

How to make money online

[Print this guide](#)

Having good digital skills can help you make and save money online. In this guide we've pulled together some tips and resources to help you to make some spare cash online.

What digital skills will you need to make money online?

- [Searching the Internet](#) – click on the link for a printable guide.
- [Fill in an online form](#) – click on the link to our guide on how to do this.
- [Have an email address and know how to use it](#) – click on the link for a printable guide.
- [Possibly using a mobile phone so they can use 2FA](#) (2 Factor Authentication).



If you don't have regular access to the Internet, then it may be harder to take full advantage of all our suggestions, we do however have a [guide](#) that looks at ways that you can help others get online cheaply.

A note of caution: If you are on benefits then earning extra money online can impact your entitlement, so it is best to do this with a benefits adviser before you begin earning. As a general rule if someone is selling their own things, for example, on eBay, they don't have to declare the proceeds

Some top ways to make money online

1. Making sure you get the benefits you are entitled to

Claiming benefits can be a difficult process to understand, so finding out what you might be entitled to could help you increase your income significantly. According to [Entitledto.co.uk](#), research suggests about £15 billion of benefits remain unclaimed each year.

The following sites are good places to look to understand your entitlement to benefits:

- [Benefits check from Age UK](#)
- [Benefits check from Entitledto](#)

2. Develop a money-making sideline

Often termed a 'Side Hustle' the Internet provides endless opportunities to earn some extra cash from the comfort of your own home. A rule of thumb is that if something looks too good to be true, then it probably is!

Here are [several trending ways to make money online](#) that you might like to investigate:

- **Sign up for online surveys** Some companies will pay you or give you vouchers to complete online surveys. There are special websites such as [My Survey](#), where you can choose the things you are interested in, and they'll send emails with links to suitable surveys. [Moneymagpie](#) has a list of online survey companies with links to each one and a guide to help you earn the most money from them. Or the popular [YouGov](#) where you can share your opinion on politics, sport, entertainment, and get paid cash for completing the surveys.
- **Become a mystery shopper** A mystery shopper is a person who pretends to be a real customer to help organisations to understand how well their staff or services are doing. It is possible to do this online, but some of it is face to face. Shoppers are paid either a fee or a given a gift voucher in exchange for their participation. Opportunities and more information about how mystery shopping works can be found on this [Mystery Shopper website](#).
- **Cash back sites** It is possible to make a little bit of money back on shopping using a cashback site. When shopping online, visit a retailer's website via a cashback website and you can get back a small percentage of what you pay. Useful websites include:
 - [Quidco](#)
 - [Top CashBack](#)
- **Selling items online** It is fairly common to make money by selling unwanted items online. There are

several sites where you can do this, but here are some guides to help you understand how to use some of the more popular ones.:

- [How to sell on eBay](#).
- [How to sell on Gumtree](#).
- Re-sell/trade in your unwanted devices for cash on [Mazumamobile](#).
- Sell your unwanted items on [Facebook](#).

3. Free trial offers

Many companies offer free trials as an enticement for people to sign up for their services - these include things like video streaming services, audio books and meals deliveries. These are a great way for someone to get something for free, as long as they remember to cancel at the end of the trial. Companies will usually ask for bank or credit card details when the trial starts. Examples include:

- [Freebies list](#) has details of free trials
- [Amazon Prime 30 day Free trial](#)
- [Audible audio books](#) 30 day free trial

Staying safe while transacting online

If you are unsure of how to stay safe whilst transacting online, then brush on things like how to identify a reliable site and use strong passwords using our free [guides](#).

Further help and support

- Money Saving Expert has lots of expert advice on many ways to make extra money <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/latesttip/>.
- The Family Fund charity has a good section on finance online <https://www.familyfund.org.uk/finances-online>.
- Digital Unite's practice online form for learners <https://www.digitalunite.com/practice-webform-learners>

Last updated 5th October 2022

Next steps

- ▶ [How to make money on eBay](#)
- ▶ [How to buy online: Internet shopping](#)
- ▶ [How to save money online](#)
- ▶ [How to claim benefits online](#)
- ▶ [How to shop safely online](#)

How do digital skills change lives?

Find out about Digital Inclusion

