

SET YOUR BUSINESS UP FOR SUCCESS

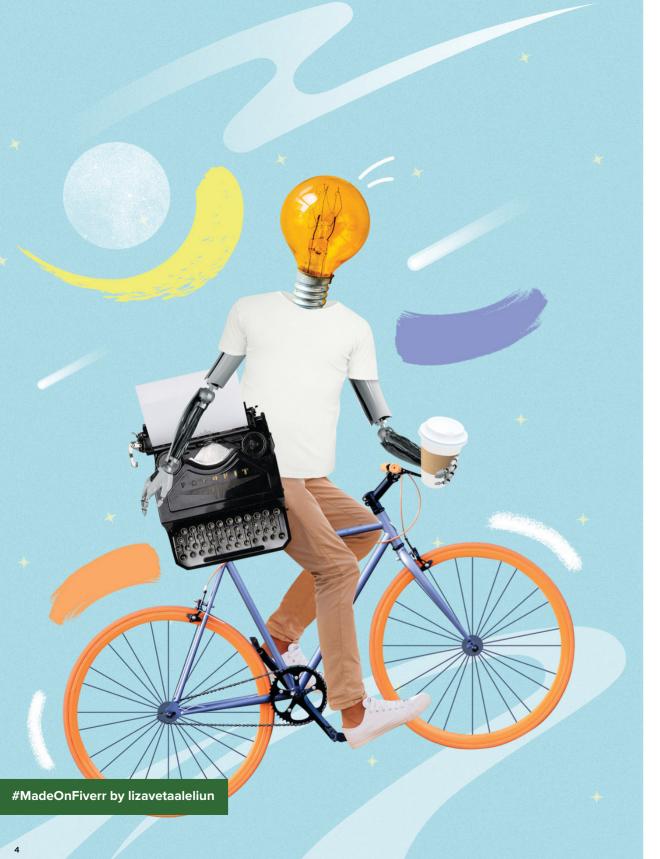
#MadeOnFiverr by tomashevskaya



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05 INTRO

- BUILD A STRONG BRAND
- REACH MORE CUSTOMERS
- LEVERAGE VIDEOS
- JOIN THE E-COMMERCE MADNESS
- RECAP



INTRO

You have big goals for your business. Maybe you're dreaming of breaking a sales record or launching a new product. There's no better time to create a game plan than right now. Taking the time to craft a great strategy can determine your overall success.

When you run your business with a strong action plan, you can hold yourself and your team accountable, and you can monitor your progress. A great plan can also help you increase revenue and grow your business. However, formalizing your strategy is easier said than done. If you're not sure where to begin, we've got your back. We've pulled together a four-step plan to take your business to the next level:

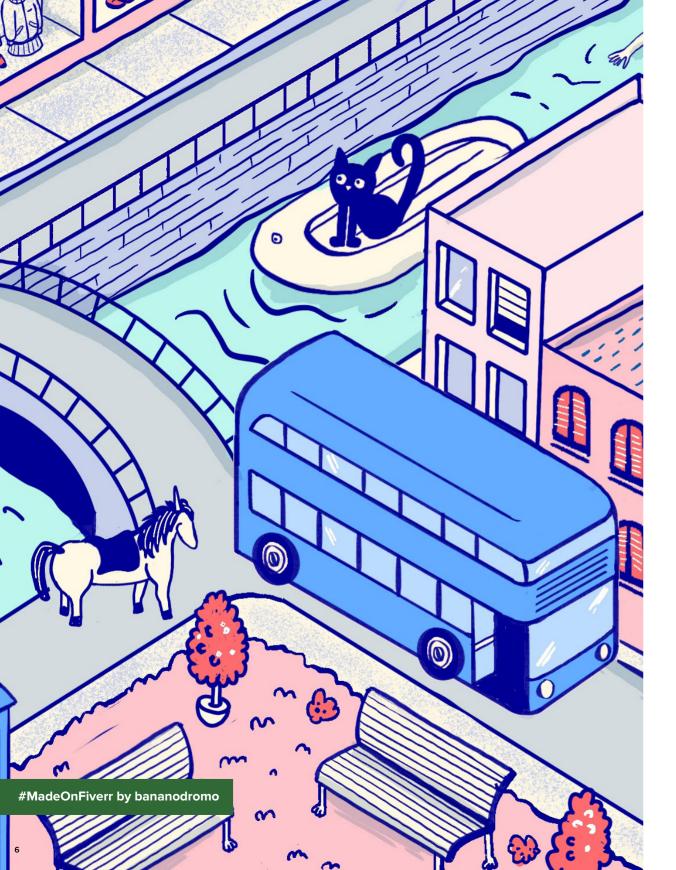
Step 1: Build A Strong Brand Step 2: Reach More Customers Step 3: Leverage Videos Step 4: Join The E-Commerce Madness

By using this plan, you can attack every goal on your list with confidence and achieve your best results yet.

