## 101 FREE OR CHEAP WAYS TO MARKET BOOKS

## FREE

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1	Make sure your Amazon book page is optimized so that your ideal readers can find you. Pay attention to keywords and add them to your book description.	Yes	No	Maybe
2	When you're setting up your website, be sure to add Google Analytics so you know where your readers are coming from and which posts drive the most traffic.	Yes	No	Maybe
3	Your email list is your #1 tool for selling books. Make growing and maintaining it a top priority. At the end of each post you write, use an opt-in form to invite the reader to join your email list. In your books, invite readers to join your email list, and on your Author Central page, add a link to your bio to your email list opt-in page. Be sure to use a professional email system like MailChimp or ConvertKit to manage your list subscribes, unsubscribes, and email delivery.	Yes	No	Maybe
4	Get an actual figure in your head of the number of books you want to sell per month. When you have a target to hit, you will know when you've accomplished your goal. Be sure to celebrate your success.	Yes	No	Maybe
5	Make your Facebook background an image of your book cover(s).	Yes	No	Maybe
6	Upload one or more videos of you talking about your book to YouTube and/or Facebook.	Yes	No	Maybe
7	If your book is nonfiction, do some training videos and upload them on YouTube.	Yes	No	Maybe
8	Make sure to add a buy now link to your blog to wherever you're distributing your book: iTunes, Amazon, Smashwords, B&N, Kobo, etc.	Yes	No	Maybe

