

Step 18 · Your Time

Frequently Asked Questions

How much can I pay myself from a coffee shop?

There is no dependable owner-pay average for your plan. Work out what the business can support after its costs and cash commitments, and compare that with your household needs and all the hours you contribute. Sales, profit, and cash withdrawn are different numbers. Have an accountant confirm the proper way to pay yourself for your business structure.

Can I make a living from a coffee cart or trailer?

It is possible, but a strong event day does not establish a year-round living. Allow for quiet periods and all the costs of supplies, fees, travel, setup, repairs, staffing, and finance. Count preparation and administration in your working hours. Compare the cash left for you with what your household needs; owner experiences include both viable businesses and difficult losses.

Do I need more than one coffee shop to earn a decent income?

No. More locations can add earnings, but they also add rent, investment, staffing, and management. First establish whether one location can support your required income after allowing for the work you do. A second shop should have a credible case of its own; it will not automatically double your pay or fix weak economics in the first.

How much time should I spend working behind the bar?

Enough to meet the business's needs without leaving the rest of your job undone. Include purchasing, scheduling, finances, training, and problem-solving when you plan the week. Reducing bar shifts requires capable cover and enough cash to pay for it. Test the change against service quality, total owner hours, and what you will do with the time released.

Educational guidance. Check your own circumstances with the appropriate local professional.