This e-book was 100% #MadeOnFiverr by content writer jeffereyspivey and graphic designer designerheather. The featured talents were handpicked by Fiverr's Editorial and Customer Success Management teams.



designerheather



BUILD A STRONG BRAND

Brand consistency is critical for every business, regardless of size, customer, or location. The power and professionalism of your social media presence, website, and design elements are essential in building a loyal customer base.



45% of customers expect great design across

marketing and sales

materials.1

45%

Presenting your brand consistently across all platforms can increase revenue by up to 23%.²

Color, one of the most important branding elements, can increase customer recognition of your brand by 80%.³

Consistency communicates to your customers that your brand is dependable. The more recognizable your brand is, the more trustworthy it is. Every time you utilize the same branding elements, you're delivering on your brand promise.

However, having a strong brand isn't just about protecting your bottom line. Regardless of your branding strategy, every blog post, every tweet, and every interaction serves as a form of publicity for your business. In short, branding is marketing.

With consistent and catchy brand colors, fonts, and messaging, your customer will get to know you better both online and off and you'll kick off 2020 with a bang. Start with a brand style guide, and then use it throughout your brand presence.



"There's not one strong brand that's not showing congruence in messaging and design. You need to have a VISION and carry that vision out in your messaging, your emails, your content and your products or services. It can turn one-time customers into life-long ambassadors."

Raoul Van Heerden & Vincent Beima Marketing Experts Fiverr sellers since 2012

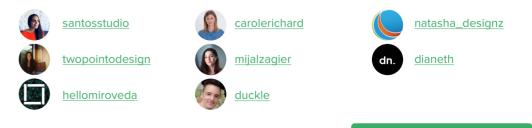
BRAND STYLE GUIDES

A brand style guide is your key to consistency. It has all of the elements that give your company a distinct look, feel, and personality. These elements include your logo, fonts, colors, tone, and design guidelines.

Your brand style guide also establishes standards and rules for your marketing efforts. It makes your content more recognizable, it increases your brand value, and it makes it easier to communicate your values to external partners.

Once you define your brand style guide, apply it to your logo, social media accounts, website and mobile designs.

Fiverr's Branding experts can help you create a custom brand style guide that sets you apart from the competition this year:



Find More Branding Experts



LOGO DESIGN

Your target customer probably sees hundreds of logos every day. You need a logo that cuts through the noise, grabs their attention, and steers them to your business. It should also include the colors, fonts, and personality that you've defined in your brand style guide. A great logo achieves all of this with a simple, memorable, and timeless design. To get inspired, take a look at some of the logos created by Fiverr sellers, and feel free to contact them directly.

Geometric -

use traditional shapes in unexpected ways





Lowercase Logos -

say more with less

#MadeOnFiverr by kaixx8

#MadeOnFiverr by evelinaro

Overlapping Elements – connect the dots and turn heads

Intricate Details –

use a richer and more artistic aesthetic



#MadeOnFiverr by eftimov_h

#MadeOnFiverr by reve_line_d

Retro Design – put some old school magic into your branding

the week

Black & White – stay classy and keep it simple



#MadeOnFiverr by borydesign

#MadeOnFiverr by katarzynasurman

Browse More Logo Designers



SOCIAL MEDIA DESIGN

Don't settle for just a few likes on social media - create a profile that demands attention. On most social media platforms, you can customize your profile to reflect who you are and, most importantly, ensure it's consistent with the rest of your branding assets. Not sure what assets you need? Look to Fiverr's Social Media Design specialists for some creative ways to build consistency across your accounts:

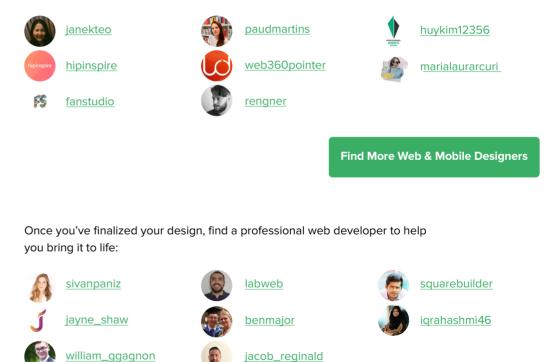


Find More Social Media Designers



WEB & MOBILE DESIGN

Your website is your display window. It's ground zero for purchases, and it's the place your customers will visit to learn more about what you do or sell. Make it appealing, beautiful, and, of course, consistent with your brand's style and character. Fiverr's Web & Mobile Designers can help you effortlessly integrate your new designs:



jacob_reginald

Find More Web Developers



2020 BRAND DESIGN TRENDS

As you start the process of building a strong brand, make sure you give your freelancers guidelines that incorporate this year's hottest trends:



