

The Freedom of Freelancing

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I'd always wanted to 1)_____ a nine-to-five grind and 2)_____ the work-life balance, but a few things were holding me back. One was that I had a good job as a marketing manager at a large company. The other was money. My salary was enough to live on, but not enough to get a decent financial 3)_____ so I could 4)_____ and do something different. I didn't want to go through life with no money 5)_____ away for a rainy day.



Then one day I got the news that my employer had lost a major contract and there would be layoffs. It turned out to be a blessing in disguise. Thanks to the generous redundancy package on offer, I had enough money to keep me going for at least six months. If I was going to have to look for a new job anyway, why not try doing what I really wanted to do?

I spent the next few months getting my ducks in a row. At first, things were tough. I had to 6)_____ for clients, and I had to learn how to manage my time better. But once I got a few steady gigs, things started looking up. Slowly, I built up my contacts, and now I have more work than I can handle. I'm making twice as much money as before, and I love what I do. The best thing about freelancing is that you're your own boss. You can choose when and where you work. No more worrying about office politics or having to 7)_____ stupid demands. I also have more time for myself. I used to work 12-hour days, but now I take regular breaks and finish at 6 p.m. And, best of all, no more commuting!

Of course, there are downsides too. If you don't work, you don't get paid. But for me, the positives far outweigh the negatives. I only wish I'd done it earlier!