9	If you sell printed books out of your own stock from your website, personalize and/or sign them for your readers to make them more special & exclusive.	Yes	No	Maybe
10	Post your book one chapter at a time on your blog, as you're writing it. Invite your blog readers to purchase the book to read the ending.	Yes	No	Maybe
11	If you're writing in a series, make book #1 free when you release book #2.	Yes	No	Maybe
12	Speaking of series books, insert sample chapters from the next book in the series into the current book.	Yes	No	Maybe
13	If you have other books, be sure to list them in the current book.	Yes	No	Maybe
14	Offer to run your books on consignment in local bookstores.	Yes	No	Maybe
15	Do an in-person book launch party with friends and family.	Yes	No	Maybe
16	Book signing/reading at a local bookstore. Or do an author event.	Yes	No	Maybe
17	Brainstorm blog topic ideas ahead of time so you don't run out of content.	Yes	No	Maybe
18	Do an AMA (ask me anything) on <u>https://www.reddit.com/</u> . Research AMA first!	Yes	No	Maybe
19	Maintain your Amazon Author Central account. Add video, links to your social media, and to your blog. ( <u>https://authorcentral.</u> amazon.com/)	Yes	No	Maybe
20	Treat your email list subscribers to extra content. If fiction, have a series of emails where you discuss other characters, places, or events that are related to your book. You might tell a character's backstory if they weren't fully developed in the main book. This is exclusive content that they can only get if they're on your email list.	Yes	No	Maybe
21	Ask for cover design feedback on your personal and Page feeds on Facebook.	Yes	No	Maybe
22	Repurpose parts of your book content in your social media posts.	Yes	No	Maybe
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23	Set up a Facebook fan page AND a Facebook group. Your group members are special insiders.	Yes	No	Maybe
24	Find out where other authors in your genre are hanging out on Facebook. Join their pages and/or groups and watch what they do. Many will post about topics, history, or characters who are relevant to their books. Very few overtly pitch their books.	Yes	No	Maybe
25	Speaking of stalking, join the email lists of other authors in your genre (the more successful, the better), and watch what they're doing. Take note of their email frequency, the topics they discuss, and how often they talk about their books.	Yes	No	Maybe
26	Add the fact that you're an author to your bio. If it's an online bio, add a clickable link to your book's purchase page on Amazon. Update your bio on all your social media accounts and in your email signature. Your bio goes in your book, too, and should include info on how your readers can contact you (typically, your website and/or your professional email address).	Yes	No	Maybe
27	Set up a Facebook Group that discusses your topic or another topic that your target reader is naturally interested in. Don't sell here. Continue to engage with other group members.	Yes	No	Maybe
28	Reach out to other authors in your genre and see if they'd be willing to promote you to their list in exchange for promoting them to yours.	Yes	No	Maybe
29	Research other books in your genre to find out which categories they're using and request that Amazon add more to yours. You can be in up to 10 categories, which increases your chances of ranking higher in one or more of them.	Yes	No	Maybe
30	Research genre-specific podcasts and request to be a guest. This is especially effective if you have an audiobook, but even if you don't, this is still a great way to get in front of your ideal reader.	Yes	No	Maybe
31	Get more book reviews. They can be friends or family (ok), your die-hard fans (better), or book bloggers (better). Not every review needs to be a 5-star review; it's actually more believable for your potential readers when you have a mix of review types.	Yes	No	Maybe
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32	Make sure your website is media-friendly by adding information media contacts will need to see: your contact information, a high- res picture of you, a high-res picture of your book cover, your bio, and links to your social media profiles. Update your media kit. (http://www.blogclarity.com/blogger-media-kits-101-whats-a- media-kit-why-you-need-one-and-what-to-include/)	Yes	No	Maybe
33	Become known as an expert in your field. Use HARO (Help a Reporter Out) to see what reporters are writing about, and respond to their requests when they need a quote on your subject.	Yes	No	Maybe
34	If appropriate, maintain a profile on LinkedIn. ( <u>https://www.</u> <u>linkedin.com/feed/</u> )	Yes	No	Maybe
35	Bring books whenever you travel, and try to set up reading events at bookstores and libraries.	Yes	No	Maybe
36	Launch an all-out campaign to reach mom & pop privately-owned bookstores. This can be as simple as a phone call. Be sure you're listed on a distribution site like Ingram Spark if they prefer to order through a distributor instead of direct.	Yes	No	Maybe
37	Churches have bookstores. Contact them if your book is appropriate for their congregants.	Yes	No	Maybe
38	Link to your Amazon (and B&N, and iTunes) book detail page from your website.	Yes	No	Maybe
39	Launch partners can increase your chances of hitting #1 in your category. Cultivate relationships with your launch partners at least 30 days in advance of your book release, then coordinate all promotion efforts to a 1 day period. The book can be free or paid. If it's paid, be sure to offer your readers an extra bonus for purchasing on that day. If it's free, set up your launch partner links to go to a landing page on your site to capture their email address, then the free download link goes to the book detail page	Yes	No	Maybe
10	on Amazon.	-	1	1 - 23
40	If nonfiction, include case studies in your book, and then invite those people to be your launch partners. Ask them to record a short video explaining their experience, then link to their video from the book/ebook.	Yes	INO	Maybe
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41	Create interactive content that the reader will love. If fiction, record a video of you inviting your reader to the story, then other videos explaining a location or event. At the end of the book, invite your reader to connect with you and sign up on your email list (for exclusive content). If nonfiction, do the intro and wrap up videos, then add training bonus videos throughout the book.	Yes	No	Maybe
42	Interactive content could include book club questions, action steps, end-of-chapter summaries, or end-of-chapter questions. Some of this content could also go on your website for book clubs to easily download.	Yes	No	Maybe
43	When you wrote your book, it's likely you needed to do some research. That research can come in handy now, in the form of speeches or blog posts.	Yes	No	Maybe
44	Approach bloggers in your area of expertise and offer to write a guest post for their website.	Yes	No	Maybe
45	Allow other people in your industry or genre to post guest articles on your website.	Yes	No	Maybe
46	Include sample chapters of your other books in the back of each book.	Yes	No	Maybe
47	Do speaking engagements for free. Offer valuable content and bring your books just in case people want to buy a signed copy.	Yes	No	Maybe
48	If nonfiction, reach out to industry contacts to ask about bulk sales. Be ready to print in bulk at a traditional printer.	Yes	No	Maybe
49	If nonfiction, treat your book as a business card, so people can get to know you before they spend more money with you on one of your other programs.	Yes	No	Maybe
50	Sign up for the Amazon Associates program so you can earn a little something every time someone buys from your link on Amazon. (Works on more than just your book.) ( <u>https://affiliate- program.amazon.com/</u> )	Yes	No	Maybe
51	Offer a special bonus gift if someone emails you with their order number, proving they bought your book in a specific timeframe. This could be swag, another book, or an online course.	Yes	No	Maybe
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52	Sometimes, the bonus is included as part of the book, as a coupon code or link to free content. If this is the case, make sure to point it out in the book description.	Yes	No	Maybe
53	Offer your book on consignment to non-bookstores, such as coffee shops or gift shops.	Yes	No	Maybe
54	Donate a copy or copies to your local library.	Yes	No	Maybe
55	Promote the work of other authors in your genre.	Yes	No	Maybe
56	Post reviews on Amazon for the work of other authors in your genre. Include "author of the book" in your review.	Yes	No	Maybe
57	Gather your tribe of dedicated fans to you and offer them advance reader copies for free. Encourage book reviews.	Yes	No	Maybe
58	Leave your book (if appropriate) at your doctor's or dentist's office.	Yes	No	Maybe
59	Is it a children's book? Donate it to your child's school library and/ or offer to do a reading in their classroom.	Yes	No	Maybe
60	Contact the librarians for school libraries: local and national. Remember private and parochial schools.	Yes	No	Maybe
61	Offer a sample chapter or chapters as a free download from your site.	Yes	No	Maybe
62	If you're doing a free ebook promotion through Kindle Select, be sure to sign up for free ebook promotion sites in advance of the free date. ( <u>https://kindlepreneur.com/list-sites-promote-free-amazon-books/</u> ) Promotion sites like <u>https://www.bookbub.com/</u> home/ can also get you some traction. There's an application process.	Yes	No	Maybe
63	Offer a smaller book on permafree via Smashwords or Draft2Digital. (Upload it on KDP too. KDP will match the free pricing.)	Yes	No	Maybe
64	Run a book giveaway on Goodreads. ( <u>https://www.goodreads.</u> <u>com/giveaway/new</u> )	Yes	No	Maybe
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65	Pitch yourself to local media. It helps if your topic can be tied into a current event.	Yes	No	Maybe
66	Speaking of current events, if you're able to draw parallels between current events and your book topic, use the news to ride the wave of reader interest. Use trending hashtags (if appropriate) to stand out on social media.	Yes	No	Maybe
67	Radio stations will still book guests for interviews. They don't need to be local.	Yes	No	Maybe
68	This site: <a href="https://wnbnetworkwest.com/">https://wnbnetworkwest.com/</a> will interview authors for free. You pay if you want a copy of the interview for your marketing.	Yes	No	Maybe
69	Add positive reviews to your website and social media.	Yes	No	Maybe
70	Toy with the retail price of your ebook. Try free (if on Kindle Select), .99, 1.99, and above. See if you can increase downloads at .99 retail to improve your ranking, then increase the price.	Yes	No	Maybe
71	Organize a challenge via your Facebook page or group where you provide a portion of your nonfiction book for quick results. 5-day challenges are great. This is a small sample of what you can provide to your readers; step 2 would be a more in-depth course or coaching opportunity with you.	Yes	No	Maybe
72	Consider a blog tour: a mass marketing campaign across multiple blogs, podcasts, videos, and social media platforms in which big influencers in your market "host" or "sponsor" you by featuring you in a blog post, podcast interview, or with social media shout outs.	Yes	No	Maybe
73	Post the speech topics you talk about on your website. Be available for free or paid speeches and always bring books with you for sales from the stage.	Yes	No	Maybe
74	Create urgency to buy the book NOW. Having a number of sales happen in a short timeframe will boost your ranking on Amazon and other sites. To create urgency, offer special limited-time bonuses or discounts for people who purchase in a 1 or 2 day timeframe.	Yes	No	Maybe