VIVID COLORS & GRADIENTS

Gradients combine bright and strong colors to create dreamy tones. This design style is popular in the logos of iconic brands like Instagram and Tinder, and it can give your brand the extra edge it needs to stand out.⁴

#MadeOnFiverr by unipen_team



3D

3D renderings provide more realistic images. These rich, textured designs use state-of-the-art technology to communicate powerful messages. 3D technology can take your illustrations, animations, and fonts to a whole new level⁵.

#MadeOnFiverr by joonikhan535



MOTION DESIGN/ANIMATION

Animation has always been exciting and dynamic when it comes to brand design. But as written content loses its appeal, motion design and animation are surefire ways to reach audiences faster. Throughout this year, expect them to pop up everywhere from small interactions and logos to UI.⁶

#MadeOnFiverr by hipnosstudio



ULTRA-THIN GEOMETRY

Ultra-thin geometric lines are being twisted into impossible shapes. They give brands a look that's equally metallic and ethereal. As logos become more modern and futuristic, expect to see ultra-thin geometry everywhere⁷.

#MadeOnFiverr by tonigdesign

To build a strong brand this year, make sure you check all these boxes:

- Create a brand style guide
- Design a logo
- Design your social media profiles
- Design your app & website

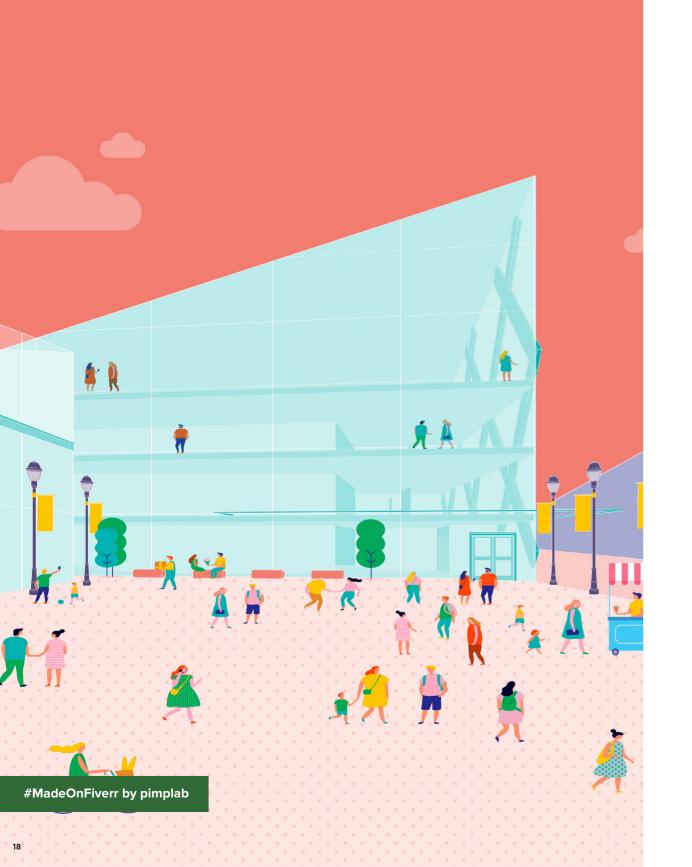
For more design inspiration (and to spark ideas about other areas of your business), check out **Fiverr Discover**, our curated selection of beautiful works that were **#MadeOnFiverr**.

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REACH MORE **CUSTOMERS**

To expand your reach and continue growing your business, it's important that customers can find your business online. There are several ways to advertise, but the following three are the most effective at pumping up your online presence: social media marketing; search engine marketing (SEM); and search engine optimization (SEO). But before you tackle these, start with a smart marketing strategy.



MARKETING STRATEGY

Every good move starts with a plan. With a professional marketing strategy, you can increase traffic to your website and boost your sales.

