbooks.intuit.com>

In addition to finding the right tools to help you manage your business finances, it's important to read about small business finances - even if you choose to hire a professional CPA to help. Because after all it's your signature and business on the line if something goes wrong.



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The Labyrinth

Seven Reasons Why You May Be Disorganized:

Disorganization can literally cost you your business, and even in some cases, your entire family. The stress that disorganization can cause a person is enormous. Things are often not done on time, everyone is always late everywhere, and you probably never know where to start and aren't even ready to start when it's time to start.

All of this stress caused by disorganization can also affect your health. It's just not good on any front to live in chronic disorganization. If you consider yourself disorganized, here are seven reasons why.

1) You Don't Have a System

If you've ever had a job that already had organization and systems in place, it is likely you managed to maintain that organization at least for that job. Everything had a place, and everything had a reason, and there was a set system to do what needed to be done. That's what you have to set up for your business and your life if you want to be successful long term without stress.

2) You Don't Have the Right Space

Trying to run a business without the space you need can be near impossible. It doesn't mean you have to have an entire office. But at the very least you need a space where you can set up your computer in a comfortable manner and have a roll-away file cabinet to use for keeping all your work and important documents together. "The right space" can also include the space on your computer since many offices run paperless now.

3) You Lack Focus

If you don't have something specific to focus on, you might find yourself doing a little of this, and a little of that, and never getting anything done. If you're literally running in circles instead of focusing on each task at hand, you will end up feeling worn out but having nothing finished. Find a way to place your focus on each task until you have an end result. After all, that's the part that matters most.

4) You Have Too Much on Your Plate

Many people get disorganized due to the simple fact that they have too much to do. There are only so many hours in the day. If you find that you're in this predicament then you need to get help. Find tasks you dislike doing and outsource them to people who like doing them, can likely do them better, and for less than what it costs you to

do them yourself. Remember that your time has a value. If you can spend time on tasks that make more money and that you like, you should.

5) You Tend to Procrastinate

Many people claim that they work best under deadline at the last minute. You'll hear all types of people saying that. But, it's simply not true. They'll never really know how well they could have done something had they given themselves time to do it right, so it's really hard to say. If you tend to procrastinate you need to get to the bottom of why you're putting things off to the last minute. Sometimes procrastination is a symptom of a whole other problem.

6) You Think Multitasking Is Good

One of the biggest misnomers of the last decade is the idea that multitasking is good or even something people can do well. The truth is, studies have proved many times over that multitasking doesn't work. Listen to this May 2013 NPR show about that very thing.

Link - <http://www.npr.org/2013/05/10/182861382/the-myth-of-multitasking>

7) You Are a Poor Decision Maker

Many people who are disorganized are also poor decision makers. They spend far too long making a decision, and often they wait so long that the decision is made for them. So, they make what they think are easy and quick decisions to lay one more pile of paper on the desk because they cannot decide what file it belongs to, and likely don't even have a file folder for it yet.

You can learn to be organized. If you haven't tried before, pick one thing at a time to work on each month, make a plan for 30 days to follow, and then add to it the following month. If you try very hard and still having trouble succeeding, there are coaches and counsellors that can help you.



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Stop the Social Media Hopscotch:

One of the biggest blockers to success today is the very thing that allows so many people to become successful. The sheer availability of social media networks, and the ease of access, that allows entrepreneurs to build small businesses to six-figure plus businesses, also allow people to be sucked into a time warp called Facebook, then Twitter, then LinkedIn, and so forth. If you're not careful, you will have signed into and out of each account and eight hours will have passed where nothing has been accomplished.

When you are trying to manage multiple social media accounts, you can save a lot of time by using software to help you avoid jumping from one account to another and instead combining them into one sign-on and one dashboard. The following apps allow you to manage more than one type of social media at a time.

- * Hootsuite.com
- * Sendible.com
- * SproutSocial.com
- * Bufferapp.com
- * Crowdbooster.com
- * SocialFlow.com
- * Everypost.me
- * Spreadfast.com

Some of these apps help you manage and use multiple social media networks from one dashboard, while others allow you to analyse multiple social media networks to ensure that the work you're doing is having results.

Using any of or a combination of these apps will help you save time, increase productivity and get more work done faster on all your social media accounts. If you want to schedule posts, track results of marketing efforts, and look at analytics, you don't have to sign on to each account separately. Jumping back and forth can take more time than you need to take to get the work done you're trying to do.

