

# **Online Business Resources Kit**

Get help from the best apps, software, services and other creative professionals!

#### **Ecommerce Platform**

Shopify

The best ecommerce platform I recommend to everyone. Other ecommerce platforms like Magento, WooCommerce, BigCommerce, Weebly, Wix, SquareSpace, etc. do not come close to comparison. Shopify will have all the tools that will make it easier for you to make sales, so even though it may be the more expensive route, it is worth it because you'll be making more money with Shopify than with other platforms.

### **Shopify Apps**

Advanced Product Options	Create unlimited product options, variant options and link options' SKU's with existing Shopify products to sync inventory
Bulk Discounts	Generate thousands of discount codes in a few clicks
Consistent Cart	Enables a persistent shopping cart that saves a customer's items in cart for when they resume shopping using a different device or computer
Fera	Embed customer reviews anywhere on your site, and includes a lot of different trust-building widgets
In Cart Upsell	Show discounted products as upsells on the cart page
Instafeed	Embed an Instagram feed anywhere on your website



Klickly	Commission-based advertising for Shopify stores. I love this because you don't pay a dime until they make you sales. I've gotten 4.7x ROI from this!
Order Printer	Print invoices, labels, receipts, packing slips and more
Order Printer Templates	Professionally designed and customizable templates for your invoices, labels, receipts and packing slips. To be used together with Order Printer
Product Reviews	Adds a customer review feature on your Shopify site. I prefer this over Yotpo because its free version is simpler, easier to use and looks better
Product Reviews Addon	Used in conjunction with Product Reviews. This addon automatically sends emails to your customers requesting for reviews
ReCharge	Sell subscription and recurring products
Referral Candy	Automatically invites past customers to share your shop with their friends. Offer referrals a commission and create discount codes for their friends to encourage them to buy. This is also great for when you work with influencers who often make their money through affiliate/referral sales
TaxJar	The new nexus state laws for collecting sales tax makes it very complicated because every state has different rules. You used to only need to collect sales tax in the state you're set up in, but now you have to also collect in states you have a "nexus" in. TaxJar helps you identify which states those are based on your sales, and it can also auto-file sales tax for you



#### **Taking Payments Online**

Paypal Buttons Paypal Invoices Paypal.Me	Paypal is the easiest way to get paid without setting up an entire shopping cart on your site. Paypal Buttons can be placed on your site, or sent as a link in an email; Invoices are usually emailed to your client, and Paypal.Me is a new and easy way for people to send you money with your unique Paypal.Me link
Gumroad	Create buy now buttons and deliver digital files with Gumroad. I love Gumroad for their beautiful and easy checkout process. You can also sell physical products with Gumroad
Jotform	I primarily use this for almost all my online forms (contact forms, wholesale inquiry forms) but you can connect payment processing to collect payment on your form itself. This would be great for if you need to collect more information from your customer, like for custom work

### **Processing Payments at Shows**

Square	Square's card reader is easy to use and while many similar options exist today, this is my go-to credit card reader to use at live events!
Shopify Card Reader	Shopify's card reader – syncs inventory with your Shopify products and it's free!



#### Selling Directly On Social Media

#### Soldsie

I used Soldsie for a whole year doing a sale a week on both Facebook and Instagram and it brought in a big percentage of my income that year. They are powered by "comment selling" where they automatically send invoices to people leaving "Sold!" comments on your product posts on social.

#### **Email Marketing Services for Ecommerce**

Klaviyo	This is what Tiny Hands uses now. It's the end all be all ESP that even the big ecommerce brands use. A lot more expensive than Rare.io but also more powerful with its automations, filters and it can even sync with Facebook audiences for creating ads!
JustUno	Justuno helps you create beautiful sign up forms that integrate with your email service provider. Your forms can be set to only display based on specific rules (i.e. "show form on Cart page", "show form after 20 seconds", "show form on exit intent")

#### Packaging and Shipping

Zebra LP2844	My favorite 4x6" shipping label printer
BlankLabels.com	To use with your label printer – I get the 4000 fanfold 4x6" direct thermal labels
Nashville Wraps	Eco-friendly wholesale gift and gourmet packaging
Paper Mart	Affordable packaging supplies



ClearBags	All sorts of clear packaging from plastic sleeves for prints, to boxes for stationery and food
Value Mailers	Mailing boxes, padded envelopes, bubble wrap and more!
Brand In Color	Create custom branded shipping boxes
Packlane	Like Brand In Color but cheaper when you order in larger quantities. Better quality than Brand In Color
Endicia	A low cost shipping software to print shipping labels at home quickly and easily
ShipStation	ShipStation integrates with all the major marketplaces and ecommerce platforms, and automatically syncs tracking numbers with each site you sell on. It's more powerful than Endicia!
PirateShip	Free alternative to ShipStation, plus get cheaper USPS shipping rates! I have not tried this myself, but I have friends who have and love it

#### **Free Stock Photo Sites**

RawPixel	
Pexels	Free, model released images, ready for commercial use
Unsplash	
PixaBay	



#### **Photography Equipment**

Foldio	A foldable and portable lightbox – lights included! Use with its complementary app for photo editing options
Canon 400D with 18- 55mm lens	My one and only DSLR that I've used for the past 10 years. You can find lots of used options on eBay for great prices using the link to the left

#### **Graphic Design Resources**

Creative Market	Paid stock photos, mock-up photos, graphics, web icons, textures, themes, fonts and brushes
Envato Market	Website themes, code for plugins, stock video and audio files, graphics and stock photos
Canva	Create beautiful graphics online for your business using premade templates
Gimp	A free Photoshop alternative for editing product photos for a white background using Levels
Photopea	Like Gimp, Photopea is browser based, free to use and compatible with Mac and Windows computers.



