



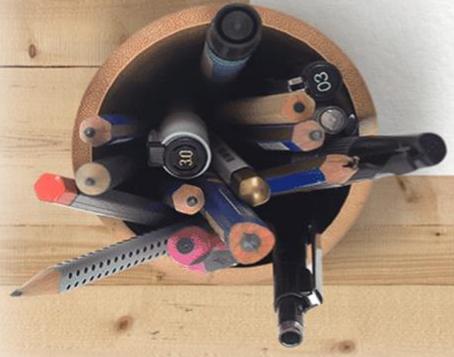
MAKE MONEY

Homesteading

From Hobby to Side Hustle
In 1 Season

2020 Edition

Diana Bouchard



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Please know that I only recommend resources I believe in and highly recommend.

DEDICATION

For my boys, for you I would do anything.

TJB I love you always.

-mama hen

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Our Homestead Journey



Hey!

I'm so excited you decided to jump in and take the first real steps to turning your passion into a profitable side hustle you can be proud of.

My name is Diana and I'm an elementary school teacher married to my sweetheart and mom to two boys under 3. My true passion is being outdoors and providing a wholesome, simpler life for my family.

I love helping other moms and homesteaders like you find some peace and financial freedom from their homestead. Over at Wandering Hoof Ranch I share all my beginner gardening, homesteading, and handmade ideas to help you live a simpler life as a modern day homesteader – From no matter where you live!

We own a 10 acre homestead ranch on the heart of Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada. We've turned a neglected farm and farmhouse into our own homestead paradise. We raise chickens, Scottish highland cattle, and have a large apple orchard and vegetable garden.

[For more about us, visit our ABOUT US page here](#)

CHAPTER 1: Make Money Homesteading – wherever!

Wanting to farm doesn't make you poor!

You bought this book because you have faith that there is money to be earned as a homesteader no matter where you live.

In this ebook, I'm going to show you how we make money from our homestead and give you the tools to turn your hobby into a profitable side hustle you can truly be proud of no matter where you live, an urban homestead, a quarter acre or 10 like me.

The Dream

There are endless ideas for making money from your homestead. Sure that's lovely and exciting to dream about but where do you start and how do you get there? Finding what you really want to do with your homestead and how you spend your time really is the first thing to find out.

Most homesteaders try everything in their first few years and are bombarded with ideas. It's a great idea to dabble in everything from chickens, livestock, vegetables, crops, you name it. But this is the first major mistake new homesteaders make.

Doing a bit of everything leads to feeling overwhelmed and feeling burnt out. And if you don't notice the mental health issues, then it will be the new information overload, responsibilities, lack of time and increased financial stresses that get you.

But wait, I didn't drop that information at the start of the book to disappoint you. Don't let this stop you from living your dream of really making a profit from your homestead. It is possible. I'm going to show you how to get started.

Sneak Peak at our Homestead Income Report

Source	Profits
Horse Boarding	1,800/yr.
RV Rental Space	7,200/yr.
Hay	10,000/ yr.
Meat Birds	4,500/yr.
Cattle	4,500/yr.
Eggs	500/yr.
Chicks	1000/yr.
Produce	variable
Garlic	300.00/yr.
Blogging	variable

BONUS: Personal Tips from our Income Report

After 4 years of being on our homestead we have tried what feels like everything to bring in an extra income from our homestead. We've dabbled with different avenues of revenue and have learned what does and doesn't work for us. It is my hope that this ebook helps you also figure out what will work for you, quicker than what we did!

Here's a snippet of our first few years attempting to make money homesteading and lessons we learned along the way.

When we found our 10 acres of land, it was time to start the homesteading dream. Excited to raise as many farm animals as we could with what little money we had left we started getting creative to raise farm animals as part of our income stream.

The property we had purchased had a chicken coop, a three stall barn with a hay loft to fit 500 square bales and 5 horse paddocks with shelter along with the fencing for each.

RAISING ANIMALS

So we got started with as many farm animals we could raise with our cheap budget after purchasing the land. In our first January on the homestead we figured out what animals we were interested in starting with and a year later we had taken our shot at raising chickens, turkeys, meat birds, rabbits, lamb, pork and a cow or two all while both working full time at our day jobs.

Here is how we raise farm animals for cheap on our homestead, and some life lessons we've learned along the way.

TIPS FOR RAISING LIVESTOCK FOR PROFIT

KNOW WHAT ANIMALS YOU'RE INTERESTED IN RAISING

What animals are you NOT afraid of? What animals do you find cute and cuddly, do you have buildings already on your property to house them? If you plan to raise animals for meat what does your family eat the most of and would benefit from?

PUT THE WORD OUT THERE THAT YOU'RE STARTING A FARM

I luckily was able to adopt my mothers bosses flock of beautiful heritage bred chickens when he moved homes. Free chickens mean free eggs, and you can most likely find a free rooster out there to start your next generation of chickens. Check out my guide to incubating chicks or using a broody hen to raise chicks.

SOURCE FREE FEED WHENEVER POSSIBLE

Did you know cows love pumpkins? There's an excess on Nov. 1st! Be smart with your fields when it comes to grazing animals and field management. Contact your local restaurants and breweries. Use garden scraps. Free range your chickens. Windfall fruits make great feed and my favourite windfall chutney recipe!

DETERMINE WHAT'S WORTH YOUR INVESTMENT

We learned that raising meat birds at the most upfront cost for feed, but was the best return on our investment as we were able to eat chicken for free for the following year! They can smell, need a large well ventilated space and proper protection. They also don't free range well or behave like an egg laying hen so you'll need to feed them a lot of store bought feed.

[RAISING MEAT CHICKENS FOR PROFIT](#)

CATTLE:

We were able to get our hands on a relatively cheap dairy steer from a local fairy farm before he was sent off to auction. If you are thinking of starting with beef cows, we recommend starting off with two dairy steers in the spring.

Why two? Because they are herd animals and will lose their moo from loneliness by themselves. We learned this the hard way. We also had family and friends help us purchase the steers initially. They got a great deal on the meat, and we got the experience to decide if this was for us.

Plan it out so they graze longer than needing hay before going to butcher. We were able to keep a half side of beef for ourselves for very little in our first year and have now figured out how to have a half side of beef in the freezer every year for free. Read more about raising beef cattle here.