Try out a few of these apps to see what works best for you. Some of them are good for handling multiple social media networks at once, and some just a few. What you need will depend on what you are using social media for. But one thing is for sure; if you implement one or more of these solutions, you'll end the time suck that is social media and turn your business around. This is due to having more time in your day to generate income instead of wasting time getting sucked into non-business discussions, reading memes and watching cat videos.

One all-in-one dashboard that you should try for sure is Cyfe. This dashboard enables you to handle advertising, blogging, email, monitoring, sales, finance, SEO, social media, analytics and more from one dashboard. This business dashboard will save you so much time that you'll be amazed at what you can accomplish. You can even monitor website rankings across Google and Bing without using any other tool.

The way it works is that it lets you set up multiple "dashboards" - for example, one for social media, one for blogs, and so forth. You can view all your dashboards with one sign-on and even let other people on your team view and work with a particular dashboard.

Link to Cyfe - <http://www.cyfe.com/>

Avoiding the social media hopscotch is a simple process of finding the right app to help you manage it all so that you can avoid the time suck.

Of course, the best way to deal with the 'Social Media Hopscotch' is to employ the services of a professional 'Social Media Manager' who you should be able to find through sites like; <http://fiverr.com> - <http://www.guru.com/> and <https://www.upwork.com/> Or just simply Google the phrase and many will appear for you. Then find useful videos online @ <http://Youtube.com> that will show you how to use these website services in the most effective and economical way.



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An advertisement with a dark blue background. On the left, there is a circular graphic containing a woman's face with a glowing aura, surrounded by various social media and technology icons like a Wi-Fi symbol, a globe, a house, a mail icon, a person, a speech bubble, and a window. To the right of the graphic, the text is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

E-mail Marketing??
Can It Really Make Me Hard Cash?
Click Here To Confirm

Tools and Apps to Help You Manage Your Staff and Projects:

Running a business requires managing not just projects but also staff who are working on the projects. Thankfully there are many tools and apps that you can use to help you manage your staff and projects. Here are some of the best.

* **Basecamp.com** – Keep track of time, individual projects, teams, and more using Basecamp. So many online businesses use Basecamp that it's become almost expected that people will use it. It works very intuitively without too much to learn, although they do have online help if you get lost.

Link - <http://www.basecamp.com>

* **Microsoft Office 365** – If you already use MS Office, you'll love using Microsoft Online to get things done. You get lots of storage and the ability to collaborate on documents. You can also put all standard operating procedures on the system that cannot be changed without the right permissions, enabling any employee to look up the right way to do anything you want them to do without having to retrain each new person.

Link - <https://login.microsoftonline.com>

* **Google Apps for Business** – Websites, document collaboration, spreadsheets, and more are all used on a daily basis in business with individuals and teams. Google for Work makes it simple to use what people are familiar with in the cloud, helping to keep track of document revisions and actions.

Link - <https://www.google.com/work/apps/business/products.html>

* **Asana** – This online project management system works in ways that other project management systems don't. It's very intuitive and even people who hate using PM software will like it because they can use their email to run it. Business owners can review where each member of the staff is on any project at anytime from anywhere.

Link - <https://asana.com>

* **15Five** – This cloud-based tool allows you to survey your staff in a way that helps them create a report that takes them only 15 minutes to do. Then you can read it to keep up to date on what that employee is doing and their concerns. Keeping the lines of communication open with staff, whether employees or contractors, is essential for success in all your projects.

Link - <http://www.15five.com>

* **Smartsheet.com** – If you like using spreadsheets to plan and organize your business and keep track of staff time sheets and more, you'll love using Smartsheet. This is because it looks like something familiar, which makes it easier to stick to using it.

Link - <http://www.smartsheet.com>

* **Google Calendar** – Even though this is part of Google Apps for Business, it should be mentioned that you can use it without using the other apps. It will sync with most phones, and you can give permissions for others to fill the calendar in with appointments for you.

Link - <http://calendar.google.com>

* **Alfred Remote** – For Mac users, Alfred Remote allows you to control and launch certain apps, folders and files that you choose on your Mac. In this way, you don't have to look for anything you use regularly. Add with it Alfred 2 Workflows and you have many possibilities to get all kinds of projects done faster.

Link - <http://www.alfredapp.com/remote>

These are just a drop in the ocean to what is available in all price ranges that you can use to help make your business run more smoothly. *Setting up systems* is more important than the exact software you use. So, try out various types to see what works best for you in the way that you want to work.