356%

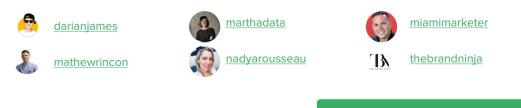
2:1

1/2

Marketers who plan their projects and campaigns are 356% more likely to succeed.⁸ What does that success look like? With advertising services like Google Ads, businesses typically earn \$2 for every \$1 spent.⁹ Yet still, nearly half of businesses operate without a digital marketing strategy.¹⁰

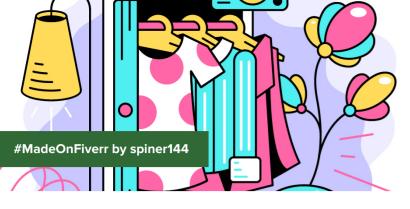
Aside from bringing in more revenue, a strong marketing strategy helps you define your target demographic. It helps you invest your time and money in places where you'll see the best ROI (Return On Investment). A marketing strategy also ensures every step you make is timely, and it gives you a chance to shape your brand voice and image.

To get started on your plan, hire one of Fiverr's Marketing Strategy professionals to help you understand the best channels to market your business and the most impactful ways to use them:



Find More Marketing Strategists

⁸ CoSchedule, 2019, ⁹ 99 firms, 2019, ¹⁰ Smart Insights, 2019







SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING

Social media marketing is no longer an option for small businesses – it's a must. The number of users on each platform, and the amount of time they spend there, offers unprecedented access to your customer base.

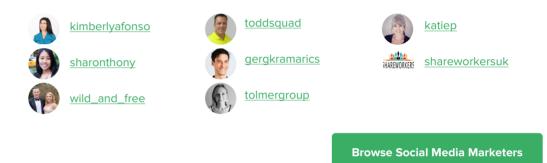
Through this method, you can accurately target your audience. Platforms like Facebook employ state-of-the-art analytical tools to help you see who's visiting your site and who's interacting with your posts. You can use this data to refine your audience and ensure your ads end up in the right feeds.

Additionally, you can build trust by solving customer service issues directly and in a personalized manner. And, you can engage with your audience consistently, keeping your brand top of mind and ensuring your company stays relevant.

Executing great social media marketing requires a few things:

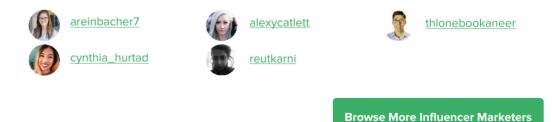
CREATE A CONTENT CALENDAR AND COVER ALL YOUR BASES

Plan your posts ahead of time to ensure you never scramble for content. Additionally, find the right platform for your business. While Facebook, Instagram and YouTube are still the most used social networks, it really depends on the audience you're trying to reach. Other platforms, like LinkedIn, Snapchat, Pinterest and TikTok could be beneficial to your strategy depending on your audience. Fiverr's social media marketing gurus can help you get ahead and optimize your campaigns:



USE PROFESSIONAL INFLUENCERS

When it comes to influencing, businesses tend to focus on celebrities or influencers with large reaches. However, your objective is not to reach as many people as possible but to build trust within your specific niche. This means finding professional micro or nano-influencers who exist within your niche and leveraging their power to engage with others in a specific community. Fiverr's influencer marketing freelancers can help you build a new fanbase:





SEM (SEARCH ENGINE MARKETING)

SEM involves buying ads on search engines & websites to increase your company's visibility for specific keywords and phrases. With SEM, you pay only for the most effective traffic. You decide the price, location and time that will yield the highest amount of traffic with intent to purchase. In turn, this will boost your company's revenue.

If you include it in your business' marketing plan, SEM can generate significant exposure for your products or services:

3.5BN **75%** There are 3.5 billion Google searches per day, which amounts to 1.2 trillion searches per year.¹¹¹²

Click-through rates on search ads rose 75% over the previous year. $^{\rm 13}$



"SEM is vital to the success of growing your business. The targeting made available from multiple SEM platforms allows businesses to get in front of new potential customers at the right time."

Aaron Dressnandt Digital Marketing Expert

SEM helps you work smarter, not harder. Instead of chasing after customers, you're gaining access to what they're looking for, and ensuring you're in the right place. You can target a wide audience, tailor your ads to specific search terms and keywords (instead of vague demographic criteria), and you can even make your ads appear in searches for your competitors.

Creating a great SEM plan requires you to be strategic:

CHOOSE THE RIGHT KEYWORDS

These keywords should be relevant to your business, localized when possible, and in line with popular searches. Also be sure to use words that drive high commercial intent (i.e. buy, discount, deal, etc.).

