REGINACOLEY.COM



RESOURCE GUIDE

## **Ecommerce Platforms**

If you are selling multiple products or even just one product, you need a "store" that will handle the sales process for you. This should allow you to display your items, take payments, and then log those transactions. In the case of a digital product, this should also provide automated delivery, which will provide you with truly passive income.

Here are the best eCommerce platforms and how they differ:

#### **Shopify**

(www.shopify.com)

A hosted solution. This means you get less customization, but setup is incredibly easy. A simple, easy, and affordable option with massive amounts of support, plugins, themes and more. Up to 5,000 products.

#### **Bigcommerce**

(www.bigcommerce.com)

Very similar to Shopify, though unfortunately more expensive and not as well known or as well supported. The main advantage is that it's convenient for selling internationally. Up to 5,000 products.

#### Magento

(http://www.magento.com/)

The most powerful ecommerce platform on this list. Huge and capable of support 50,000 products. However, it is also the most difficult to set up and the fiddliest to manage. A good self-hosted option for businesses that want to go all the way but not suitable for beginners.

### **WooCommerce (My FAV!)**

(http://www.woothemes.com/woocommerce/)

A self-hosted option capable of supporting only 500 products. Despite this limitation, WooCommerce is one of the most versatile and popular choices owing to its simplicity (it's a WordPress theme/plugin) and the fact that it has so much support and so many plugins.

As a WordPress theme, WooCommerce is particularly easy to set-up and install, meaning that you can minimize the amount of time and effort until your store is live. This is also very well suited to selling single digital products.

# **Selling**

Once your store is up and running, it's time to start optimizing your landing page and driving more traffic. The following tools can help you to do that.

#### **Optimize Press**

(www.optimizepress.com)

If you're looking to sell an eBook from your own website, then Optimize Press is one of the best tools for creating a 'sales page'. This is a single page that is entirely devoted to selling the one product. Optimize Press works as a theme for WordPress, which makes installation super easy if you have a WordPress website.

#### **Optimizely**

(www.optimizely.com)

Optimizely will allow you to run 'split tests'. This means you can create two slightly different versions of your website to see which one converts best. This allows you to optimize the page for sales.

#### Advertising Platforms

From there, it is a matter of advertising your book. There are several great platforms you can use to advertise a sales page for selling eBooks, but the best options are definitely:

- Facebook Ads
- Google AdWords
- Google AdSense

These are 'PPC' options meaning you only pay when someone clicks on them!

## **Information Resources**

The journey to fully automating your process has only just begun. Now it's time to refine your craft! Here are some useful reads that will help you to do just that:

Smart Passive Income

www.smartpassiveincome.com

This website is an excellent resource for anyone who wants to learn more about earning a passive income online (or a non-passive one even!). There are a huge number of blog posts here, each sharing useful tips, ideas, and guides.

Crushing It!

Book by Gary Vaynerchuk

This is one of the best guides available to building a big online audience, and then galvanizing that audience to drive huge sales. You will discover how to build a passionate following and then turn that into a business, doing the thing that you love most for a living.

The 4-Hour Workweek Blog Tim.Blog

This blog from Author Tim Ferriss discusses a wide range of topics, but the ideas revolving around earning money online are some of the best out there.

#### SistaSense Success Podcast

The SistaSense Success Podcast show is designed to empower today's web woman entrepreneur. As the founder of both the SistaSense Power Circle and the Black Business Women Online Network, LaShanda has a wealth of knowledge to share on startups, blogging, information products, marketing, social media, sales and more. Each episode provides inspiration combined with business tech information to help you get focused and stay fired up. This podcast is for web women entrepreneurs, bloggers, creatives and stay at home moms who want to turn their online business dreams into real success stories.