The final hanging weight of a dairy steer won't be the final weight of a beef steer. Price the difference of a dairy vs. beef steer calf to determine if it's worth spending that bit extra initially for more product to sell in the end.

LAMB:

Buying a spring lamb to raise over the summer and fall is a cheap way- they usually go for \$150 or so- to let an animal graze your fields and go to the butcher in the winter.

We struggled to get our lambs to a good finishing weight that made the work worth it. I followed advice of having them solely grass fed. A few things that didn't go right were they were scheduled to late in the season for butcher so we had to supplement with purchased hay much longer than anticipated and the field they were on wasn't the best for hay.

TURKEYS:

Raising heritage breed turkey's for cheap on the farm is a great gig for selling holiday birds to customers. My thought was incubating turkey eggs to hatch and raise to full size for the holidays would be a great cheap idea. It wasn't. I recommend raising white turkeys from day olds instead, and do your very best to protect them to ensure you don't lose any before the big holiday.

PORK:

We traded pork for beef with a fellow friend and farmer, kind of like trading lunches in the school yard. Raising pigs isn't something we were interested in but getting free bacon was!

HORSE BOARDING:

Before we bought our homestead horses boarded here for years. Horses were bred and colts were born. It was once a magical "fairytale ranch." This wasn't part of the dream that we envisioned when purchasing the place, but we were happy to have a few owners continue to board their horses with us.

It made for a strange transition when moving as neither of us had really rode a horse let alone cared for a horse or had one live with us. We've since learned there are plenty of benefits to horse boarding as a homesteading side gig, even if you aren't a "horse person" like myself.'

How much does a small horse farm make?

This is an important question to ask, and of course varies greatly depending on what you have to offer your clients. There are many different types of horse ranches and there are also many different types of horse owners that you will be offering your services to.

Monthly board fees range as low at \$150 a month for self boarding on a small hobby farm to at least \$500 a month+ per horse for full board.

[READ MORE ABOUT STARTING A HORSE BOARDING BUSINESS HERE](#)

CUTTING AND SELLING HAY

Use your own hay equipment to cut and sell hay. We've found many neighbours that will exchange the hay for your services. It's a great way to save on hay for your own animals if not get enough for free. We started our own hay cutting business. We bought old used equipment and with a little elbow grease we got it up and working in time for haying season and it paid it self off with the first few cuts of the season.

Selling your hay off the field may be an option if you have lots of unused fields. Cut hay with your own equipment or pay a farmer to cut it for you and sell it off the field for 2x as much as you paid the farmer to cut it.

CHAPTER 2: START FROM SCRATCH

TIPS ON BUYING HOMESTEADING PROPERTY

ARE YOU GOING TO ...

A. BUY PROPERTY

B. URBAN HOMESTEAD?

OPTION A: BUY LAND FOR YOUR HOMESTEAD

If you dream of buying land for farming and homesteading like we did here are 10 things you might consider when making such a big decision. We've had our current property for just under 5 years and these are some of the things we've learned

1.HOW FAR IS THE PROPERTY FROM TOWN?

People often want to move out into the country and think the farther they move away from people and traffic the nicer it will be. It's really important to consider the conveniences of town and how often you we need to go there. When establishing a new homestead, you'll be surprised how often you are going to the hardware and feed store. You might also want to consider how far

away you are from family and friends that you value spending time with often.

My tip for you is to get a map of the city and its outskirts that you are planning on buying property in. You might be shocked how many larger properties there are that are close to town and haven't been subdivided yet.

2. WHAT CONDITION IS THE FARM HOUSE IN?

I put this as number two on the list, but it really should be number one. If you're moving onto a property to homestead you will be considering many things. Depending on what country you are in, the province or state and even within the municipality there are rules for how many dwellings you can have on a property.

This is very important to note and to get a clear understanding of before purchasing land. Then will you have a better understanding of dwellings on the property and what opportunities there are. For example, our current farmhouse needed a lot of care to bring it up to code and to livable conditions, we could either live in it or tear it down to build a new home. We can't rent the current dwelling and build a new home on the same property.

3. WHAT IS THE WATER SUPPLY?

It's important to know if you will be paying for water services or if there is a well. Also consider if there is a water source such as a creek, pond or lake on the property that you can use for irrigation and drinking water for animals and personal use.

4. WHAT BUILDINGS ARE ON THE PROPERTY?

What types of outbuildings will you need for your animals, equipment storage, garden, feed or anything else? An old open equipment shed might be just fine as an animal shelter for cows, but if the roof leaks you won't be able to store hay or feed in it.

5. HOW MUCH TIME, ENERGY AND EFFORT WILL BE NEEDED?

I hate to ask how old you are or consider age as a factor to buying homesteading property but it plays a huge factor in planning your life around the lifestyle.

For ourselves, we have to consider the age of our children. Do we really want to be busy building a house or doing major renovations when there are diapers to change?

6. COSTS OF RUNNING THE PROPERTY?

Our Electricity bill doubled when we went from living in a small urban rancher to our homestead. We also didn't budget for such a huge expense. I highly suggest looking into what the utility bills are currently at for the homeowner and come up with a plan to lower them if needed.

7. IS IT SET UP FOR LIVESTOCK?

Are there paddocks, fields for grazing, fences, stalls? Fortunately for us, our current property was already set up for animals. We just needed to pick and choose what we wanted to raise and make minor modifications.

Our current dream homestead property is not established in this way at all, it would cost a lot of time and money to build and fence.

8. ORCHARD, WOODLOT OR WELL MAINTAINED FIELDS?

This is an important question to consider as planting trees, and reseeding fields takes a lot of time, money and equipment.

9. IS THE PROPERTY PART OF THE AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE ?

This is very important to know because there are specific rules that must be followed when you own ALR land. There are also perks to owning ALR land if you have an income from your farm. There are

lots of tax perks to running a farm and sharing your products with your community.

I suggest you contact your local municipality and provincial/state government for more information.

10. WHAT CONDITIONS ARE THERE ON THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY ?

We really wish that our current property came with all the “junk” that was sold off at auction. It really is nice to have old tools lying around, it’s quite handy and useful. There’s also an appeal of vintage farm equipment that adds character to your home and garden.

