Your complete guide to starting an online book store, including: buying, restoring, pricing, storing, and shipping your books.

29 Ways to Buy and Sell Used Books Online

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TO BUY AND SELL USED BOOKS ONLINE!

A BEGINNER'S STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO BUYING AND SELLING USED BOOKS ONLINE

KELLEY HUNSICKER

"I Can't believe how easy it was to get started!

And with almost no start up costs."

K.L. Mett

"When I retired, I began looking for another source of income. Selling books is the perfect hobby to earn a little extra money between checks." Mary Rohn

29 WAYS TO BUY AND SELL USED BOOKS ONLINE

By Kelley Hunsicker

To my family, for their unwavering support, patience, and encouragement.

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1. Making the Commitment

Before you begin selling used books online, you have to make a serious commitment to the daily time you will spend on your new business. You are opening a used bookstore. Your new bookstore will require your time even though it's a virtual store.

Online selling doesn't require much time, but it requires consistent time. You will need to schedule bookselling into your daily routine. But, selling is easy and flexible, and will easily fit into your schedule.

When opening your virtual store, it is open 24 hours a day – 7 days a week, has visitors from all over the world, you don't have to be there to sell and there's almost no overhead expenses.

Daily Routine:

- ✓ Check your e-mail. Amazon will send an e-mail every time someone buys a book from you.
- ✓ Print your orders. Each e-mail order will contain a shipping label, the book bought and the amount deposited into your Amazon account.
- ✓ Respond to customer questions. Customer service is important to your business. Online buyers use a rating system to rate the quality of your product, your promptness in shipping and your communication with them.
- ✓ Ship your orders. Pull, package and ship your orders as they come in.

Tip

The time you spend building your shop inventory is up to you, BUT the amount of time you spend will help determine the amount of money you make each week.

2. How to Get Started

Now that you've decided to sell used books, you need to learn about the basics you need to have in order to begin selling. Remember, this is only the basics. There are many choices available. Having these few items will allow you to begin selling right away.

Items needed to begin selling your books online:

Computer: Your computer will serve as the gateway to your 'virtual store'.

Internet Access: You will need to have an internet access. It doesn't matter which provider you use.

E-mail Address: Amazon.com sends your orders to you by e-mail. Customers may also need to contact you about their purchase.

Printer: You will need to print your orders. Each order contains a shipping label and packaging slip to use when preparing your package.



Personal Checking Account

You will need a personal checking account to being selling your books. You could use the one you already have or set up a separate account for book selling. If you don't set up a separate account now, you may want to consider doing it at some point. Amazon will deposit your earnings directly into your banking account. After the first two weeks, you can transfer your sales money manually, up to once a day, if you wish.

<u>Tip</u>

Always check supply levels and keep them stocked. Be sure to have plenty of paper and ink for your printer. Other items include a good pair of scissors and packaging tape.

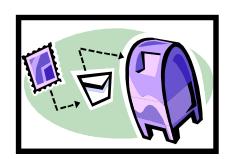
3. How to Choose Your Mailer

You will need several types and sizes of mailing envelopes to begin your business. Here are a few choices to help you select which is best for you. Mailers are a matter of personal preference. It depends on how much you want to spend, the deals you find on them and the types of books you carry.

Finding the right envelope:

Flat Manila Envelopes

You can find flat manila envelopes at any office supply store and they come in various sizes and counts. These envelopes are the least expensive. The 9X12's are a great size for shipping magazine type books. The 6X9's



are perfect for mass-market paperbacks and children's books. Since these envelopes don't offer much protection, you should only use them for penny sellers. When using the flat envelopes, wrap a piece of bubble wrap around the book to ensure its protection.

Padded Mailers

There are several types of padded mailers available today. The type you choose is a matter of preference. Some cost more than others, so be sure to check prices before decided on your mailer. You could check office supply stores, your post office and online. E-bay has great deals on 100 count padded mailers in all sizes.

- ✓ Lightweight plastic envelopes lined with bubble wrap
- ✓ Manila mailers lined with bubble wrap
- ✓ Padded cardboard mailers

Online Seller

I search for the best price in padded envelopes. Other than that, I don't cut costs on shipping. I also wrap the book before I put it into an envelope to eliminate surface wear.

Greatbooksjoy Florida Your complete guide to starting an online book store, including: buying, restoring, pricing, storing, and shipping your books.

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