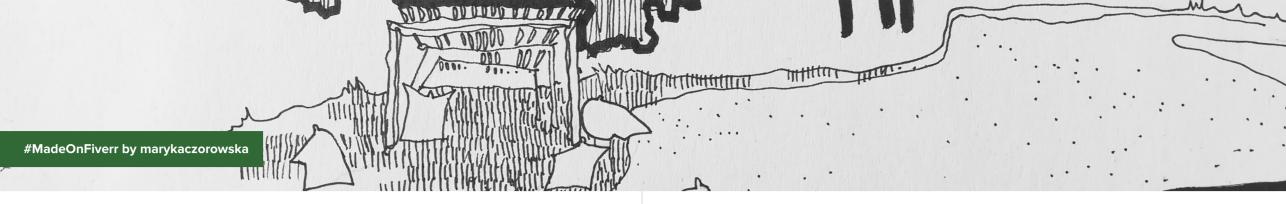
TRACK YOUR RESULTS

Measure your click-through rates and your ad spend and tweak your strategy. You never want to bid high only to receive weak traffic.

Fiverr's SEM experts can help you get it right the first time:

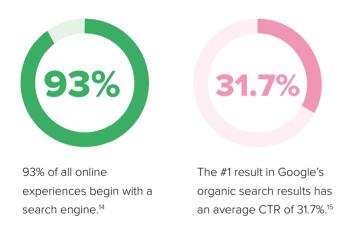


Browse More SEM Experts



SEO (SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMIZATION)

Search Engine Optimization is just as important as SEM, however there's a big difference between the two. With SEO, you use a series of strategies and best practices to increase your website's organic visibility in search engines, instead of buying ads. This is important because:

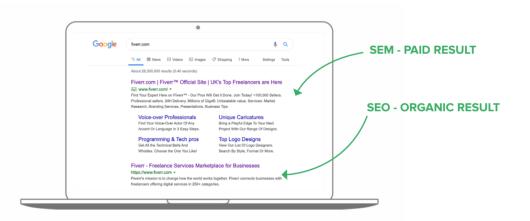


And most importantly, clicks from organic results are free! Crafting and executing an SEO plan requires some budget, but once your site is ranked high - you don't pay for the traffic.

Relevant results, which are the outcome of a good SEO strategy, will be shown at the top of the SERP (Search Engine Results Page). Paid results (ads which are purchased as part of a business' SEM strategy) will show at the top of the page as well (above the organic results), but will be displayed as paid advertising.

Thus, SEO provides two major benefits:

- Your content will rank high in search results without paying for traffic.
- Some users consider SEO content more trustworthy because it's pure content and not advertising.



One of the most important aspects of SEO is creating highly relevant content for your current and potential customers. If Google's algorithm recognizes your content as relevant for users, it will rank it higher for the relevant keywords, and will drive traffic to your website.



"SEO has one of the best ROIs in the long-term. When you rank first in search engines, you'll be getting targeted visitors to your business for years to come."

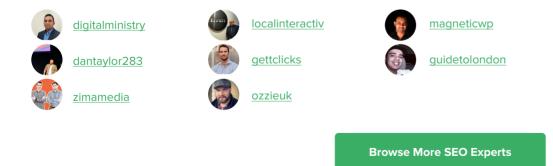
Ammar Ayoub SEO Expert

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FOR BEST SEO RESULTS:

- 1. Make sure your content is unique and relevant.
- Focus on technical SEO. Make sure that your site is loading fast, accessible for search engine crawlers, easy to navigate and in general – giving your visitors a good experience. You can't get ranked high if you don't give a great experience.
- 3. Make sure you have brand visibility on other websites: whether it's guest blogging, news coverage, or collaborations, it's important for other relevant, well-established sites to mention your brand and link to your site. This improves your brand's trustworthiness, both in the eyes of visitors, and of the ranking algorithms.
- 4. Prioritize your mobile site's page loading speed and experience: Google uses mobile-first indexing, which means your mobile performance matters just as much as your desktop performance. It's important to create an effective, fast experience on mobile that keeps users engaged. A delay of just a few seconds can lead to a poor user experience, and it can hurt your search rankings.
- 5. Work with professionals these SEO strategies must be employed correctly. If you overuse any part of your plan (i.e. repeating a keyword too many times), it can adversely affect your Google ranking. This is something Fiverr's SEO experts can help you with:



2020 SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING, SEM, & SEO TRENDS

As you start building out your digital marketing strategy, be mindful of these trends that are gaining steam in 2020:

VOICE SEARCH

More than 50% of searches in 2020 will take place through a voice assistant like Apple's Siri or Google Assistant¹⁶. Companies will optimize their content for voice search, focusing on SEO keywords that align with popular voice searches. Fiverr Voice Search professionals can help with that.