If you can get any equipment from tractors, rototillers, fencing and feeders included in the sale you’re laughing.

If the property isn’t actually for sale, why not contact the owner and ask? Really it can’t hurt. My cousin actually bought his 10 acres by contacting the owner if a piece of property completely run down and abandon. Turns out the owner had an accident, ended up in a wheel chair and was happy to see someone else share a similar vision for his property.

OPTION B: WHY YOU MIGHT STAY PUT

Here's why we aren't taking any further steps to buying our dream homesteading property- which entails more land and a bigger home.

1. YOUR AGE, HEALTH AND ENERGY

2. AGE OF CHILDREN

So now is the time to live the life we've established for ourselves. It took us 11 years to get to this destination, I'm not going to get caught up in what everyone else has and just enjoy what we do.

3. THE SIZE OF THE MORTGAGE

By staying put we are actually much closer to paying off our mortgage. We'd rather pay off our mortgage in our thirties and do more in our forties.

4. GRATITUDE

It's not worth the loss of what we do have. When we sold our first city rancher I mourned that home for three years. I could drive by it, I had dreams about waking up and being in it's walls. I remember with great joy painting the walls inside and out and taking only a few steps to hang out in the shop and do our projects together.

Wherever you are, unless it's a negative and dangerous place, If you're happy stay there.

There seems to be such a trend in wanting more than what you have. The pull to have in all by the end of your twenties is painful.

Now that I'm on the verge of my thirties, I have a forget it attitude and am embracing that good enough is good enough and it's a beautiful place to be.

5. HOMESTEAD ANYWHERE

If you dream of property solely to build a Homesteading lifestyle and to make money I suggest learning to embrace simple living in your current home and determine what sustainable goals your family has and how you plan to meet them.

You can Homestead where ever you are, the ideas and tutorials are endless. You don't need more space to do more.

Sure you can't have cows on 1 acre but you can have chickens and goats. You can't have a large greenhouse in the do backyard of your apartment but you can have a container garden and grow just as much. Do what you can and support others that do as well. Don't have a goat to milk and make soap, buy goats milks soap from.

HOMESTEADING LIFESTYLE

Homesteading today starts with the home... as it's written quite honestly. It's about the lifestyle of how we make our house a home. Whether a flat, suburban townhome, a large family home or a farmhouse. It's finding a place you love and making it your home.

And in making a home, homesteading is a place a family lives and works together.

It's about living simply with what we have and working towards providing for ourselves as best we can when it comes to meeting the basic necessities of food and shelter.

It looks like gardening, keeping chickens, raising animals for meat, beekeeping, preserving food, fermenting food, cooking from scratch and frugal living habits.

From the extreme to being an off grid fully prepped homesteader for expected disasters, to the basics of growing herbs on your window sill. It's an adapted lifestyle that looks different for different folks.

But it's more than that...

It's really the idea of freedom and becoming less reliant on modern conveniences. Conveniences that have removed us from hard work and knowing where our food comes from – let alone how it was raised.

It's the “feel good” sense of pride you have when you look at your plate. Everything you see is local, fresh, non gmo, organic, free range, grass fed, just simple real food you played a roll in.

Or simply, pulling a carrot from the soil and thinking- “I grew this!”

Then taking a bite. Nothing, honestly nothing- tastes better than the “heck yes, I did this” feeling!

It's a way of slowing down this rat race that we're spinning on and reconnecting with our roots, and our land.

It's a fun, exciting and satisfying lifestyle. But it also is a lot of hard work. Work that tends to go unappreciated by some and seen as crazy to others.

It's a journey of course, a journey to feeling like I can proudly say, “we produce what we need”

Embracing the lifestyle of a modern homesteader will not only help you earn money from your homestead but also save you a ton of money as well. If you're smart, creative and motivated you can pull

this all together to make the dream a reality and turn your homesteading passion into a profit.

FRUGAL LIVING TIPS

Part of embracing the homesteading lifestyle in order to make money homesteading is to live frugally.

There really isn't a lot of money in farming- so we've been told by the older generation and people that have tried and feel like they've failed. It doesn't have to be this way, and we are determined to not accept this fact or fall into the trap of failure.

As with anything we attempt to do, it's all about mindset. If you've been trying to make money homesteading for awhile, are feeling burnt out or exhausted or are just getting started and want the facts to feel like you can do it when your family and friends think you're a little crazy- I've been in both places- then this ebook is really going to help you.

You have the power to be successful, how you speak to yourself and how you change your thinking with the power of yet... will help.

The other big part to embrace when starting your homestead is frugal living.

Frugal living doesn't mean you're cheap, it means you value the worth of your dollar and are willing to spend it wisely and not frivolously.

This has probably been one of our biggest learning curves with our homestead. In order to make money from our homestead we really had to cut back so that we'd have more time and money to invest in making the dream a reality.

Here are some of my tips to help you do the same.

SPEND TIME ON YOUR BUDGET

Spend time on your budget. By determining your monthly income and necessary expenses- bills- it's easier to see where money is wasted. Do you have monthly subscriptions that can be canceled?

Think Netflix or subscription boxes? Then try and lower your monthly bills. We cancelled cable and combined cellphone plans to save. Gail Van Oxlade has been a big helper when it comes to helping with

budgeting and money after graduation is another reliable source for tips and inspiration for budgeting.

I find overall with one of us home full time it's easier to save money with someone running the household and budget more effectively. With us both at work there's just not enough time and we start eating out and going sideways again on our budget.

CUT YOUR ELECTRICITY BILL

Our hydro bill was crazy when we moved out to our homestead. Far greater a cost than anticipated. So we've looked into lowering it and so far these things have helped. We've switched to all LED bulbs and put Solar motion lights out on the barn, stalls and coops.

We stopped using the dishwasher on a day to day basis and we wash in the sink after meals. For laundry use full loads on quick cycles in cold water and if you can dry besides towels in front of a wood stove during the winter and on the like during summer.

Doing a load daily makes this manageable. I put dry towels in with wet in the dryer to cut down on the time. Lights are turned off during the day and we don't leave anything plugged in unless it's being used.