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Tools to Help Streamline Your Social Media Efforts:

Social media management can suck the time right out of your day. You can get on social media in the morning with certain plans of action to spend a few minutes promoting your products and services, and before you know it you're sucked into the vortex of never-ending memes and videos of kittens. It's fun, of course, but it's not going to get you more business or help you reach your goals.

The best course of action is to implement tools that will help you streamline your social media efforts for your business. You can always spend time on social media for fun after you're done with work. But, for work, it's important to use the right tools to help you stop jumping around without direction or goals. There are numerous tools that you can use, more than listed below, but try these out to start with.

* **Hootsuite** – This tool allows you to manage multiple social media accounts in one dashboard easily. You can collaborate, schedule, integrate with other apps and study various analytics. There are many pricing levels so you can pay only for what you need. There are also good training tools to help you learn to use it effectively.

Link - <http://www.hootsuite.com>

* **SmartBrief** – If you want to stay up-to-date on social media, you can now sign up for SmartBrief simply by filling out the form. Get industry news easily all in one spot.

Link - <https://www2.smartbrief.com/signupSystem/subscribe.action?pageSequence=1&briefName=socialbusiness>

* **Buffer** – If you manage multiple accounts on each social media network, you will want to try Buffer to help you get it all together in one place with one sign-on. After you set it up, it's easy to use and will save an enormous amount of time.

Link - <http://www.bufferapp.com>

* **Topsy** – Social listening is an important aspect of ensuring that your business is ahead of the curve and staying on the cutting edge of your industry. Use it to identify influencers, trends and more.

Link - <http://www.topsy.com>

* **Cyfe** - If you want a business management dashboard that does pretty much everything from managing multiple social networks, to social listening and more, then you must try Cyfe because it's amazing and inexpensive too.

Link - <http://www.cyfe.com>

* **Sendible.com** – Getting organized and setting priorities on social media can be hard when you feel like you have no goals. You can set goals, measure the results of your efforts and more using Sendible.

Link - <http://www.sendible.com>

* **Sprout Social** – Don't just manage; engage using Sprout Social all from one dashboard easily and quickly. You can get lots of web analytics using this service too.

Link - <http://www.sproutsocial.com>

* **Crowdboost**er – Not only does Crowdboost look pretty, it works too. It will help you schedule posts and measure results in a very intuitive manner.

Link - <http://www.crowdboost.com>

* **SocialFlow** – Improve the ability of your business to use social media by getting more organized with how you're using social media. You'll get real time data that will help you determine whether your efforts are paying off or not.

Link - <http://www.socialflow.com>

* **Everypost.me** – This cross-post app works with many social media accounts, allowing you to cross-post to all of them.

Link - <http://www.everypost.me>

* **Spredfast** - This is a really fantastic social media management system that has many types of reports to help you know if what you're doing on social media is getting the type of results you want.

Link - <http://www.spredfast.com>

Using any of these tools can help you streamline your social media efforts, avoiding wasted time and wasted efforts. One of the most important things, besides saving time by using one app to access multiple social media networks, is to study the metrics that you can learn from the reports available from the app.

Numbers don't lie. - Do more of what works and less of what's not working.

Tools to Help You Organize Your Thoughts and Ideas:

Running a business has many moving parts that can get unorganized and cause chaos. When you have chaos, you have serious problems with planning, meeting deadlines, and building your business to sustain your life. But, there are ways to conquer the issues associated with organizing your thoughts. Choosing the right tools just depends on what type of thinker you are: linear or visual.

If you're a linear thinker, you prefer lists over mind maps. The following tools will offer every type of organization that you need to get your thoughts and ideas in order.

* **Evernote** – This software has many features, such as the ability to sync all your saved notes and so forth among all your devices. This means you can capture and organize information from anywhere.

Link - <https://evernote.com>

* **Paper** – That's right; you can use a combination of paper, files, and notebooks to organize your life. Some people do better this way. That's why the old-fashioned FiloFax still sells well. Some people just like the feel of paper; it makes them feel accomplished.

Link - <http://www.filofaxusa.com>

* **Zoho Notebook** - This is part of the entire Zoho suite. Individuals can use it free, but businesses can choose between a few different price points. It has many different ways to get organized and you can also, depending on the level you choose, use it for team management.

Link - <https://notebook.zoho.com/nb/login.do?serviceurl=%2Fnb%2Findex.do>

* **UberNote** – This tool works with the programs you already use, and lets you add notes, files, bookmarks, clips and more from anywhere. You can use it free or pay about 8 dollars a month for premium.

