



Why Do I need a Business Plan?

*Planning is about research, communications, feasibility, and projections.
The more you know, the better your decisions will be.*

1. Business planning with our clients is one of our strengths. This can be a formal process that results in a comprehensive written plan or it can be bouncing ideas around that result is an aha! moment. Some of the other planning results could be:
 - An action plan,
 - To do list,
 - A strategy,
 - Better decisions,
 - Better financing,
 - More profit,
 - or a cash flow projection spreadsheet.
2. We provide workshops that include business planning topics such as marketing and financial analysis. Check out our upcoming Events/Workshops schedule: idahosbdc.org
3. We also have our own *Ten to Plan* checklist to help you get started.
4. The SBDC can provide a business plan checklist, outline, or a template.

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5. If you are looking for business planning software to purchase, we like "Live Plan."
6. [The SCORE website](#) provides a financial projections template we have helped clients utilize, as part of their business plan. Be careful, we have seen tools used incorrectly with disastrous results. Please set up a free appointment with us. We can help.
7. The [Small Business Administration \(SBA\)](#) also provides business plan help.
8. For those in the start-up planning stage, the [Kauffman Foundation](#) has a series of free videos and instructional materials. The "Art of Start-up Finance" is one of our favorites.
9. If you are looking for some free business plan ideas or sample plans try [SBDCNet](#). Our Consultants are able to order research, specific to your business, through this site at no cost to you.
10. Have you heard of business models? This might help communicate your plan on a single page. We use the [Business Model Canvas and tools from Strategyzer](#).
11. Whether you are interested in direction, feasibility, solutions, growth, getting started, or getting out of business, we can set up an appointment to talk about your business plans. Call us today at (208) 792-2465.

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