CHANGE TO ONE VEHICLE

Try and see if there's something drastic you could do. By selling a vehicle and going down to one, after my husband has a company truck we saved a ton of expenses.

START COOKING FROM SCRATCH

I started meal planning once a week. I start by looking at what we already have in the cupboards and work from there, what meals can we make? What are the smallest amount of groceries we will need to use these things up? I also switched grocery stores to a no name, no gimmicks and use their points program to earn free groceries sooner.

I was able to earn about \$200 back in a year towards groceries and cut my grocery bill hugely by shopping generic. Our bills have gone down since starting the homestead for ingredients like beef, poultry and vegetables. And I'm always asking myself, what can we raise and grow instead of buying from the store?

This year we are trying our hands at honey and garlic. I also find a lot of joy in hosting a potluck dinner here with friends a couple times a month instead of going out for dinner. We do themes and everyone brings something and we can put the boys to bed and just socialize for a bit.

MEAL PLANNING

We've massively cut our grocery budget by at least $\frac{3}{4}$ over the past year by meal planning using this resource.

GLEANNING/FORAGING

Do you know how much free food is out there? Why not ask your neighbours if you can pick their fruit trees that went to waste last year or go out into the woods and forage for mushrooms, berries and nettle?

GROWING A FOOD GARDEN

Grow foods that are expensive in the grocery store but not too hard to grow as a beginner gardener like zucchini, pumpkins, tomatoes, lettuce and garlic.

[LEARN HOW TO BE A VEGGIE GARDEN MASTER HERE](#)

PRESERVING FOOD AND STORING IT PROPERLY

Preserving your own food that you've grown, foraged or bought at a discount is a great way to save money and eat fresh foods longer.

DOWNSIZE AND GET RID OF THE EXTRA STUFF

Clear out, sell, up cycle, donate. Try scheduling a diabetes donation pick up, I find it easier when tidying up and getting rid of things when I know it won't just end up in the landfill but reused by someone else. What do you still need? What can you sell, what can you donate? This is very easy when it comes to baby stuff!

Stuff. When it comes to "stuff" I've really worked on a minimalist style around the house, with so few square feet, I'm constantly revamping spaces for our changing needs.

Challenge yourself once a month to focus on one room in the house and update it based on your needs and ask yourself what still has a purpose in your life and brings you joy. Watch Marie Kondo's Tidying up on Netflix for inspiration. Which brings me to my next topic.

MEND AND MAKE DO

Although I suggest you get rid of extra stuff, I also suggest you take a look at what you have and how you can use those things you plan on getting rid of- instead of just throwing it all in the trash!

Here's some ideas, make a rag rug or wreath with old fabric, repurpose old clothing for kids outdoor wear.

Challenge yourself to get out of debt or save for bigger projects with frugal living money challenges

Since starting our homestead, we've cut cable and have gone to one vehicle. We've started paying for things in cash. I am cooking from scratch more often, meal planning has saved us a ton of money.

CHAPTER 3: PASSION TO PROFIT

Make your hobby pay for itself!

So far I've talked a lot about embracing the homesteading lifestyle and how to save money with frugal living. That's only the first half of being about to make money on the homestead. Without those things, bringing in a profit is going to be wasted and not be seen.

You're hard work is worth much more than you'll ever make homesteading- but here's how you can do it.

Now I'm going to give you the tips and tricks to really make money homesteading, no matter the size of property you have or where you live.

Once you decide you truly want to make money from your homestead, you need to treat it like a job. It's no longer a hobby once you decide to make money, it's work, but it's the work you love doing!

While on maternity leave I needed to feel like I was working, my income was next to nothing and if I was going to continue to stay home I needed to make that plus some.

I would get out of bed in the morning and do what I love to do, be with my children, go outside, tend to the garden and the animals, share our adventures on my social media accounts and spend my fall and winter season in the kitchen preserving, cooking homemade meal and baking from scratch.

If I didn't treat it like a job, then I wouldn't bring in an extra income while doing the things I loved doing. And if I didn't work hard enough to make this happen I'd have to return to my day job sooner and be even farther away from my making money from the homestead goal.

So as you think about what you have to offer from your homestead and what you love to do, remember that it is possible to make a living doing whatever it is! You just have to dive into what you love doing, start actually doing it and stop just thinking about it!

THINK OF THIS AS YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION

These are the things you need to commit yourself to when you decide to run your homestead as a business.

- Be willing to put in consistent time and effort on homesteading related activities that drive an income.
- Set goals and deadlines and work hard to meeting them
- Commit to filling your calendar with seasonal “pay cheques” at least twice a month
- Commit to filling your calendar with consist income sources, seasonal and passive
- Be willing to budge for investing money into your homestead by buying tools and services to make it run smoothly
- Research the business of homesteading and homes business in order to keep up with current practices and opportunities
- Be willing to learn how to operate the paperwork behind it all or have a plan of someone who can help you if needed.
- Building and maintaining a customer list of interested buyers
- Learn how to produce quality products that are worthy of selling
- Be persistent, stay strong, refuse to quick and keep the love affair alive.

Don't worry, I'm going to give you tips on how to do this all now!

CHAPTER 4:

DISCOVER HOMESTEAD NICHEs & EXPERTS

THIS IS THE FUN PART YOU WERE WAITING FOR!

Our website, Wandering Hoof Ranch, brings in enough pageviews to make a profit. Half of those page views have been coming directly through searches to our list of 47 ways to make money from your homestead. Honestly, I'm not shocked. You can read that post here.

[47 Ways to Make Money Homesteading](#)

Skip the guess work and learn from the experts in all areas of Homesteading. In the post I've shared some links for experts, but here I want to share with you my top resources I found to be the most helpful resources for beginners from friends I trust!

Herb Gardening

Learn everything there is to know about growing and using herbs including products to make with these online courses.

[The Herbal Academy of New England has great online courses](#)

Poultry

Learn everything there is to know about raising fowl for a profit with my friend Delci at a Life of Heritage! I've used her eBooks when I started raising chickens and have been able to start making money much quicker!

- [CHICKEN RICH BOOK](#)
- [DUCK DOUGH Complete Guide to Guinea Fowl](#)

RABBITRY

When it comes to making money with Rabbits, Leah from Leah's Lovely Lops is your go to gal! When we considered raising rabbits on our homestead Leah's ebook and helpful emails were very helpful.

