

..:: How to Monetize Your Forum in 2020 ::..

[10 Proven & Profitable Methods]

Do you own a forum? I bet you're leaving money on the table. Here are 10 methods that can increase your profits this year and beyond. Choose more than one and see which combination gives you the best profit.

1. Sell advertising directly

Selling advertising directly to customers is one of the most popular ways for forum owners to monetize their communities.

Advertising Kit - 2020

We offer bulk discounts for larger purchases, package deals for running multiple ads, and custom solutions for those looking for something unique. If you don't see what you're looking for below, please <u>contact us</u>!

Banners - Rectangle

728x90 Everywhere Banner - \$280/month [<u>BUY NOW</u>] Top of all pages + in the footer + after 1st each thread + after 1st each post.

728x90 Top Banner [rotating] - \$150/month - [BUY NOW] Your banner is in rotation with another 2 banners on top of all pages and forums.

728x90 Bottom Banner [rotating] - \$80/month [BUY NOW] Your banner will be shown on the bottom of all pages and forums.

Banners - Square

300x250 Top Sidebar Banner - \$150/month [BUY NOW]

Your banner is shown on the top of the right sidebar on all pages.

300x250 Middle Sidebar Banner - \$125/month [BUY NOW]

Your banner is shown in the middle of the right sidebar on all pages.

300x250 Bottom Sidebar Banner - \$100/month [BUY NOW]

Your banner is shown on the bottom of the sidebar on all pages.

Advertising Offer page on TopGoldForum.com

This works well for established communities but new forums don't get requests too often because don't have enough traffic and members.

Communities that sell advertising directly: <u>ForexPeaceArmy</u>, <u>TopGoldforum</u>, <u>UrbanPlanet.org</u>, <u>InvestorsHub</u>, <u>FinanceTemple</u>, <u>BlackHatWorld</u>, <u>WebmasterSun</u>

You should start selling advertising directly on your forum if you have an ads software (some forum scripts supports this), you have enough advertising requests and don't want to share a cut with an advertising network.

Action: Check your traffic stats, research your competitors and create an advertising offer for your community. Then inform your members and outreach to companies to get sales.

2. Join an advertising network

If you have more than 40K page views monthly you can join advertising networks. Also, you should do this if you're not getting enough advertising requests or you don't have time to approach potential customers. The downside is that these advertising networks get around 25-45% of the money the advertisers are paying.



Advertising networks I recommend for forum owners: BuySellAds, AdClerks, Adsense.

Communities that sell advertising space through a network: <u>LowEndBox</u>, <u>AndroidCentral.com</u>, <u>ForeverPontiac</u>, <u>NeoGaf.com</u>, <u>Offtopic.com</u>

Action: Check your traffic stats and apply to an advertising network. If you're getting sales then keep going on with that network otherwise start making changes.

3. Paid Premium Memberships

There are many communities that have a premium paid membership with more benefits that free have.

Here are several benefits you can offer to your premium members:

- Access to a special sub-forum where you can share exclusive information
- Remove advertising for premium members
- Special badge and mentions (different text colour, member group etc)
- Discounts on other purchases
- Member's signature may contain adverts/links
- More private messages storage space

Most of the community platforms support the purchasing of paid membership. If yours doesn't, you can simply create a premium members group and upgrade them manually once they paid.

Communities that have paid memberships and you may get inspired: LinusTechTips.com, SimplyDiscus.com, EnduranceNation.us, ClickNewz.com



Adding a premium membership can increase your community profits without doing any harm to users. In fact, many of them will be happy to show their support by purchasing a premium membership. **You can charge anywhere between \$5 - \$100 monthly.**

Action: Think on a list of features your members will want and will happily pay for a premium membership plan. Then create 1-3 premium plans and encourage members to upgrade and support your community.





4. Sell sponsored posts

A sponsored blog post is a popular way of blogging for profit. In a nutshell, a company pays you to write about their products on your blog. They may even write the post themselves, so all you have to do is to upload and publish.

