

## Ten Tips for Developing a Successful Portfolio Career:

**1) Include your home work in your portfolio:** Looking after your family and home is WORK.. it isn't paid, but delivers huge value. Likely part of your reason for a portfolio career is to give you time with your family, so prioritize this in your business plan.

**2) Follow your energy:** think of a load of ideas about what you could do, and then choose the ones you are drawn to/ enthusiastic about to progress.

**3) Believe in Yourself:** Chances are you will be surrounded by some negative people who all point out the reasons why things will not work. If you have done some good thinking, and thought about all the negatives, risks and un-intended consequences of your plan, just ignore these people.

**4) Know what you are good at:** Analyze yourself. Know what you are good at (look at the life balance plan process if you want some tips on how to do this). Make sure that your new portfolio options play to your strengths, your experience and what you are passionate about.

**5) Set Clear goals:** Make sure you set yourself clear and realistic targets. Its better to aim high, whilst being financially cautious. Set yourself a time-limit, and a contingency plan in case you don't earn enough.

**6) Get some Support:** Find yourself a friend, and ideally a mentor, who can help you through your career transition. Don't be afraid to ask

someone for an hour of their time, to give you their feedback.

**6) Use your Network:** You will probably be surprised how many people in your network know someone who might have experience in the areas you are trying to fact find. It doesn't cost anything to ask for help.

**7) Plan your portfolio:** Set a financial and hours target for each part of your portfolio. Consider the minimum, and likely maximum earnings from each stream, and how they could mix differently over time. Does one of your streams have growth potential?

**8) Manage your time realistically:** in reality your working day may be very short. By the time the kids are looked after, and the regular house admin don, some days there may not be a huge amount of time left. Be careful to balance this time in relation to your goals, so you end up earning what you need to earn, without getting too frustrated or frazzled.

**9) Change the way you think about work:** If you want to do voluntary work (because it makes you feel great). put this in your job description. By mentally including it as part of your working week, you should be able to reduce the pressure you put on yourself to earn or do other things.

**10) Keep evaluating:** Don't be afraid to stop a work stream, or change your focus. Just make sure you give it your best, and don't give up too soon. The reasons you first decided to try it may not go away.