Unfortunately, my husband won and we got cows instead!

[Learn from Leah Here](#)

GOATS

When it comes to raising goats, there are so many things to learn and avenues of income potential. Learn everything there is to know about raising goats this this ultimate guide for success!

[GOAT GUIDE](#)

STEP 2: CHOOSE YOUR IDEAL NICHE

This part is tricky, it's exciting to want to try as many revenue opportunities as possible when you start homesteading especially if you want to be making money. Here are some of the things you need to consider when you choose your niche.

STEP 3: ONE NICHE- ALL THE AVENUES

Try choosing one niche and reaping all the income streams from it. For example, if you chose to raise goats you could make money selling dairy products, meat products (yes some people eat goat meat), sell homemade soaps, and selling lambs. You could market your goats as a tourist attraction and even have people sponsor or adopt a goat that lives on your homestead.

Another example is to raise heritage chicken breds, you can sell fertilized eggs at auctions and sell across the country for \$75+ dollars, you could sell day old chicks, point a lay hens, eating eggs and even feathers on etsy to crafters. There's also chicken manure you could sell.

Decide up to 5 niches that really interest you, then brainstorm the possible income sources from that niche.

STEP 4: DO YOUR RESEARCH

Before jumping in with the top niche that interests you, make sure you can make a profit from that animal or crop. For example, it would not be a good idea to get into a breed that is over populated in your area.

Before purchasing an animal, make sure you do your research and figure out what their price is in your area, are a lot of people selling them, and how much could you make from that one income stream.

Here's how to research the animal.

It's best to not try to start selling everything you can because you will be exhausted and not do well any job you set out to do. So make a list of your ideas for the animals you're interested in. THEN, choose only three.

Get the most bang for your buck in selling everything you possibly can from one animal. Then ask yourself which ones you would enjoy doing the most? Which ones would take the least amount of time and effort to get started and do you have the supplies to get started?

Now research the price of these animals in your local listings

Write down the current season you are researching in- the season has a huge impact on the pricing.

Write down the number of listings within a 50 minute drive of your location that has been posted in the last 30 days.

Number of listings that are 1-2 hours away from you in the last 30 day, highest price found with comparable value and lowest price found with comparable value to what you sell.

Do the same thing on google. This will help you research what you can charge and how much competition you have.

STEP 5: DETERMINE MONTHLY EXPENSES

Feed

Advertising

Website, email system, social media scheduler. Supplies, equipment, start up costs like building pens, paddocks or coops.

STEP 6: PLAN FOR THE LONG TERM

Is this something you want to do for the next few years? Is this going to help you with your long term goal?

If yes, then choose one or two of your top five topics you researched and start with those.

STEP 7: PUT ALL YOUR EGGS IN MANY SEASONAL BASKETS

I can't help but think of Easter when I share with you my advice for dividing up your niche plans into baskets.

What we've learned in our years homesteading is that our lives are now driven by the seasons. Our homestead chores that drive our income are all linked to the changing of the seasons. We can bring in lumps of money from different areas at different times of the year and this directly affects our budget and profit/loss.

There's very busy seasons where we need to decide what's worth the time and energy and quiet seasons where we need to analyze previous years, plan ahead, and get creative with profit areas.

SEASONS

SPRING:

In the spring our income is driven from selling baby chicks, fertilized hatching eggs from heritage breed chickens, selling cow and calf combos, plant sales, decluttering, sell seeds

SUMMER:

Selling meatbirds, point a lay hens, eggs, kittens, hay sales, produce sales, manure

FALL:

Selling steers for butcher or selling sides of beef,

Selling weaned spring calves

Selling fall meatbirds

Produce sales

preserves

WINTER:

Baking

Blogging

Crafts

Sell seeds

STEP 8: SET UP PASSIVE STREAMS OF INCOME

All year we make money from horse boarding, rv storage and blogging. It's a good idea to find ways to make a passive income source from your homestead as well as your niche "jobs" in case of an emergency or unexpected loss- like an eagle attacking you're full flock of chickens. I've been there.

CHAPTER 5: BUSINESS GOAL SETTING

So far you've done some pretty amazing things, you've decided a few niches 1 or 2 to start with, you've filled your calendar with passive and seasonal pay cheque opportunities and read through your job description and set some goals after choosing to higher yourself to make money on your homestead. Congratulations you're on your way to success.

Now I'm going to share with you

- my time management tips
- tips for working with your business partner- most likely your spouse or family
- advertising tips
- steps to make your business official/legal
- setting priorities and boundaries
- resources for specific niches
- why starting a homestead blog could be right for you

CHAPTER 6: ACTION PLAN

Creating an action plan is the best part of goal setting. Once you've determined all the things you'd like to do and accomplish its time to divide those big goals into action steps.

Here's how you can create your action plan.

Write down all your action steps into 3 hour tasks. (or the daily time you have to invest in your homestead business) 3 hours is what works very well for us. By the time we get started, gather equipment and get going 3 hours flies by.

Determine how much time you actually have to complete those action steps.

Align your steps with the time you have and your seasonal calendar.

If you don't have the time, then it's time for a refresher on time management. (see the next chapter)

Another point to make is to consider if your 3 hour tasks will include daily care for your animals or crops.

Now take that calendar, your availability and your action steps and clock in your schedule like you would if you were delegating an employee.

CHAPTER 7: TIME MANAGEMENT TIPS

Time management is often the biggest roadblock for making money from home, especially when you work full time already and or have kids at home. When you're starting a homesteading business from home it's important to have a plan in place to manage your time effectively to make sure your business plan is actually treated like a job.

If you feel like you don't have enough time to really make money homesteading then consider these stats.

The average person spends **2.14 hours per week** brainwashing themselves via social media.

They then spend at least another 4 hours watching TV/Netflix/Amazon Prime.

You need to **decide what is more important to you** - idle entertainment or building a better future for you and your loved ones.

And you can create the time to work on your business by simply reducing (not eliminating) the amount of time you spend binging Netflix shows, etc.

All you need is 30 minutes per day, every day.

Making money homesteading doesn't need to be hard work, but it definitely does require you to actually work.

Here's some tips to help you find that extra time!

