

MARJORIE SARAH SOAP CO.'S  
CREATIVE SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCE LIST



*The possibilities are endless!*

You can start from scratch, but you don't have to! After 5 years in business, I've gathered up some of my favorite resources that make running a small business more fun, colorful and smooth.

With so many creative businesses, the opportunities to explore new possibilities for how you create, source and present your craft to the world are endless.

**HAPPY EXPLORING!**  
**XO, MARJORIE SARAH**

CREATIVES BEWARE: Wild, priceless and sought after discoveries lie ahead! You may emerge INSPIRED.

# Running a Soap Business

Some of my best resources in no particular order...

## RUNNING THE BUSINESS

- [Paper + Spark](#) - free videos, Shopify sales spreadsheet and useful content
- [Making Soap Magazine](#) - wholesale info, insight from other soapmakers, good ads for suppliers
- [Modern Soapmaking](#) - a wealth of info!
- [Dear Handmade Life](#) - Podcast full of inspiring artists + craftcation event in California each spring
- [Brambleberry](#) - supplier with excellent customer service, good source for "how to" videos
- [Shopify](#) - after my wordpress site was hacked I decided to go with a larger platform that had established security and other benefits built in. I find it easy to use, the seamless shipping structure saves me time and my customers seem to like it.

## DESIGNING + LABELING

- [onlinelabels.com](#) - Their labels are excellent, they send free samples and their design software is the best! Often sends coupon codes.
- [Morning Print](#) - I was really particular about the kind of brown kraft business card I wanted and I found them here. Rarely has discount codes.
- [Paper Source](#) - I buy their paper in bulk and use them to create my soap labels. It was surprisingly hard to find brown kraft paper that was **not** cardstock, but I found it here!
- [Unsplash.com](#) - Beautiful, free images.
- [Canva.com](#) - Fun to create documents, images with text and more.

## SUPPLIERS

- [Mountain Rose Herbs](#) - bulk herbs, butters, tins and beeswax.
- [Brambleberry](#) - sustainably sourced palm oil (and many more soap making supplies and virtually all the equipment you could need).
- [From Nature With Love](#) - Essential oils in bulk
- [Hoffman's Natural](#) - Organic essential oils in bulk
- [SKS Bottle & Packaging](#) - Lip balm tubes and salt containers
- [Whole Foods or Trader Joe's](#) - Best pricing on quality olive oil
- [Candles + Supplies](#) - Shop in Quakertown, PA, offers various supplies, equipment and classes. They are helpful and nice!

# Running a Soap Business

## BOOKS

KNOWING YOURSELF + Being INSPIRED will propel you forward

- Big Magic: Creative Living Beyond Fear by Elizabeth Gilbert – inspiring, fun to read and might make you jump up with the realization that the possibilities are endless!
- Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life by Anne Lamott – Exactly as titled! Instructions on writing and life but so full of humor, wit and wisdom. After I read Anne Lamott I feel like I just had coffee with a friend.
- Rise Sister Rise: A Guide to Unleashing the Wise, Wild Woman Within by Rebecca Campbell – Short digestible chapters that read like blog posts. Captivating with inspiring poems and thought provoking questions scattered throughout.
- Illuminated Rumi by Coleman Barks + Michael Green – Beautifully illustrated book containing the words of Rumi transporting you to another time and place.
- The Inner Sky by Steven Forrest – An excellent intro to astrology but also an opportunity to expand your knowledge if you're already a student. Looking within ourselves we can often discover more than we imagined possible.

You may notice actual soapmaking and business books missing from the list. I've read many, some were good, some simply didn't apply to me. With the soap books I found it most useful to read MANY various books and then integrate that knowledge with some online resources and my own personal preferences. From there I was able to create my own recipes.

Regarding business, I'm not the standard "more is better" business owner. I dropped out of business grad school for a reason. I base my decisions more on feeling than payoff. I'm not saying this is best, but for that reason many business books inform me in certain ways but not enough for me to recommend them.

I truly hope these resources save you time and stir your creative energy!

Happy creating!

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