**Pitching yourself as an Independent Contractor**

**Articles:**

Minimum requirements for working as an independent contractor:

<https://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/minimum-requirements-working-independent-contractor-29978.html>

General scripts/pitch examples (not necessarily specific to our situation):

<https://fi.co/pitch-deck>

<https://www.zendesk.com/blog/sales-script/>

**ChatGPT Advice:**

Below are some prompts and responses we tried. What can you learn from these suggestions? What other prompts does this inspire you to ask? (Using ChatGPT - <https://chat.openai.com/> - you will have to create a free account)

**Prompt:**

I've just applied and interviewed for a job with a company.  I want to be hired by them as an independent contractor, instead of being hired by the company directly.  I have not yet shared this intention with them and am searching for ways I could ask to be hired by them as an independent contractor.  What are some suggestions for how I can ask for this?

**Response:**

If you want to ask the company to hire you as an independent contractor instead of a direct employee, here are some suggestions for how you can approach the conversation:

1. Understand the company's policy: Before asking for a contract position, research the company's policies on hiring independent contractors. Some companies may have strict policies in place that prohibit this kind of arrangement, so it's important to know this beforehand.
2. Explain why you prefer to work as an independent contractor: Be prepared to explain your reasons for wanting to work as an independent contractor. Some reasons might include flexibility, autonomy, or the ability to work on multiple projects at once.
3. Highlight your skills and expertise: Make sure to emphasize the skills and experience that make you a valuable asset as an independent contractor. Show that you have a track record of successfully working with clients in this capacity.
4. Discuss the terms of the contract: If the company is open to hiring you as an independent contractor, discuss the terms of the contract. Make sure that you understand the scope of the work, the timeline, and the compensation.
5. Be professional and respectful: Remember to be professional and respectful throughout the conversation. If the company is not open to hiring you as an independent contractor, don't take it personally. You may still be able to find other opportunities that fit your needs.

Overall, the key to asking for a contract position is to be clear, confident, and respectful in your communication with the company. Good luck!

**Prompt:**

Please provide 10 examples of the types of businesses a new College graduate in Biology could create as an independent contractor but who has limited work experience.

**Response:**

Sure, here are ten potential business ideas for a new college graduate in Biology who wants to work as an independent contractor:

1. Environmental consulting services: Offer advice and support to individuals or businesses looking to reduce their environmental impact and comply with regulations.
2. Science communication services: Develop content for scientific journals, magazines, or blogs to help people understand scientific concepts.
3. Medical writing services: Write medical papers, textbooks, or manuals for pharmaceutical companies or academic institutions.
4. Science education services: Provide tutoring or teaching services for students of all ages, helping them to understand and appreciate science.
5. Laboratory services: Offer laboratory analysis services to businesses or individuals who need testing done on their samples.
6. Data analysis services: Help companies analyze and interpret scientific data to identify patterns and insights that can be used to improve their business.
7. Biotechnology consulting services: Offer expert advice on the development of new drugs, therapies, or biotechnology products.
8. Scientific research services: Conduct research studies for academic institutions, government agencies, or private companies.
9. Science marketing services: Develop marketing materials or campaigns for companies that sell scientific products or services.
10. Science-based creative services: Create artwork, designs, or videos that communicate scientific concepts in a visually engaging way.

**Prompt:**

Please provide 10 sales pitch wording suggestions for how a new College graduate in Biology could pitch their independent contractor business offering laboratory services.

**Response:**

Sure, here are ten potential sales pitch wording suggestions for a new College graduate in Biology offering laboratory services:

1. "Our laboratory services provide accurate and reliable results to help you make informed decisions."
2. "With our state-of-the-art equipment and highly skilled staff, we guarantee the highest level of accuracy and precision in our lab tests."
3. "Our laboratory services are cost-effective, allowing you to get the most value for your money."
4. "We specialize in providing customized laboratory services tailored to meet the unique needs of our clients."
5. "Our team of experienced scientists can provide you with expert advice and guidance on your laboratory testing needs."
6. "Our laboratory services are fast and efficient, with quick turnaround times to ensure you receive your results as soon as possible."
7. "We use the latest technology and techniques to ensure that your laboratory tests are performed to the highest standards."
8. "Our laboratory services are reliable and dependable, with a track record of providing accurate results to our clients."
9. "We pride ourselves on providing exceptional customer service, ensuring that our clients are always satisfied with the quality of our laboratory services."
10. "Our laboratory services are backed by a team of highly trained professionals who are dedicated to providing the highest level of quality and service."

**Prompt:**

Please provide 10 ways a new College graduate in Biology who is starting a start-up independent contractor business offering laboratory services can get their first clients as they build their new business.

**Response:**

Sure, here are ten potential ways a new College graduate in Biology starting a start-up independent contractor business offering laboratory services can get their first clients:

1. Networking: Attend relevant industry events and conferences to meet potential clients and build relationships with them.
2. Referrals: Ask current or past clients to refer you to others who might need your laboratory services.
3. Social Media: Use social media platforms like LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook to showcase your laboratory services and reach out to potential clients.
4. Cold Calling: Identify potential clients in your target market and reach out to them via phone or email to offer your laboratory services.
5. Partnering with other businesses: Partner with other businesses in related fields such as biotech companies, clinical research organizations, or universities to offer your laboratory services.
6. Direct mail: Send out direct mail campaigns to potential clients in your target market, highlighting the benefits of your laboratory services.
7. Content Marketing: Write blogs or articles on relevant topics in the industry, showcasing your expertise in laboratory services, and share them with potential clients.
8. Free Consultations: Offer a free consultation or trial run to potential clients to help them understand the value of your laboratory services.
9. Local Advertising: Advertise your laboratory services in local publications, such as community newspapers or magazines, to attract nearby clients.
10. Utilizing Online Platforms: Utilize online platforms like freelancer or Upwork to showcase your laboratory services and attract clients.