WAKE UP EARLIER

Wake up an hour or two earlier than you usually do, when the house is quiet and everyone is sleeping. This is a great time to work effectively. Set a goal for your session, shut off all distractions and get to work. Don't open up your facebook or check your phone. If you need to pretend your "boss" is breathing down your neck then do it!

SCHEDULE WORK HOURS

These are the time frames in the day or week that you can fit in your work hours. What jobs need to be done to run your business? If you are starting a market garden business, then you'll have market schedules and harvest and prep times. Have your work schedule posted on the fridge so you're family is aware when you are working.

USE YOUR EVENINGS

This tip is key, if you have children or a day job it's crucial you use your down time to work instead of relaxing with a snack and your favourite show. This is also the hardest time of to be productive- if you're like me and find yourself exhausted at this time of day. If you want to get out of your current living situation and be able to spend more time at home, or with your children by making money homesteading then you need to be willing to give up this time.

NAPS/BREAKS

Noon is set nap time for my kids, this is my most productive time of the day where I get my work done. I turn off my phone and I get to work I stay focused until they wake up again- sometimes it's three hours and sometimes its only 45 minutes but it's my work time. If you have scheduled breaks at your day job, then use this time to multitask and work on getting outta that job. Maybe you schedule social media posts on your facebook or Instagram page or answer emails from customers. Or maybe you just read this ebook or other expert resources to keep you focused on your goal.

MEAL PLAN

Honestly, once I started meal planning I felt like I had way more time to get stuff done. I'd wake up in the morning and know what we are having for dinner. I could take out the premade meal out of the freezer or prep the meal that morning to throw in the oven at 5. Done and Done. My tips for meal planning, use what you have in your cupboards and freezer, find cheap quick recipes, participate in a meal swap, do a months worth of freezer meals in a weekend. The ideas are endless. Save your time and energy for something else every day, and don't go wasting your money on take out.

BOOK A BUSINESS TRIP AWAY

Book a weekend away, stay in a hotel room with a continental breakfast using your loyalty points and pick up some take out and get to work. Book time away from home to really hammer out a big project. Having a few hours here and there are great during the week or weekends to get stuff done. But imagine what you could do if you had a business trip planned. You'd be organized, prepared and ready to take on the world.

TIPS FOR WORKING WITH YOUR BUSINESS PARTNER- YOUR FAMILY

When we decided to start running our homestead like a small farming business, we signed a partnership agreement with our province and our business license. It felt very official, almost like our marriage again. Working together on projects is always something that we've loved doing together, but it also causes a lot of stress. If you're making money from your homestead independently these tips may still help you communicate with your family about your new endeavor.

Here are my tips to help you work with your business partner on your homestead business. Just know, I'm not a relationship coach and every marriage and relationship is different. You know what is best for yours, I just suggest you take the time to figure that out and discuss it and dedicate some time for communication to be successful.

PUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP FIRST- 6 HOURS A WEEK

You need to prioritize your personal relationship so that when your homesteading business creates stress you have the bond between you to problem solve and figure it out.

A friend once shared with a study that showed that investing just 6 hours a week on your relationship helps nurture a healthier bond.

Those 6 hours are broken down into daily interactions such as giving each other 100% of your attention at particular times of the day.

When you greet each other, When you say goodbye. When you have a weekly check in on how “things are” and a weekly date night doing what you love together and recognize the positive traits in each other.

WEEKLY BUSINESS MEETINGS

Maybe it's Sunday morning over coffee, or while you drive the kids to school in the morning. Whenever it is, make time for a weekly business meeting.

MONTHLY BUDGET MEETINGS

Don't forget to talk about the money, the idea is to be making money from your homestead. Discuss how that goal is going and what needs to be done. Get creative together and plan ahead.

KEEP HOMESTEAD INCOME AND EXPENSES SEPARATE FROM FAMILY BUDGET

It's easy to spend a lot of money on start up costs for any business. Make sure that your homestead income and expenses are kept separate

TELL EACH OTHER WHAT YOU NEED

This is such an obvious tip, but really in any relationship how often do we directly say "right now I need

CHAPTER 8: SHARING YOUR STORY

You're an expert and the world is waiting to learn from you!

There are many stages to learning, as a teacher I see this. When a student or person reaches mastery they are able to teach the skill to another person to the point in which they understand.

There are many ways to teach others about your homestead and business as another way to bring in an income. From teaching local workshops, online videos on youtube, a sales newsletter or as a guest speaker the opportunities are endless.

I have to say that once I started to share with I know with other homesteaders my passion for homesteading became stronger, I started to feel connected in a new community online with other homesteaders.

Blogging has been a way to teach and share what I've learned on my homestead so that others can be successful homesteaders. As a teacher, I'm naturally passionate about sharing information with others while continuing to learn and grow.

Want to start a homestead blog as part of a passive homesteading income stream? It's one way to make money from home while doing the things you already love doing. It's easy to get started and you can do it

anywhere in the world with wifi! I can help you do it fast and effectively with five easy steps.

Writing a homesteading blog was the best decision I made last year. If you're like me, then you're probably already VERY busy running a household, taking care of animals, the garden, preserving, and trying to make time for yourself. ***How do you start and run a homesteading blog on top of it all?***

In fact writing a **homesteading blog is just one of the ways you can make money from your homestead**. ***So why would you take on something else on top of your homestead chores?***

That's what I thought, and it is the very reason why it took me some time to actually jump both feet in and start this blog. ***When in fact, this past year I'm now able tend to our homestead AND run this blog BETTER than how I managed it all in our first years as homesteaders.***

If you're on the fence about whether **writing a homesteading blog is for you then I recommend reading this article**

Blogging as a Homesteader has had many benefits- *ones that I didn't expect!*

- Meet a growing community of other homesteaders that have a similar mindset and lifestyle not just from the internet but within your community
- Start to feel like an expert when people ask questions about homesteading and taking small steps to leading a simpler life. ***My Grandma started a garden at 81 and we talked vegetables all summer long!***
- Take time to slow down and reflect more often on the positives
- Capturing the beauty of your homesteading journey by taking more pictures
- Get creative with technology in new ways

I started this blog on January 1st 2019. I was about to turn thirty, and writing was something I always wanted to do but hadn't given to time to yet. Do you feel the desire to write?