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75	Create a resource page on your website for other books or products in your area of interest that you can recommend to your readers. Let the authors or creators of the products know that you've recommended them and offer to write or record a testimonial for their website.	Yes	No	Maybe
76	Take advantage of natural selling seasons to coordinate your promotions. January is a recovery month, an excellent time to sell weight loss, business books, devotionals, and self-help. March/ April/May is a gifting season, with sales for books relating to Mother's Day, Father's Day, and Graduation. June and July are usually slow sales months for all genres. Things start to pick up because of back to school in August, then September-December start the Christmas season. Use other sales holidays like Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday to run specials on your books and other offerings.	Yes	No	Maybe
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77	Use Amazon Ads and set up a low-cost campaign based on keywords. (Available via your dashboard on KDP.)	Yes	No	Maybe
78	Host an online summit or Telesummit, inviting experts in your field to participate. Each expert promises to market your summit to their email and social media lists, and you get all the email addresses for people who sign up to see the free summit content.	Yes	No	Maybe
79	Research other books in your genre and pick 10 to recommend and review on your blog. Bonus points if you set up a contest to give these books away if someone joins your email list.	Yes	No	Maybe
80	Sign up for a Twitter service that broadcasts for a small fee, such as <a href="http://shoutmybook.com/">http://shoutmybook.com/</a> .	Yes	No	Maybe
81	Create a website/blog and set up an email list. The goal is one post/email per week, but once per month is good too. Your URL could be your name or your book title.	Yes	No	Maybe
82	Invest in a professionally designed cover before you invest in anything else.	Yes	No	Maybe
83	Invest in professional head shots.	Yes	No	Maybe

