A Complete Guide To Surveys

Paid Online Surveys



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Paid Online Surveys

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Introduction

First of all I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for downloading this guide.

As you read through this guide you'll learn all you need to know about making money with online surveys, and more importantly you'll find an extensive listing of companies looking for people like you to complete surveys online.

The sites are listed according to location so visit the section relevant to your country if one exists, prior to visiting the international sector where you'll find sites requiring participants worldwide. The sites are not listed in any particular order but generally the most active sites are listed first in each category.

Remember that success depends on patience, organization and honesty. Don't try to take shortcuts.

Good luck.

What are Online Paid Surveys?

At some point in time anyone who surfs the Internet gets asked to fill out a survey. Big ones, little ones, all types are out there. Whilst it originally feels good to be asked your opinion after you've had dealings with a company, after a while we get hardened to the idea and most people just generally ignore them.

But surveys are important, especially to the instigator as a valuable source of information about what people are thinking. They provide insights and details of customer preferences, wants and needs.

In addition, many companies don't have a close and immediate contact with their customers. Consider for example, some of the top household names in the grocery sector. Their immediate customers are distributors and major supermarket chains but their real customers, the ultimate consumer will make decisions maybe hundreds or thousands of miles away. The manufacturer needs to know why this customer chooses one product over another. But how do they find out?

The answer is surveys. The manufacturer hires a Marketing Research firm to find out what potential buyers think. The Marketing Research firm carefully crafts a series of questions designed to get answers to the primary questions that management has. Then they contract a Survey making company to physically get answers to their questionnaire. They specify the demographics; geographic areas, qualifying questions, "How many times do you buy groceries a month?" "How much do you spend on groceries each month?" and so forth.

Traditionally that meant sending interviewers onto the streets or onto the phones to ask people for their opinions. Unfortunately, it is natural for people to be overwhelmed when they have to speak to someone on the phone or face to face and so traditional surveys can feel like an interview and the atmosphere can be quite threatening.

Online paid surveys are nothing like this, as the survey takers remain anonymous and can take them

at their own pace as and when it fits their schedule, rather than the exact moment they're rushing out the door (subject to quota not being filled). Participants can be totally honest and truthful, as unlike face to face or telephone surveys, they don't have to worry about saying something stupid.

This means the product manufacturers and brand name companies find out what consumers really think rather than what they think the company want to hear.

The survey maker runs a computer sort on its database of survey takers to see how many qualify under the demographic specifications. Then they select a representative sample of these, adjust the sample size to fit within their budget for this survey. When they are ready they post the survey on a private page of their website and send out email notifications to the chosen survey participants.

Now how do they know that these people are qualified and that they will take the time to go to the website and fill out the survey forms?

They know that these survey takers are qualified because they had all filled out applications earlier giving their complete demographic information. And, they know that most will come in and fill out the survey forms because they have already agreed to pay them for their participation!

And the survey maker's contract with the Marketing Research firm included the funds to pay the survey takers.

And so you see, it makes perfect sense for the manufacturer (and thousands of companies in similar situations of needing information and feedback from their distant customer base) to pay for this survey information. This means that there are many thousands of surveys being made, and the survey makers must have a large, stable list of survey takers available to send them out to.

So all you have to do to get paid to take surveys is to get on the survey makers' lists, then check your in-box and respond to the surveys you are offered!

Online paid surveys can be interesting. Merchandise owners and manufacturers are always hungry for feedback about their products. Survey takers are often involved in online paid surveys for preproduct launches. It can be a great feeling being in the know, especially when you see products you've reviewed when they appear in the shops. Typically you'll be reviewing new foodstuffs, cleaning product ideas and entertainment products, but you could be discussing the new lines for famous fashion or cars, MP3 players, music, etc.

Such free internet paid surveys allow you to share your knowledge and explain what you hope to see in products.

Can you make money with paid online surveys?

Can you make money with paid online surveys? The short answer is yes! Market researchers are turning to paid online surveys more and more to get the information they need for their companies or clients. Lower costs, in particular from lower staffing costs, and fast turnaround times make this an increasingly popular way to sample market opinion.

There are hundreds of companies out there making paid online surveys. There are thousands of paid online surveys being made every month. Many thousands of people are getting paid good money for filling out these paid online surveys every month.

Why People Fail to Make Money With Online Surveys

A brief search on line will find dozens of references to online survey scams from people who haven't made any money. With so many opportunities around, why do some people fail in this easy internet business activity?

Generally because they did not know what they were doing and/or were poorly advised. Most failures fall into one of three categories:

Poor choice of where to start:

They answered an ad and jumped in, not realizing that they were dealing with a sales company trying to look like a paid online survey company, but just wanted to sell them things.

