



## **Don't be taken in by work-at-home scams.**

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Late night television is full of endless testimonials by 'regular people' who made it big working on their home computer in their spare time. Some people are unsatisfied with their employment or pay rate and unfortunately, 'work-at-home' rip-off schemes are generally aimed at those in a difficult situation who might see this opportunity as a possible solution.

Often people in an unsatisfying or unrewarding job can spend hours scanning the classifieds and the Internet for job listings. Hundreds of ads leap out at them that read, "MAKE MONEY WITH YOUR PC," or, "EARN CASH SURFING THE NET."

The ads boast promises of quick money while being your own boss, and working at your leisure. Television infomercials show success stories with people in exotic locations encouraging the viewer to risk a 'small investment' on the promise of a 'big return.' "All you need is a computer and an Internet connection," they chant from the seat of their new Porsche.

Remember the old saying, if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is? It definitely applies here. The 'service fees' required by these companies to get started give the 'investor' access to 'knowledge.' Here's a nickels-worth of FREE advice – don't bother. All that will come of it is lost money and no job.

Of course there are legitimate 'work-at-home' jobs out there, thanks to today's high-tech communications, but these positions are generally full-time corporate occupations which just happen to fit the 'telecommuter' method. Telecommuters are people who work from a location separate from their employer using computers, cell phones, and fax machines, to interact with the company. You can ask your employer if this is an option for you.

If you're interested in starting your own business, you don't need some get-rich-quick scheme promoted by a TV sitcom has-been. Just figure out what you want to do and what it takes to get started. Talk to a business consultant or someone who is already in the business and learn everything you can about it in advance – the good and the bad.

Plus, you can potentially work out of your home and it's often encouraged by the professionals. Most business consultants recommend that, whenever possible, new entrepreneurs should start out working from home to keep down overhead. This is not a new concept of course recalling that Apple Computer's CEO Steve Jobs started the company in his garage and everyone knows how that turned out.

Starting a business and becoming independent is hard work. There are no quick solutions but if you put in the time and effort to get the information needed you can meet your goals. Rest assured, however, that it will take a lot more than a home computer and an Internet connection.

For more information on business startups or Internet-based businesses contact Deer Computer Consulting, Ltd. at 937-902-4857, or go online to [www.deercomputerconsulting.com](http://www.deercomputerconsulting.com).