Communities that accept sponsored posts: <u>**TopGoldForum**</u>, <u>**CrackBerry**</u>, <u>**Investing.com**</u>, <u>**ForexPeaceArmy**</u>, <u>**SitePoint.com**</u>

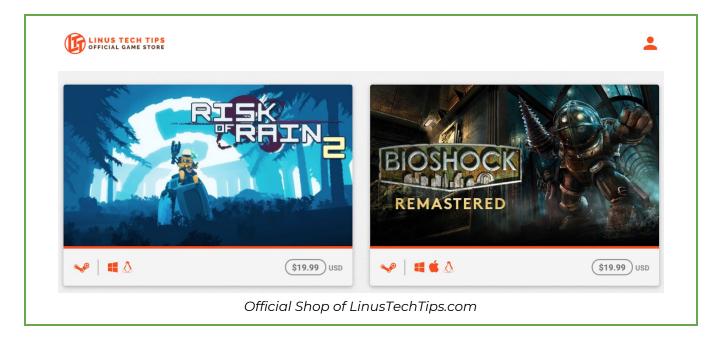
If your forum software doesn't have a CMS you can install Wordpress and start writing. As your forum is already established it may have nice SEO metrics and an audience that will attract companies looking to get backlinks and exposure. **You can charge anywhere between \$60 - \$200 for a sponsored post.**

Sites and networks where you can list your sponsored post offer: <u>Outreach.buzz</u>, <u>Accesily.com</u>, <u>GuestPostTracker.com</u>, <u>Content Manager</u>, <u>GuestPosts.com</u>

Action: Start writing at least 10 posts in your forum/blog and then create a buy a sponsored post page like <u>this one</u>.

5. Add a shop

As your community is built on people that share a common passion or interest you may set-up a shop and sell some merchandise. The most common community software (like **Invision Community**) let you set up shops inside the platform. If yours doesn't, you can easily set up a shop using **Shopify** or Wordpress and **Woocommerce** on a subdomain.



There are many items you can sell starting with digital items (checklists, templates, training materials), promotional materials (t-shirts, hats, pencils) with your community brand, and products related to your industry, niche (You can find a partner that will take care of shipping and handling).

Communities that added a shop: LinusTechTips, ih8mud, DogForum.co.uk



Action: Create a list of products you may offer to your members look for suppliers and start selling :)

6. Add a business/links directory

Your community is enriched by people interested in a topic and as long as there are services/products available for selling then your members will buy them.

2	Forex • Forex Brokers • Forex Services Resources useful if you're trading Forex: Brokers, Services, Analysis, Blogs, Signals providers et.]] links	G	lco script gchristophergloss March 25, 2019
9 0	Offshore company Formation Companies where you can incorporate businesses.	2 links	L	London Registrars Ltd Liz Seyi January 19, 2017
° 0	Ecurrency Exchanges IF you are an e-currency exchange provider or you are looking for an exchanger check this category.	9 links	G	p2p exchange development gchristophergloss March 25, 2019
°0	Payment Processors Payment processors and credit card processing companies	15 links	25	Payssion Daniel#MD June 30, 2016

If your community is about digital marketing charge people to add their agency in the directory. If you talk about auto parts, invite auto repair shops to list in the directory, etc.

Communities that accept sponsored posts: <u>**TopGoldForum**</u>, <u>**InvestOpen**</u>, <u>**FinanceTemple**</u>, <u>**ForumPromotion**</u>, <u>**DogForum.co.uk**</u>, <u>**AffiliateFix**</u>

You can charge anywhere between \$25 - \$100 for listing depending on your traffic.

Action: Create a directory on your forum and invite suppliers, partners and related businesses to add their company. Decide if the listing price will be yearly or lifetime.

7. Add a marketplace

A marketplace can bring you more traffic and it can increase your members' engagement as users will buy and sell products and services related to your niche.

You can offer marketplace access to premium members and/or charge for listing a product/service for sale. You can charge anywhere between \$5 - \$30 for a selling thread based on your members' number.

Communities that have marketplaces and you may get inspired: <u>BlackHatWorld</u>, <u>TopGoldForum</u>, <u>SimpleTractors</u>, <u>WarriorForum</u>, <u>UnrealEngine</u>, <u>WebHostingTalk</u>, <u>UKBusinessForums</u>, <u>AffiliateFix</u>, <u>WebmasterSun</u>





UKBF Marketplace

A place for UKBF full members to post offers and promotions. Read the pinned thread for rules.