Link - <http://www.ubernote.com/webnote/pages/default.aspx>

* **Webasyst** – You put this app on your own server, and then you add different functions to it with modules. If you're technologically inclined, this might work for you.

Link - <http://www.webasyst.com>

* **Wridea** – This is a cloud-based idea management service that lets you save your ideas, clips and more online in an organized manner so that you can find the ideas when you need them most.

Link - <http://wridea.com>

* **Wunderlist** – An organization app that works cross platforms, literally on any device, to help you manage your tasks. While it's more for organizing tasks, it's still a good app for those who are partial to lists.

Link - <https://www.wunderlist.com>

* **Asana** – This is really a full-fledged project management tool that lets you get more organized and collaborate with others, but it should be included in this list for those of you who need reminders about ideas.

Link - <https://asana.com>

* **Reddit** – One of the few remaining bookmarking sites that exists, and that's because it works well. Of course, it's more than that, but if you like one place to read everything you want to save for later, this is it.

Link - <http://www.reddit.com>

* **FreeMind** – This mind-mapping software is downloaded onto your computer for use free of charge. It offers all the features of other mind-mapping software, but without the cost. But, you will need to be technologically wise to use it.

Link - http://freemind.sourceforge.net/wiki/index.php/Main_Page

* **Wisemapping** – This is easy-to-use free cloud-based mind-mapping software to use for organizing your thoughts and expanding your ideas.

Link - <http://www.wisemapping.com>

* **Bubbl.us** – More mind-mapping software used by several high ranking colleges and business. It has several price points so that anyone can use it. You can save your work to image or even HTML, which offers many different opportunities.

Link - <https://bubbl.us>

* **Mindomo** – A very full-featured cloud-based mind-mapping solution that allows you to create, collaborate, and share your mind maps with others. There are plans for individuals and teams.

Link - <https://www.mindomo.com>

* **Gliffy** – Do you need professional flow charts, organizational diagrams, technical drawings or other organizational tools such as these? If you do, this software is for you. Together with Confluence you can add diagrams to your Wiki to be even more organized.

Link - <http://www.gliffy.com>

There are numerous software solutions and apps that you can use to organize your thoughts and ideas. Which one you like is going to depend on how your mind works, and how you think best.

Some people shine with mind maps, others feel like poking their eyes out.

Which one are you?



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Top Six Business Storage Solutions:

When you have a business, large or small, online or offline, you will have an enormous amount of data to keep track of. The storage solution you choose must therefore be reliable and preferably easy to access.

While external solutions are still good options, one must also consider the need for a cloud-based solution since like the hard drive on your computer, the external hard drive can fail. Security is also an issue that you must consider depending upon your industry.

Here are six of the best storage solutions.

1. Dropbox – If security is important, as well as cross-platform capabilities such as combining Dropbox with YouTube, this is your best choice for cloud-based storage solutions. It's simple to use and they also have a business and team option.

Link - <http://www.dropbox.com>

2. Google Drive – With a generous amount of free storage (15 GB), this cloud-based storage solution is hard to beat. Everyone already loves Google and the high quality of their personal and business productivity tools, so this is definitely a storage solution you should try.

Link - <https://www.google.com/drive>

3. Portable External Hard Drive – There are many kinds of portable external hard drives that you can use for storage, in many price ranges. A really good one is the WD My Passport Essential SE 1 TB USB 3.0 for less than \$100. You can carry it with you wherever you go as it's small and light weight.

Link - http://www.amazon.com/Passport-Essential-Portable-External-Drive/dp/B0041OSQ9S/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1424835015&sr=8-1&keywords=Western+Digital+My+Passport+Essential+SE

4. Box – The premium features of Box, along with the fact there are many third party apps that work with it, has increases the value of Box as a cloud-based storage solution. There is a free version without the bells and whistles that is also useful for storage.

Link - <http://www.box.com>

5. Microsoft Office 365 – While this is an entire MS Office Suite in the cloud, it also offers unlimited storage for paid accounts with their OneDrive storage solution. Even if you don't use MS Office 365, you can still use OneDrive very inexpensively and they even have free options for personal use.

Link - <http://products.office.com/en-us/home>

6. Amazon S3 – No discussion about business storage solutions can happen without mentioning Amazon Web Services extremely reliable Amazon S3 storage solution. It's super inexpensive and you only pay for what you use. So if your usage goes up and down, you're not stuck with having to manually lower or increase your space needs.

