

# 37 Ways Home Businesses Haven't Changed in 40 Years

By Robert Pinnick

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Robert Pinnick's Home Business Reflection Series  
Part 1 of Many  
"37 Ways Home Businesses Haven't Changed in 40 Years"  
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In looking over a 1959 publication called "How To Start A Successful Business - a publication put out by Science and Mechanics magazine, it occurred to me that not a lot has changed in 40 years.

America has always been a country that encourages entrepreneurship, even during the Industrial age. Working for someone else, although thought to be secure at one time, has not always been the choice preferred by many independent-minded folks.

Many people have trouble with the prospect of bumper-to-bumper commutes, boring meetings, hours spent making someone else rich, and many of the other "wonderful" things about working for someone else.

In this article, I'll discuss some successful home business ventures. Thirty-seven of them to be exact. I hope they spark some ideas in your mind. I've been running my own home business for more than 30 years after getting burned out on selling life insurance. I believe anyone can find a business they love. You'll find that some of the business ideas from 1959 could still be successful today.

In future articles, I'll tell you what practices have helped me in my own home business. Perhaps you'll find some that will help you. I'm 75 years young, so I understand what it means to find happiness and self-satisfaction in your life.

Some of the businesses that were popular back in 1959 were:

Bronzing Baby Shoes

Creating Plasicast Figurines  
Selling to the US government  
Cleaning rugs and upholstery  
Tuning pianos  
Repairing watches and clocks  
Shoe repair  
Mail order  
Locksmithing  
Poultry Raising  
Reading blueprints  
Cleaning venetian blinds  
Sharpening mower blades  
Filing saws  
Washing walls  
Vending machines  
Repairing TVs and Radios  
Selling paint  
Home instruction  
Repairing electrical appliances  
Buying wholesale items and selling them retail  
Tool rental business  
Ceramic creation and sales  
Baby sitter agency  
Building boats  
Fix-it home repair on wheels  
Grocery cart maintenance and cleaning  
Telephone answering service  
Odd-job Employment Service  
Window Painting  
Car Washing/Detailing-Auto Laundry  
Secretarial Service  
Bookkeeping  
Preventive pest control  
Lawn and garden tool repair  
Service station washing  
Motel keeping

There may be a few of these that are no longer viable in this age of mass production or industrial production, but then again - aren't a lot of them practical in your home town? Anytime you save someone money or save them time, you're doing a huge service.

There could also be one of them that sparks an entirely different, but related idea for a home business.

Look over the list several times, taking a notebook in hand and taking notes. Spend some time in a quiet place, reflecting on your own possibilities. Nothing is impossible when you believe in yourself and your own creativity.

Give yourself the opportunity to step back and look at your life. Consider things you love doing.

Helping others with home cleaning and other services, is still a much-needed business. In my next article, I'll discuss more possibilities.

Robert Pinnick has kept himself young at the mature age of 75 by running his own home business and helping others to do the same. He can be found online here:

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