		LOG IN OR SIGN UP TO POST HERE		
TITLE	START DATE	REPLIES	VIEWS	LAST MESSAGE \downarrow
New rules for posting in the Marketplace Kat Haylock, Aug 30, 2016	📥 x 12 🛛 🗸 🔒	Replies: Views:	<mark>0</mark> 15,958	Kat Haylock Aug 30, 2016
Looking for people struggling with the weight loss v about the change Damir87, <u>Monday at 8:47 PM</u>	vho are serious	Replies: Views:	<mark>0</mark> 113	Damir87 Monday at 8:47 PM

Action: Create a new forum category and invite members to post Buy/Sell ads. After some time you can charge for ads and/or sticky topics or topic bumps.

8) Join an affiliate program

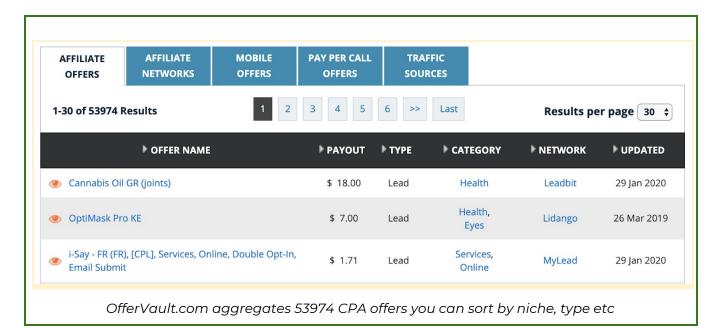
Affiliate marketing is huge and if you choose the right products to promote you can make a 20-50% of the sellers' profit without actually owning the product. Choose products that fit your members' interest. You may even purchase them or ask for a sample, recommend them to your community and start receiving commissions.

.Affiliate networks I recommend for forum owners: <u>Amazon Associates</u>, <u>CJ.com</u>, <u>JVZoo</u>, <u>ShareASale.com</u>, <u>MaxBounty</u>, <u>FlexOffers.com</u>, <u>Awin.com</u>.

Action: Make a list of possible products your members want and look for affiliate networks where the sellers are listed, join and start promoting. If some products don't perform, replace them.

9) Join a CPA network

Making money through CPA offers is very profitable for forum owners. You should choose CPA offers that pay on leads and are relevant for your audience. If you're new to the CPA marketing world check this guide: <u>CPA Marketing for Beginners [Full 2020 Guide]</u>.





Sites and networks where you can find CPA offers: <u>OfferVault.com</u> [agregator], <u>MaxBounty</u>, <u>Clickbooth</u>, <u>PeerFly</u>

Action: Go to <u>OfferVault</u> and look for CPA offers that fit your audience then join a CPA network and start promoting them in your forum.

10) Write an ebook or record a video course

As a community owner, you are seen by your members as an authority figure in that particular niche. You can easily share your knowledge and make profits by launching a paid video course, webinar or even write a book or e-book.

	A FASTLANE TOOLBOX	L+ JOIN A MOVEMENT		
	🗲 Earn More Than Money, Get Unscripted: Free w/Audible Trial	Life isn't about paying bills and then dyin Take back what is yours. Grab the (2) boo		
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discussion forum based on the CENTS	Learn FASTLANE Skills at Udemy, Rewrite the SCRIPT!	that are changing lives thru the power of Unscripted [®] Entrepreneurship. Don't built		
Entrepreneurial Framework as outlined in	🖋 Get Killer Deals on Tools For Growing Your Biz.			
the best-selling books by MJ DeMarco <i>The</i>	F Affordable eCommerce Without Exorbitant Shopify Prices	business—build a life.		
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	Learn from Famous Experts in Their Field (MJ Approved!)			
⇔ CONNECT WITH FASTLANE	Junious Win Crypto Profits from the World's Greatest Traders			
	✗ The Fastlane's Preferred Web Hosting Provider			
	✗ Get Your Business Idea Instantly CENTS Rated: Is It Worth Pursuing?	Schedule		

Community owners that sell ebooks: TheFastLaneForum, SitePoint.com

Action: Choose a topic you're the best at teaching, see if there is a demand for it and start writing or recording. You can offer the 1st chapter for free as a teaser for your members.

Conclusion

There you have it. You reached the end of our booklet: **The 10 proven and profitable methods to monetize your forum in 2020.**

There are 35 profitable communities we've analyzed that use one or more of these methods so there isn't absolutely anything that will stop you to implement and start increasing your income.

Need help with monetization?

I'm **Daniel Stanica** and I've helped **30** community and website owners to make more money with their sites. Need help? **Let's get in touch:** <u>daniel@mediadigi.com</u>



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