#### Video Editing Resources

C <u>apcut</u>	A great, free video editing tool for both mobile and desktop! It makes editing videos so easy.
Animoto	Create beautiful and catchy videos quickly using premade templates – just drag and drop images or videos
Storyblocks	Affordable stock videos

#### **Printing Services**

Gooten	Print on Demand (POD). Sell your art on products online – from t- shirts to tote bags, mugs, phone cases, mugs, posters and more. They also ship the finished products directly to your customers so you don't have to do any production or shipping work at all!
Printful	Another POD company – slightly more affordable than Gooten but lower quality
UPrinting	My go-to place for printing business cards
Best Value Copy	Great for printing cheap color copies and catalogs/booklets

#### iPhone Apps

DocScanner	Use your phone to scan documents and email them as PDF documents
WordSwag	Create beautiful quote posts for social media

Mei Pak 

mei@creativehiveco.com

www.creativehiveco.com

For makers, artists and designers



Font Candy +	Add fun and cool text on your photos like WordSwag
AfterLight	Edit your photos with beautiful filters and frames
Snapseed	Very powerful photo editing app – great for touching up photos

#### Social Media Apps

Later	Schedule Instagram posts on your computer or with their free app. You can curate your posts in advance in the Instagram grid, so that your feed looks good!
Planoly	Like Later, but different and compatible with fewer platforms

#### Productivity

Asana	For managing projects, breaking up projects into smaller tasks, and delegating those tasks to team members. We use the free version
Trello	Like Asana, but some people prefer Trello's Kanban style more
Dropbox	I keep all my files and folders in Dropbox. I can access my files anywhere with any device so I can keep working or access my business without actual being tied to my laptop
Google Drive	Like Dropbox, but on Google instead. We keep many company- wide documents on here (docs that need to be accessed by multiple people at once). My Tiny Hands' production training portal is on Google Drive



Google Calendar	I live by my Google Calendar. Any event, meeting or deadline gets entered into my calendar or it doesn't get done!
LastPass	Share passwords with team members without exposing the password itself (compatible across devices too!)
Evernote	Create notes, to-do lists and store photos containing information you want to reference back in the future
Slack	For chatting with your team
Mailshake	Send PR pitch email and follow ups extremely efficiently and automatically. It's like mail merge but for emails!
Video Speed Controller	Speed up or slow down any videos so you can watch videos faster
Zapier	Integrates two software together to automate tasks

## Website Analytics

Google Analytics	Get tons of data on your site like total visitors per day, bounce rate, conversion rate and sources of traffic and sales. This is good information to know so you can do more of what works!
Bit.ly	Shorten long website links to prettify them. Bit.ly also tracks clicks on your links, so you can track your marketing efforts (i.e. how many people clicked on your link on Instagram vs Facebook vs your email list)



#### Outsourcing

Upwork	For virtual, admin and technical help like writing product descriptions, coding, site maintenance, photo editing, blog post editing
Fiverr	For less involved, quick and easy, one time tasks like spinning product descriptions (making sure product copy is not exactly the same between the marketplaces you sell in), creating video intros, business naming and product demo videos. I've actually found some amazing copywriters on here and they've helped me write email copy, product copy and sales page copy
Craigslist	For hiring local help for production, shipping and possibly admin tasks (seriously, I've tried lots of other local directories, job boards, and even contacted local colleges and high schools. Craigslist is the best!)
OnlineJobs.ph	For hiring part- or full-time employees on a salary, from the Philippines
Thumbtack	For hiring photographers and help for the home like house cleaners and gardeners for yard work
ModelMayhem	For finding models, make-up artists and stylists

#### Sending Payment to Team Members

Wave

My freelancers who bill me hourly or on retainer use Wave to send me invoices, where I can pay using my debit/credit card or bank account easily



Wise	For international bank transfers – they have the best currency exchange rate and fees
Venmo	I pay all my local production assistants using Venmo

#### **Bookkeeping Apps**

Bench	The bookkeeping service I use now instead of QBO. Pricing includes a bookkeeper
Quickbooks Online	QBO is a full featured bookkeeping software. Reconciling is important to ensure your transactions are all being accounted for and QBO makes it easy to balance the books. QBO also has inventory and sales tax tracking. I outsource reconciling to Crystal Cansancio (her link is listed above)
Wave Apps	A free alternative to QBO but doesn't provide any reconciling features, inventory or sales tax tracking so it's more of a reporting app that helps you see where your numbers are.