LESS EMAIL

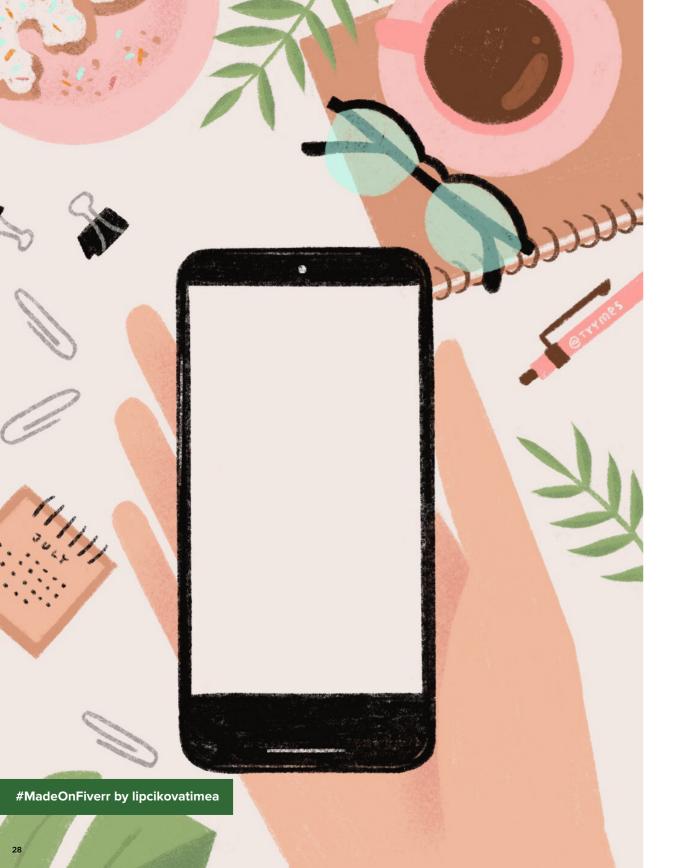
Email lists aren't converting customers like they once did. Instead, companies are finding ways to use AI in their marketing efforts for faster and more effective communication. 2020 will see more and more companies turning to chatbots and messaging apps instead of emails.^{17 18} Want to apply these for your business? Contact an AI chatbot expert on Fiverr.

SHOPPABLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

72% of Instagram users have purchased products directly through the app, and 70% of Pinterest users log on to find new products¹⁹. Shoppable posts shorten the sales funnel and make it easier for customers to shop.

To bring more customers to your business this year, make sure you check all these boxes:

- Define your marketing strategy
- Promote your business on social media
- Set up your SEM
- □ Optimize your site for search engines and execute an SEO plan

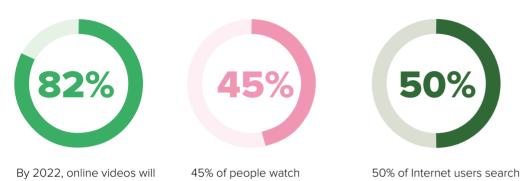


LEVERAGE VIDEOS

Video is king across all online platforms. Globally, research shows that customers' attention spans are shrinking²⁰, and video offers a dynamic way to keep their attention and stay relevant. It's a more exciting alternative to blog posts and traditional ads, and it has many benefits for both brands and consumers.



#MadeOnFiverr by illustrationss



By 2022, online videos wil make up more than 82% of all consumer internet traffic.²¹

an hour of Facebook or YouTube videos every week.²²

for product videos first before

making a purchase.²³

Video marketing works because today's social media networks are primarily video-focused. Users are naturally drawn to movement, and video capitalizes on this. It's important to ensure your videos are professional and consistent with your brand's style and voice.

1. FIND REFERENCES & INSPIRATION

Before you start the technical aspects of producing your video, pick the type of video you'd like to make:

- A whiteboard video or animated explainer is perfect for complex products. Like cartoons do for kids, animated explainer videos bring complicated concepts down to earth with easy-to-understand visuals and narration.
- Live action explainer videos work well when you can demonstrate how your product works, when your product is tangible, or when it's best to explain your product by action rather than by illustration.
- Short video ads are a great addition to your online marketing campaigns. Video marketing is proving to be a powerful and effective part of any marketing strategy now more than ever.

Need to get inspired? Head to **Fiverr Discover** to find references for the look and feel you have in mind for your video.