Link - http://aws.amazon.com/s3/?sc_channel=PS&sc_campaign=acquisition_US&sc_publisher=google&sc_medium=s3_nb&sc_content=cloud_storage_bmm&sc_detail=+cloud%20+storage&sc_category=s3&sc_segment=55178782242&sc_matchtype=b&sc_country=US&s_kwid=AL!4422!3!55178782242!b!!g!!+cloud%20+storage&ef_id=VNO1zAAAAXc5UkSb:20150225034804:s

Choosing business storage solutions is a very important part of having success in business. You need to be able to access important files, perform regular backups, and depend on the files you save being available even if your computer is destroyed in a fire. Plus, especially if you have client information there, you must be able ensure an adequate amount of security.

Do your due diligence before using any storage solution, because after all, this is your business and livelihood at stake.



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When Storage Space Is Limited, What Do You Do?:

Working while travelling or on the go using multiple devices such as computers, tablets, mobile phones and so forth can make having access to your data a necessity. Thankfully, due to cloud-based storage and lightweight external devices your job has been made much easier. You can even work from a library today due to the availability of great storage solutions.

For example, there are many kinds of portable external hard drives that you can use for storage that are lightweight and simple to carry with you. A really good one is the WD My Passport Essential SE 1 TB USB 3.0. It can easily fit in your hand, purse or briefcase and it's not heavy or bulky.

Link - http://www.amazon.com/Passport-Essential-Portable-External-Drive/dp/B0041OSQ9S/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1424835015&sr=8-1&keywords=Western+Digital+My+Passport+Essential+SE

The most popular answer today though, if you know you'll have access to the internet, is storing your work in the cloud using cloud-based software such as:

- * Adobe Creative Suite - http://www.adobe.com/mena_en/products/creativesuite.html
- * Microsoft Office 365 - <http://products.office.com/en-us/home>
- * Google Apps for Work - <https://www.google.com/work/apps/business/products.html>

These and other cloud software solutions offer you the ability to work from anywhere with almost any device depending on the software. In addition to these software as service solutions, you can also use cloud-based storage solutions to help you have access to all your files. Storage solution like:

- * Dropbox - <http://www.dropbox.com>
- * OneDrive - <http://www.onedrive.com>
- * Amazon S3 - http://aws.amazon.com/s3/?sc_channel=PS&sc_campaign=acquisition_US&sc_publisher=google&sc_medium=s3_nb&sc_content=cloud_storage_bmm&sc_detail=+cloud%20+storage&sc_category=s3&sc_segment=55178782242&sc_matchtype=b&sc_country=US&s_kwid=AL!4422!3!55178782242!b!!g!!+cloud%20+storage&ef_id=VNO1zAAAAXc5UkSb:20150225034804:s

These are all super important today to have access to (even if you don't work remotely), without the benefit of other types of solutions in your home office. These solutions offer the business owner a tremendous amount of freedom. You can always access your work no matter where you are as long, as you have access to the internet.

You can purchase easy internet access with mobile internet hotspots such as:

* **Internet-go** - <http://www.internet-go.com>

* **Earthlink** 4G Internet On-The-Go - <http://www.earthlink.net/wireless-internet/4g-mobile-internet>

* **AT&T** Mobile Hotspot -

<https://www.wireless.att.com/businesscenter/solutions/wireless-laptop/mobile-hotspots-usb-modems.jsp>

Prices vary, and many other companies provide these services. Likely your mobile phone provider offers the ability to tether your computing devices to your mobile phone as the hotspot, to allow you to get internet access from many places - including even some pretty remote places using satellites.

As the internet gets faster, access becomes ubiquitous, and more software becomes strictly cloud based, these issues will be a thing of the past. Until then, you have many options to help you work from multiple devices, still having access to your work product. You can even deliver contracts via the cloud using services such as:

* **DocuSign** - <https://www.docusign.com>

* **ContractPal** - <http://www.contractpal.com>

* **Adobe EchoSign** - <https://www.echosign.adobe.com/en/solutions/sales.html>

As you see, it's getting simpler to work on-the-go without being tied down anywhere. The dream of working from somewhere on the beach, in the mountains, or on the ocean is actually happening now. But, it's going to get easier.

The important thing is to have a plan of action to be able to access the information you need to access when you need to get to it, so that your work is done without a hitch. It's possible - just set it up and you're good to go.



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The FRED67 Community Newsletter

FREE! E-mail Marketing Course For Profit

FRED67 Community – (Private Membership)