Alternatively, they tried to go the easy route and paid for a list of survey sites only to find it is simply a list of other companies, many of which weren't operating in their country, and even more that offer no more than the remote chance of winning a prize at the end of a long survey. Not only hadn't they earned any money, but they were out of pocket by the cost of the guide. The simple fact is that there are many websites that will sell you a list of companies offering paid survey work, encouraging you to part with large sums of money against the promises of a full time income for very little work. The reality is that these sites provide nothing that you can't get from a free listing site.. In fact, because the free directories don't charge a fee for information, they need to be more vigilant at keeping details up to date to keep visitors returning, whereas paid directories have already had your money and have little incentive to do more.

Failure to get started

Many people are filled with enthusiasm until it comes to filling out their applications to take surveys. They look at the pages of information required and decide it's too much work. Although it may seem like a lot of information, the survey companies need this data to determine whether or not you fit the criteria for a particular survey. For example, if they don't know that you have a young baby how will they know to send you surveys about baby food?

Failure to sign up with a large enough number of survey makers.

Not every survey maker is active with new surveys every week. It's a numbers game. If you don't sign up with all the available survey makers out there, you will miss surveys you could have taken and lose income that you otherwise could have made. The consequent lack of income is discouraging and causes some to quit trying.

Sign up with all the survey makers that you can. Get a copy of Robo-Form to help you fill out the repetitive parts of applications fast. Plan to sign up for 150 to 300 survey makers. Yes, it's a lot of work for no immediate return, but it will pay off in the long run. Remember that survey makers cannot send you surveys to fill out if they don't know you are there, ready willing and able, to fill them out. Get the word out, get on as many lists as you can and you will be rewarded handsomely for your efforts!

Failure to act professionally

Once registered with the survey sites, invitations start to arrive, but they don't respond immediately and a few days later find the survey has closed, or they don't reply honestly in an attempt to complete surveys for which they aren't qualified, or simply don't put in the required effort and find

their work rejected.

The client, and therefore the market researcher company, want instant results so they'll send out far more invitations than they need, accepting the input from the first to respond. If you don't complete the survey on day one, there's a strong chance the client will already have received enough information, and after a few no-shows they'll assume you simply aren't interested and remove your name from the list.

If you do receive an invitation, you need to remember that you are being paid to do a job and should act in a professional manner. This means checking e-mails regularly, answering truthfully and take your time to consider your answer rather than putting down anything to get it finished quickly.

Unrealistic Expectations

Expectation of immediate results without doing any work. Some people start out with paid online surveys expecting to get rich quick, without having to do any work. So they sit and wait, and when no money comes in they quit.

Plan your work, work you plan, and expect that results will follow. Sure, you can make money. But it's not automatic; things won't move unless and until you do. You have to do the signup work, answer promptly, take the surveys and do a good job of answering all the questions in order to make the money come in. Do these things and you will succeed.

Lack of patience with the process.

Some fail for lack of patience. You hear people say, "I tried it for two weeks and didn't make any money, so I quit."

Be patient! Two weeks is not even enough time to get started properly! If you do everything right, get signed up for the maximum number of paid online surveys in the first 2-3 weeks, you might make some income in the first month. But you will not hit your peak income for a few months. Survey makers are cautious with new signups. They will send out only a few surveys at first, to check you out, see how well and how quickly you respond. Don't expect to be invited to participate in a \$250 focus group right away. They will start you with something smaller, then if that goes O.K. you will be considered for bigger things. Be patient. Don't expect everything to happen overnight. It will come. Just give it time.

If you can avoid failure, you will succeed. If for no other reason, because by avoiding failure, success is the only alternative left!

Online Paid Surveys - Truths And Myths

Online paid surveys can make you rich: true or false? The answer is false. But before delete this guide in disgust, allow me to explain more. Completing surveys can never make you rich. But to earn a second income is truly achievable. So the next time you read that you can get rich from doing online surveys, move on quickly! This section reveals a few truths and dispel some of the myths about making money from online paid surveys.

Myth 1 - You Can Become Rich from Taking Surveys

If you consider earning a few hundred to several thousand dollars as being wealthy, then you could say that doing free internet paid surveys can make you rich. But to the average person, being rich tends to be defined somewhat higher and you cannot become a millionaire from surveys.

The Truth - You Can Pay Off Bills from Taking Surveys

Completing paid surveys, you can earn enough to pay off bills, buy treats for the family, go out for dinners, or make your car loan repayments etc..