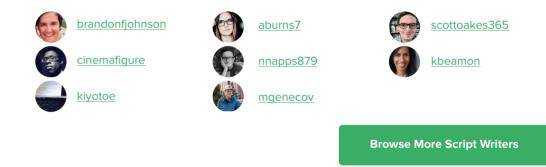
"Brevity is key to your brand. Engage with a powerful idea in a short amount of time, and you can create lifelong resonance."





2. WRITE A SCRIPT

Your video needs a script, just like a movie or a TV show. A great script demonstrates your brand's personality and gives your customer the most important information about your product or service. Hire a Fiverr scriptwriter to tell a story that your customers can't ignore:



3. CREATE A STORYBOARD

The storyboard is a visual representation of how you want to tell your story. It helps you organize and streamline your narrative. Work with a Fiverr illustrator to sketch out every action, camera movement, and scene transition:



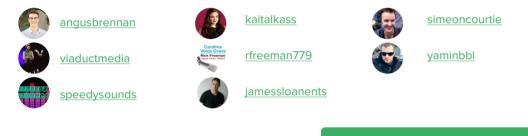


Browse More Illustrators



4. RECORD A VOICEOVER

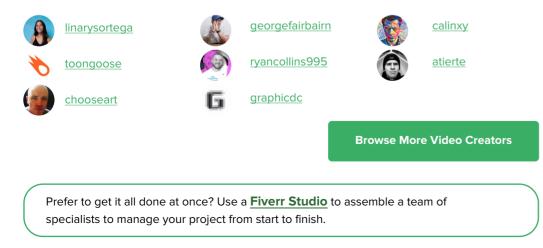
A voiceover is the off-screen narration that tells the story in your script. It's not necessary for every video, but it is highly relevant for certain types of videos, like a whiteboard or an animated explainer. Fiverr's professional voiceover artists have the expertise and the emotional power to grab your audience's attention:



Browse More Voice Over Artists

5. PRODUCE

Connect all of your components in a professional video. Hire one of Fiverr's video experts to bring your animated explainer, short video ad, or live action explainer to life:



2020 VIDEO TRENDS

As you plan your video content for 2020, make sure you take advantage of the year's biggest trends:

INTERACTIVE VIDEOS

2020 is all about making the viewer feel that they're a part of the video. Interactive videos are about more than delivering a message – they take your customers on a journey. Imagine an interior design pro showing off the work in their showroom or a real estate agent showcasing the unique aspects of a property. This is next-level video.²⁴

INSTAGRAM STORIES

77% of marketers have posted a video on IGTV. 41% of marketers say Instagram Stories have become more important to their businesses in the last year. Features like Stories offer a more authentic way to preview new products, offer discounts, and share behind-the-scenes footage.²⁵

LIVE VIDEO

Live videos give you a direct line to your customers. You can answer questions and engage with your community in real time. This helps you form relationships with your audience, which leads to brand loyalty.²⁶

To create your video content this year, make sure you check all these boxes:

- □ Find inspiration and choose your type of video
- □ Write a good script
- Design a storyboard
- Record a voiceover (if you need it)
- Produce



JOIN THE E-COMMERCE MADNESS

We're deep into the digital era. Customers prefer to buy anything they can online, and they have a very high standard of service. Every part of their experience is important, from how long it takes a page to load to how quickly their items can be shipped. #MadeOnFiverr by illustrations

The beginning of the year is a great time to optimize your online shopping experience or launch a digital storefront. Not sure why you need to be there? Take a look at these figures:



In addition to meeting customer expectations, there are plenty of benefits for you, too. A welldesigned online store can boost your sales and turn one-time customers into repeat shoppers. A strong presence in the most popular marketplaces can expose your brand to millions of potential new customers.

To get started, you have two options to consider for selling your products and services online – you can sell on your own website (and there are several platforms to help you) or you can sell on the major marketplaces. Choose your favorite option or enjoy the best of both worlds.

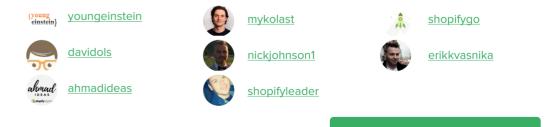
Once you've made your decision, there are a few necessary steps to ensure you're getting the most out of your e-commerce strategy:

E-COMMERCE DEVELOPMENT

If you decide to sell your products on your own website, you need to choose the e-commerce platform that works best for your business. There are several options available, but three stand out from the pack:

- Shopify: A Shopify storefront is easy to set up, and there are several visually appealing templates. Shopify integrates with other applications, like Facebook Shop, Google Shopping, and Instagram. Also, based on your plan, Shopify storefronts come stacked with SEO features and marketing tools.
- WooCommerce: WooCommerce is an open-source e-commerce plugin for WordPress. It's popular because it's easy to install and many of the themes are free. There are several customizations to create a professional store that's consistent with your brand style guide.
- Magento: Magento is also an open-source e-commerce platform. It's mobile and SEO-friendly, has fast load times, and includes lots of customization options. Magento also provides currency and language support.