You are here reading this post so there's already a good possibility that you're curious about the blogging world. If you've decided to start a blog, then, YAHOO! Congratulations.

But now you're wondering now what? I fully admit it can be overwhelming. In this post I'll share with you the very basic 5 steps to get your homestead blog up and running quickly and easily!

THEN, just start writing. What do you want to write about. Start writing the first thing that comes to mind.

***WRITE DOWN THINGS YOU'VE DONE ON YOUR HOMESTEAD,
WHAT ADVICE DO PEOPLE ASK YOU FOR AND YOUR
PASSIONS.***

I am beyond thankful that I found my friend [Victoria from A Modern Homestead](#). Victoria has a highly successful homesteading blog that I've been following since we started our homestead.

She also [put this course together](#) for new bloggers just like you!

Whether you already have a blog or not, this course covers everything you need to know to actually be successful!

[She walks you through everything, WITH VIDEOS](#) so you know exactly what you are doing by the end! From picking your niche, setting up your theme, to writing your first post and actually bringing people to your site, this course is exactly what you need to get your blog up and going!

[I HIGHLY RECOMMEND this course to you!](#)

CHAPTER 9: BUSINESS TIPS

All of the information in this chapter is Canadian as our homestead is in BC, Canada. Do your research and reach out to your neighbours to find out about making your homestead an official farm business. I learned the following from our own personal experience and am not an expert in legalities so please do your due diligence when it comes to legalities!

WHAT IS FARMING IN CANADA?

Farming is **loosely defined by the Canadian Revenue Agency** as “...the raising and harvesting of animals or plants in a controlled environment“. I encourage you to read their article on farming, but for most people it’s going to be a straightforward answer if you’re farming or not. It’s important to note that they explicitly call out that the following activities are not farming (among others):

- raising or exhibiting wild or exotic animals
- raising or breeding of animals, fish, insects, or any other living thing, for use or sale as pets
- providing certain equine services such as horse riding lessons, dressage training, horse boarding, or quarantine service

Basically if you're growing crops or vegetables and/or raising livestock for a purpose other than pets you're farming.

SO START TREATING IT LIKE A BUSINESS!!

1.CREATE A BUSINESS NAME

2.REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

3.REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS NAME WITH YOUR STATE/PROV.

The first thing we did was **register our business as a partnership** through the government of BC's website, we automatically received our federal business number. The business registration is valid for 5 years and you can go back 60 days to claim income and expenses from the date your register. We also choose to register a business name instead of using both of our legal names for simplicity.

4.GET A BUSINESS EMAIL

5.GET A SMALL BUSINESS BANK ACCOUNT

Running all your profits and losses through a business bank account makes the accounting portion of your business run much smoother.

6.SIGN UP FOR TAX REBATES AND GRANTS

7.REGISTER FOR HST

The next thing we did was **register for an HST account**. Although it is totally optional if you generate less than \$30,000, registering is the only way you can **take advantage of input tax credits**. Your accountant can go into more detail regarding input tax credits but basically you recover the HST paid on expenses or purchases used in your business. You will have to charge HST on applicable sales.

8. REGISTER FOR FARM PROPERTY TAX RATE PROGRAM

Instead of paying 1,500-3,000 annually for property taxes we pay \$300 as we are in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and meet the annual farm earnings required based on the size of our land. This can be a hassle to register for, luckily our property already met the requirements before we purchased it and just had to continue submitting receipts to classify.

The requirements in British Columbia for farm earnings is different than other provinces, as for the USA and states I don't have.

9. FIND A BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTANT

Finding a Bookkeeper/accountant that understands small farms/homestead businesses is KEY! We did a lot of research to find an accountant that recognized us as a small farm and not a hobby farm because we had chickens. In fact our accountant has a small 5 acre sheep farm and can give advice from personal experience. She's an hour and a half away, but she's worth the drive!

If you are just starting your business is likely to be operating at a loss (it cost you more to run the business than you earned) and you have another source of income. If the farm is not your chief source income you can only claim a portion of your loss and the remainder becomes your restricted farm loss.

Make sure your accountant understands and communicated the expenses that you need to track through the year. We currently have her do all our bookkeeping as well as taxes because I haven't mastered this yet, but I'm determined to learn and to do our own bookkeeping to save a couple hundred dollars a year.

Use Freshbooks Accounting to keep all your receipts, bills and finances in order. [Sign up for a free trial here.](#)

10. CLAIMING FARM INCOME ON PERSONAL TAX RETURN

In order to claim farm income on your personal tax return (IN CANADA) you'll need the following information. Your accountant will be able to help you with all this information, so try not to get overwhelmed.

1. Submit a Business Statement with the following
 - a. Business Name and Address
 - b. Receipts for all income and expenses generated
 - c. Identification of partners if applicable
 - d. List of assets you already own or purchased that you used in your business
 - e. Motor Vehicle expenses including interest and leasing costs
 - f. Office in home expenses

2. Other Necessary Information
 - a. Industry code
 - b. Main product or service
 - c. Accounting method- cash or accrual

- d. Partnership business number
- e. Tax shelter identification #
- f. GST/HST Account # from CRA
- g. Internet web pages and websites that we earn an income from...
- h. Percentage of gross income from the websites

3. Income Categories applicable

- a. Cattle
- b. Swine
- c. Sheep and Lambs
- d. Poultry
- e. Eggs
- f. Custom contract work
- g. Machine Rentals
- h. Other income

4. Expenses

- a. Containers and twine
- b. Small tools
- c. Fertilizers and lime
- d. Pesticides
- e. Seeds and plants
- f. Livestock purchased
- g. Feed/supplements/straw and bedding
- h. Veterinary fees, medicine, breeding fees
- i. Vehicle licence, insurance, repairs
- j. Gasoline, diesel fuel, and oil
- k. Building and fence repairs
- l. Clearing, levelling and draining land
- m. Custom and contract work, machine rental
- n. Electricity
- o. Heating fuel
- p. Insurance program
- q. Office expenses
 - i. Rent
 - ii. Mortgage interest
 - iii. Property taxes
 - iv. Utilities

- v. Telephone
- vi. Minor repairs
- vii. Home insurance
- r. Legal and accounting fees
- s. Property taxes
- t. Rent
- u. Mandatory inventory adjustments
- v. Salaries, wages, benefits
- w. Optional inventory adjustment
- x. Allowance on capital property
- y. GST/HST rebate for partners received in the year.