Myth 2 - You Can Cheat the Survey System

Folks have beaten the survey system. So can you. What they do is to check the answer across the same column in each questionnaire. Completing each survey takes no more than 5 minutes flat. No thinking is needed, just mindless finger action. The logic being that the faster you complete a survey, the more you do and the more you can earn.

The Truth - The Survey System Outsmarts You

Some smart alecks think that they can beat the survey systems. Unfortunately for them, the online surveys are reviewed by human beings. The system may take your answers but they won't escape the scrutiny of a trained evaluator. You would not only not get paid for that particular survey but there is a high risk of having your account closed just for trying to earn a few quick bucks.

Myth 3 - You Can Second Guess the Answers

Some "experienced" survey takers second guess the answers to the survey questions. Why do they do this? The reason is simple. Paid surveys require prescreening, a prequalification to assess your eligibility for the surveys. This is especially important with high paying surveys or focus group discussions which can net you up to \$150 per session. People would try to emulate the response of a potential candidate in order to participate in the surveys. Some also lie about their hobbies such that they can be offered more survey opportunities.

The Truth - You are Second Guessed!

The online paid surveys system is smarter than that. The survey companies are either using human reviewers or garnering programs to review the answers or both. So if you think you can second guess the appropriate answer for each question, then you may be in for a shock. They have tons of statistical data and intelligent software to help them decipher the information you provide. While it does not work every time, it is just not worth risking your account for that.

Myth 4 - You Can Succeed With Just One Survey Company

Stay loyal to one survey or market research company and you would get the chance to do numerous surveys and make a killing out of it.

The Truth - You Can Succeed Only With Numerous Survey Companies

Professional survey takers do not stick with one market research company. To stick with one is to decide to be poor. The trick to succeeding with online paid surveys is to be registered with as many good paying market research companies as possible. This would bring you a constant stream of surveys to participate in. Without that, you only get trickles, nothing like the avalanche of surveys you were expecting.

Benefits of Paid Survey Work

1. Money. Paid online surveys generally pay the equivalent of \$10 to \$25 per hour. Some pay more,

some pay less but most are in the \$10 to \$25 range. US Residents can make \$500 - \$700 a month and if you work at it you can bring in over \$1,000 a month. While it won't make you rich it will definitely help out, and it's easy money.

- **2.** Easy Work. Filling out paid online surveys consists of logging on, reading your e-mail, accepting the survey, then spending a few minutes at the computer screen checking boxes on a questionnaire. There are no right or wrong answers. They just want your opinion, how you see it, how does it strike you. Nothing hard about that!
- **3.** Prestige. You get asked for your opinion, your view of things. Who isn't flattered by that? Gives you a good feeling that your two cents' worth is being taken into account, that your ideas are influencing the world!
- **4.** Work Your Own Hours. There's no fixed hours, no timeclock to punch. You just log on when you are ready and start when you please. You can do the work in the morning, evening, middle of the night, whenever! It's all up to you. You are your own boss.
- **5.** Work From Anywhere. You can work from your home computer. You can do it in your pajamas. You can take your portable computer with you and do it anywhere, at the beach, at a restaurant, a bar, anywhere.
- **6.** Freebies. Some surveys involve the characteristics and details of new or existing products. So that you can intelligently comment on the products the companies will send them to you for free. You get free products, test them, use them, then give your opinion, tell them what you thought about the product. Tell them what you liked least, liked most and what changes or improvements you would suggest. Then you get paid for the survey, and... you keep the product!

Tips for maximizing your income with paid surveys

- 1. Most of the survey sites ask you to fill out one or more profile surveys. Even though they are not paid surveys, fill them all in order to increase the chances of getting more paid surveys later.
- **2.** Join as many survey sites as possible. It is a time-consuming process but once you have joined around 60 to 70 companies, you can probably get over ten surveys every day. You can download Roboform free of charge for auto-filling the registration forms.
- **3.** At first, most of the survey companies will only offer some \$1 or 2\$ surveys or only reward with sweepstakes entries. These can still be worth completing as once you build up a good reputation, you will start receiving more survey offers, and then you can pick and choose the highest paid survey.
- **4.** Set up a new email address to collect the surveys.
- **5.** Check your e-mail inbox daily. Learning how to organize is the key to succeed in online business. Respond to all correspondence. Take all surveys for which you qualify.

But... for most people it would be better to look at your income from paid online surveys as supplemental income, another income stream out of several, than to try to support yourself completely from paid surveys alone.

Realistically your potential income from paid online surveys will vary with your demographics. If, for instance, you are an upper middle class, middle aged mother or career woman living in a large metropolitan you will be offered a large number of paid online surveys. However, if your income is low and you live in a small village or rural area, you will receive considerably fewer offers.

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