Fiverr's e-commerce developers can help you pick the right platform and get your online store up and running:



Browse More E-Commerce Developers



MARKETPLACE LISTING

Selling your products on the world's biggest marketplaces can make it easier for customers to find you. Like the e-commerce platforms, there are a lot of online marketplaces, but there are three heavyweights that top the list:

- Amazon: Selling on Amazon exposes your brand to hundreds of millions of potential customers. There are low start-up costs to list your products there, and the site is one of the most trustworthy marketplaces on the web. 89% of buyers are more likely to buy from Amazon than other sites.³⁰
- Etsy is geared toward handcrafted goods. It's ideal for businesses who want an individualized storefront but without the hard work of building it themselves. Etsy storefronts can be easily customized and they have full e-commerce capabilities.
- eBay is a veteran marketplace that actually has a lot of benefits beyond the site itself. It can help you build your brand by driving traffic to your website, and it helps build customer trust.³¹
 eBay is also great for mobile shopping, which is more important than ever.

Fiverr's e-commerce marketplace experts can make sure your products are listed on the platform that's right for your business goals.



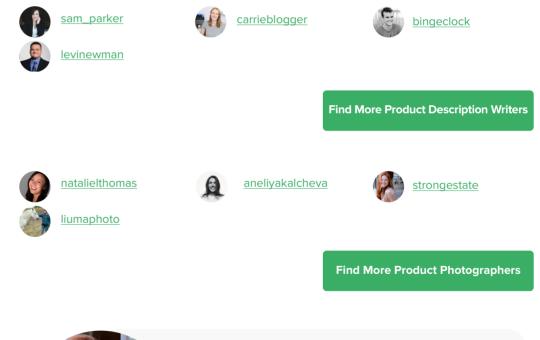




Browse More Freelancers

PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS AND PRODUCT PHOTOGRAPHY

Whether you are launching an e-commerce store or listing on a marketplace, you need exceptional, eye-catching photos of your products, and you need enticing descriptions that communicate your products' value. Fiverr's product description writers and photographers can help you capture the essence of every item:





"Your future customers want to envision themselves using your product. Help them do so through stunning lifestyle product photography featuring realistic models in realistic settings!"

Tracy Freese **Expert Product Photographer** Fiverr seller since 2013

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2020 E-COMMERCE TRENDS

As you start building your digital storefront, be sure to keep these 2020 trends in mind:

VISUAL COMMERCE

As 5G networks become more common, faster speeds will enable more complex visuals. That means 3D renderings, augmented reality (AR), and virtual reality (VR) will be more accessible. Higher quality visuals will give brands the ability to convey larger amounts of data and visual information.³²

MOBILE PAYMENTS

As more and more customers conduct business on mobile devices, the ease of mobile payments will be critical to your success. Digital storefronts should integrate easily with e-wallets and other banking services. Checking out should be seamless, regardless of how a customer wants to pay.³³

FASTER DELIVERY

2-day shipping is no longer enough. Customers want faster delivery times, and they want the flexibility to customize their delivery options to their needs. E-Commerce isn't just about what happens online – it's also about exceeding customer expectations offline.³⁴

To sell your products online this year, make sure you check all these boxes:

- Choose your e-commerce platform
- Develop your e-commerce website or list your products on a marketplace
- □ Get compelling product descriptions and product photos



RECAP

To succeed, your business needs to focus on four key areas:

BRAND CONSISTENCY

Ensure your brand's logo and other design elements are used consistently across your social media channels, your website and mobile app.

MARKETING

Social media, SEM, and SEO are the best ways to stand out in the digital age.

VIDEO

Professionally made videos can help you grab customers' attention on any platform.

OPTIMIZED E-COMMERCE

A well-designed digital storefront and listings on the most popular marketplaces can boost your revenue.

Master these elements with the help of Fiverr's expert freelancers!

Good Luck, The Fiverr Team

RESOURCES Additional resources to help start you succeed

- Get inspired on Fiverr Discover
- Stay up to date on trends to grow your business on Fiverr's Blog
- Improve your skills by taking a <u>Learn from Fiverr</u> class
- Connect with hand-picked, high-end talent on Fiverr Pro
- Resolve issues seamlessly through our <u>Resolution Center</u>

Follow us on Social for daily information and inspiration