FARM SALE CATEGORIES

Wheat, oats, barley, mixed grains, corn, canola, flaxseed, soybeans, other grains and oilseeds, fruit, potatoes, vegetables not including potatoes, tobacco, other crops, greenhouse and nursery products, forage crops and sheeds, cattle, swine, poultry, sheep and lambs, other animal specialties, milk and cream, eggs, other commodities, dairy subsidies, crop insurance, other payments, rebates, custom or contract work, machine rentals, insurance proceeds and patronage dividends

THE WORKBOOK INCLUDED WITH THIS EBOOK WILL HELP YOU WITH THIS PART!

CHAPTER 10: ADVERTISING 101

THIS IS THE FUN PART YOU WERE WAITING FOR!

The farming world is changing, how you sell has changed too. Here are my tips for advertising your homesteading business to help you make money from your homestead sooner!

ONLINE PRESENCE

Having an online presence is completely necessary these days. This is where you're going to build your brand, your followers, your customers and your business.

I recommend setting up the following social media accounts and participating in them frequently!

If social media and branding is not your thing, you can take a major short cut by hiring someone from [Fiverr. Check them out here.](#)

FACEBOOK

Create a business account page where you can share your business with others from products, to sales, daily interactions, homesteading tips, engagement, giveaways and more.

Use your facebook page to interact in homesteading facebook groups and local farmer pages in your area.

INSTAGRAM

Create a business Instagram account

Be super specific with your brand niche on Instagram to create a catalog of products.

ie. just for seed sales or just for knit toques

Use brand hashtags, use the right hashtags

To promote yourself!

ETSY

Sell your handmade products on Etsy.

OLD FASHIONED WAYS

This is always a creative way to advertise. Go ahead and make business cards to throw around your town like confetti, make bulletins to put on local bulletin boards, your feed stores, grocery store etc.

FARMERS MARKETS

Regularly schedule yourself for a weekly market. If you register for the year, then you have the space for the same time every week. This is a good way of having a weekly storefront to prepare for to actually pull things together to make a profit weekly.

SEEDY SATURDAYS OR OTHER ANNUAL FARM FESTIVALS

WORD OF MOUTH

Our first customers were our friends and family, you're most likely will be too! Just make sure that remember you're running a business and charge them the same as you would any other customer.

OPEN HOUSE

Host an open house as a way to bring new customers and current customers to see what's happening on the homestead. Sell your current products and promote your wait lists. I like to have an open house on meatbird pick up days, I have my preserves available and people can get on the waiting list for the next batch of birds.

WAITING LIST

Have a simple system in place for customers to get on a waiting list. A waiting list builds loyalty and trust. Once you have what they are waiting for is ready they are less likely to buy from someone else. After they get on the waiting list, the list is in your court and it will be up to you to keep in touch.

HOW TO SET UP YOUR BUSINESS DISPLAY TO SUCCESSFUL DRIVE SALES

Have multiple ways to pay

Square account

Cash sales- plenty of cash

Signage

Be involve

Draw people to you

Have enough stock

Gather contact information Have a raffle/draw

HOMESTEADING BONUSES

You deserve only the best!

Printable Chapter Worksheets Below

Below you'll find the bonus worksheets I've created to help you on the path to turning your homesteading passions into a profit.

My hope is that this ebook and the worksheets help you start to navigate starting your own homesteading business.

PLUS ACCESS EXTRA BONUSES

Make Money Homesteading Workbook BONUS

& Access all other Homesteading Printables from WHR

Including;

Farm Chores Chart

Vintage Recipe Cards

Horse Boarding Contract and Business Checklist

Chicken Incubating Calendar

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I hope you enjoyed this eBook. I would love to hear your results using this system. You can email me at diana@wanderinghoofranch.com and share your feedback!

THANK YOU !

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How to Make Money Homesteading

Make a plan

Chapter 3: Turn your Passion into Profit

WHAT ARE YOUR CURRENT HOMESTEADING PASSIONS?

IF YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GO TO WORK TODAY, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?

WHAT DO YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY SAY YOUR TALENTS ARE? (ASK THEM)

WHAT ARE YOU ALREADY DOING THAT YOU COULD TURN INTO A JOB IF YOU GAVE IT THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES?

WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY A SUCKER FOR SPENDING YOUR EXTRA MONEY ON OR CREDIT CARDS TO BRING PROVIDE INSTANT GRATIFICATION AND JOY?

How to Make Money Homesteading

Research your current market. Choose 3-5 Niches of interest and determine all income possibilities and profitable opportunities.

AVENUE	INCOME STREAMS	CURRENT SEASON	COST START UP	PROFIT MARGIN
EX.GOATS	MILK			
	YOGHURT			
	CHEESE			
	FIBRE			
	MEAT PRODUCTS			
	SELL KIDS (BABIES)			
	STUD SERVICE			
	TOURISM			
	SOAP			
1.				
2:				
AVENUE	INCOME STREAMS	CURRENT SEASON	COST	PROFIT

			START UP	MARGIN
3.				
4.				

How to Make Money Homesteading

Make a plan: CHOOSE NO MORE THAN THREE NICHE ABOVE THAT WOULD BE A GOOD FIT FOR YOUR HOMESTEAD BIZ

Chapter 5: Business Goal Setting

Niche	Short Term (High Season)	Annual	3-5 Years

How to Make Money Homesteading

Take your goals and break them into actionable steps you can actually do during the time you have!

Chapter 6: Action Plan

1.	Brain dump all of the tasks you'll need to do for each of your niches, from daily chores, to advertising, larger projects, seasonal time lines
2.	Prioritize tasks based on season and importance and what you can afford
3.	Fill in your annual homestead calendar based on those tasks and your availability
4.	Cut out any projects that are being squeezed in
5.	Determine if you need to hire out or delegate
6.	Create a day planner with daily tasks
6.	Whatever you can't do this year, write it down for next year

JOB PRIORITY LIST

