OH HEY: HIRE ME!

SHAMELESS SELF-PROMOTION CHECKLIST

Whether you are a speaker, a copy writer, a web designer, a graphic artist, an editor, a yoga instructor, a personal trainer, or a dog walker, if you're a solo-preneur, you need some basic marketing pieces & systems to spread the word that you are, in fact, available.

After all, if you don't tell anybody what you do and how to work with you nobody can hire you.

Everyone's scared of self-promotion.

However, the opposite of self promotion is unemployed.

We don't want that.

Get your ducks in a row. Here's a checklist.



FIGURE OUT YOUR BUSINESS NAME AND USE IT.

Your business name might be your name. That's cool! Whatever your business name, make sure you use it on all platforms that you plan to use for marketing your services. Using your business name will encourage you to treat your business like a business.



DEVELOP A BRAND/BUSINESS IDENTITY

You want to provide a consistent experience for your potential customers throughout every interaction. In human speak that means: choose standard fonts & colors to use on your website/business card/ social media pages, and print materials. A logo is great, too, and a logo can just be your name always created in the same font. Develop a voice for your writing and talking so that everything you produce sounds like it was written by the same person. When someone jumps from Facebook to your website you want them to feel comfortable they've landed in the right place.

MAKEMEAFREELANCER.COM



UPDATE YOUR EMAIL SIGNATURE

Your email signature is a place for free advertising! Use it! Don't overwhelm people with 800 choices. Pick three things to focus on and link those in your email. Include your website address (as a link), your contact information, your business name, and the link to your best social media account or two. Then pick a couple of things to highlight and link directly to those pages on your website. Have a logo? Put it in your signature.



MAKE AN INSTAGRAM MEME/ CREATE A COHESIVE STYLE FOR INSTAGRAM

Take that brand identity (fonts/colors/logo/voice and create a weekly meme. (Shameless plug for two of my clients, @ellenzachos (with the Friday Foraged Find) and @saxonholt (with the Tip of the Week), who have developed a weekly tidbit related to their businesses and consistently post. Another colleague @charlieandava_designs, a web designer & graphic artist has developed a look for her instagram, some of which includes educating consumers on web/graphic design so they know how to hire someone. Include a call to action in the text of the post for bigger oomph. Ideas: quotes, tips related to your industry, inspiration, questions.







CREATE A SIMPLE, UPDATED WEBSITE

You probably fall into one of these categories: 1) new freelancer/no website 2) longtime freelancer, OLDDDDDD website (OLLLLDDDDDDD is anything over 4–5 years old), medium-time freelancer with a website that has morphed and been built on and now looks like a frankenhouse. Nothing matches. It's hard to find stuff. There are 40 different pages linked in the main navigation. Start over with Squarespace or Wix (both are simple/easy/cheap to use) and focus on the services or products you most want to sell. It's like getting a makeover. You'll instantly feel better, more professional, and more confident. If you have a newish website that doesn't drive the user to take action (call you, email you, buy something), re-evaluate and streamline what you have. Too many confusing choices will overwhelm potential customers.



CREATE A ONE SHEET

A one sheet is a flyer that explains your products and services. Front and back. Super simple. Include headings and short descriptions, your contact information, price ranges if you want, and a call to action that you want the one sheet reader to take (call, email, sign up for email list).





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The Best Tool EVER

How do you make all of these graphics and choose colors? You can always hire someone.

Or you can use Canva.com.

It's free and how I made this checklist.

I prefer to hire someone, but if that's not in your budget, Canva is gonna be your new best friend.