**Prompt:**

Please provide additional online platforms similar to freelancer or Upwork where an independent contractor could showcase their laboratory services and attract their first clients.

**Response:**

Certainly! Here are some additional online platforms similar to freelancer or Upwork where an independent contractor could showcase their laboratory services and attract clients:

1. Guru: Guru is a freelance platform that connects independent contractors with businesses looking to hire for a variety of services, including laboratory services.
2. PeoplePerHour: PeoplePerHour is a UK-based online platform that connects businesses with freelancers for various services, including laboratory services.
3. Fiverr: Fiverr is a global online marketplace that connects businesses with freelancers for a wide range of services, including laboratory services.
4. SimplyHired: SimplyHired is a job search engine that lists freelance opportunities, including those in the laboratory services industry.
5. Freelancermap: Freelancermap is a platform that connects businesses with freelancers for various services, including laboratory services.
6. Nexxt: Nexxt is a job search engine that lists freelance opportunities, including those in the laboratory services industry.
7. 99designs: 99designs is a platform for freelance graphic designers, but also has opportunities for freelancers in the laboratory services industry, such as scientific illustration and infographics.
8. Task Rabbit: Task Rabbit is a platform that connects businesses with freelancers for various services, including laboratory services.
9. TopTal: TopTal is a platform that connects businesses with top-tier freelancers for various services, including laboratory services.
10. FlexJobs: FlexJobs is a job search engine that lists remote and freelance opportunities, including those in the laboratory services industry.

**Prompt:**

Please provide examples of U.S. based worker cooperatives focused on providing science consulting services  
  
**Response:**

I'm not aware of any specific worker cooperatives in the U.S. that provide science consulting services. However, there are a number of cooperatives that provide consulting services in various fields, including science and technology. Here are a few examples:

1. Democracy Collaborative: This is a worker-owned cooperative based in Washington D.C. that provides consulting services in various areas, including science and technology. They work with clients to help them develop sustainable business practices, and also offer training and support to help organizations transition to worker ownership.
2. ICA Group: This is a worker-owned consulting firm based in Boston that focuses on providing business consulting services to cooperatives and other socially responsible businesses. They have worked with a number of clients in the science and technology sectors, helping them to develop and implement sustainable business practices.
3. Union Cab: This is a worker-owned taxi cooperative based in Madison, Wisconsin. While they don't provide science consulting services, they are an example of a successful worker-owned cooperative in the U.S. that has been in operation for more than 40 years.

**Prompt:**

Please provide examples of successful worker cooperatives in the greater Houston, Texas region of the U.S.

**Response:**

Sure! Here are a few examples of successful worker cooperatives in the **greater Houston, Texas** region of the U.S.:

1. Houston Clean Air Network Cooperative: This is a worker-owned cooperative based in Houston that provides air quality monitoring services to communities and businesses in the Houston area. They have been successful in building partnerships with community organizations and local businesses to help address air pollution in the region.
2. Crossroads Market: This is a worker-owned cooperative grocery store located in the Northside neighborhood of Houston. They offer fresh produce, meat, and other grocery items to their customers, while also providing a community gathering space for events and activities.
3. Air Alliance Houston Cooperative: This is another worker-owned cooperative based in Houston that focuses on environmental and public health issues. They work to improve air quality in the region through advocacy, education, and community outreach.
4. HOUmanity: This is a worker-owned cooperative that provides home repair and renovation services to homeowners in the Houston area. They offer a range of services, including plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, and more.

These cooperatives are just a few examples of the vibrant and growing cooperative community in the Houston area. There are many other successful cooperatives in the region that are making a positive impact on their communities and the local economy.

**Prompt:**

Please provide examples of successful worker cooperatives in the **greater Boston, MA** region of the U.S.

**Response:**

Certainly! Here are a few examples of successful worker cooperatives in the greater Boston, MA region of the U.S.:

1. Cooperative Fund of New England: This is a cooperative community development financial institution that provides financing and technical assistance to cooperatives and community-oriented nonprofits in New England. They are based in Boston and have been successful in supporting the development of a wide range of cooperatives in the region.
2. Red Sun Press: This is a worker-owned printing and design cooperative located in Boston. They provide high-quality printing services to a wide range of clients, including businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations.
3. CERO Cooperative: This is a worker-owned cooperative that provides commercial composting services to businesses and institutions in the Boston area. They have been successful in diverting large amounts of organic waste from landfills and helping to build a more sustainable local economy.
4. Boston TechCollective: This is a worker-owned cooperative that provides IT support and consulting services to businesses and organizations in the Boston area. They offer a range of services, including network design and installation, hardware and software support, and cybersecurity consulting.
5. Democracy Brewing: This is a worker-owned brewery and pub located in Boston. They offer a variety of craft beers and food, while also prioritizing worker empowerment and community engagement.

These cooperatives are just a few examples of the thriving cooperative community in the greater Boston area. There are many other successful cooperatives in the region that are making a positive impact on their communities and the local economy.