

Quitting smartly: A basic checklist to switch from 9-5 to business

Before You Quit

Ask Yourself:

- Do I enjoy working alone?
- Am I okay with uncertainty?
- Can I push myself to work, even on bad days?
- Am I fine handling admin, sales, and everything else alone at the start?
- Why exactly do I hate my current job, and will starting a business solve that?

Why business:

- Why do I want to quit? (Burnout? No growth? Politics?)
- Why do a business instead of switching jobs?
- What business do I want to start – product or service? (Services are faster to start)

Budgeting:

- Calculate your monthly expenses (living, entertainment, emergencies).
- Save up to **6 months of expenses** (minimum) as a safety net.
- Preferably look into getting health insurance since you won't be covered anymore by previous company plans once you quit.

Try First:

- Think of a Minimum Viable Product/Service that you can offer.
- Start offering this for a low price or for free. The goal is to test if there's a market need.
- Get 5 clients before proceeding. Don't forget to get testimonials.
- Make sure you actually *like* the work.

Basic Systems:

- Create a simple portfolio (PDF or online).
- Decide on your services (what you'll sell) and pricing.
- Preferably a business email ID and workspace. Document everything. (Use Google Docs/Notion/Clickup)

Build Your Network:

- Let people know what you're offering (friends, LinkedIn, etc.).
- Offer free services in exchange for testimonials - build this somewhere publicly like LinkedIn services page/recommendations.

Looking for more guidance?

Happy to answer your questions here:

<https://topmate.io/shrishtinagar/1281521>