84	Create marketing materials that you can use over and over again: business cards with your book cover and/or author head shot, book banner to use at book signings and readings, a tabletop easel with signage, or bookmarks with a QR code that takes your reader back to your website or to your Amazon book page.	Yes	No	Maybe
85	If nonfiction, consider creating a workbook or another companion book. Bundle or no bundle.	Yes	No	Maybe
86	Line extensions work. Look up Chicken Soup for the Soul and all its related books for a famous example.	Yes	No	Maybe
87	Series books work. Can your book #1 have a sequel, or multiple sequels? If fiction, could you explore another character from book 1? If nonfiction, what's the next logical topic your reader will need to know about?	Yes	No	Maybe
88	Create a Spanish (or other language) version of your book.	Yes	No	Maybe
89	Pay someone to create a professional book trailer.	Yes	No	Maybe
90	Develop merchandise related to your book that you can sell on your site.	Yes	No	Maybe
91	Check out Fiverr.com for providers who can submit press releases for you or who will share your blog post with their audience.	Yes	No	Maybe
92	Get publicity via PRWeb by writing a great press release. ( <u>http://www.prweb.com/</u> )	Yes	No	Maybe
93	Look for non-obvious ways to reach your readers: state fairs, conferences, book festivals, Renaissance fairs, conventions, craft fairs, or writer's groups.	Yes	No	Maybe
94	If nonfiction, consider white labeling your book so another professional can use it in their practice. (Go for quantity purchases here.)	Yes	No	Maybe
95	If you're planning a .99 retail price promotion, try <u>http://</u> <u>buckbooks.net/promotions/</u> , eReader Girl, Product Hunt, AwesomeGang, ReadingDeals, eBooks Habit, Kboards, Book Goodies, Robin Reads, Fussy Librarian and/or Bargain Books.	Yes	No	Maybe

96	Set up a book funnel. Step #1 is a free book (the customer pays shipping & handling, covering your costs), Step #2 is a higher price item (workbook, do-it-yourself course, etc), and then step #3 is your core product (higher-level course, coaching, consulting, etc).	Yes	No	Maybe
97	It may be cost-effective to pay someone to write your book description for you. Your book description is a window into your writing style. If a reader can't get through it, or doesn't find it compelling, you're not likely to hook them into buying your book.	Yes	No	Maybe
98	Advertise on genre-specific podcasts. This is still cost-effective, compared to other forms of advertising.	Yes	No	Maybe
99	Start your own genre-specific podcast. Nonfiction: You could have 1 week's worth of content for each chapter of your book. When you're done with the content, you can be done with that season, then start on a new book or topic. Fiction: You could read your book aloud, 1 chapter per week. Especially effective if you work in a series. Podcast the first book, then encourage listeners to purchase the rest of the series.	Yes	No	Maybe
100	If you're not already on Ingram Spark, consider using them for library and bookstore sales. You can use the same ISBN for Ingram Spark as you do for KDP Print, provided you own the ISBN: <u>https://www.myidentifiers.com/</u> . To load your book files for free on Ingram Spark, use code GETPUBLISHED.	Yes	No	Maybe
101	Facebook ads can be effective but usually not if you're using them to sell books directly. Instead, use Facebook ads to boost exposure to your blog posts and other free content, then once a potential reader is on your email list, you can sell your book.	Yes	No	Maybe

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