7 Tips to Make Crazy Money in Photography

by Jonathan Souza

Turning your passion for photography into huge amounts of cash!



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About me:

Hi, my name is Jonathan Souza and I have shot all kinds of photography during my career; everything from landscape and nature to weddings and sporting events. This little, easy to read ebook is a compilation of some of the things I have learned about some of the big money makers in the photography business. There is no need to be a starving artists as this business can bring in HUGE amounts of income, and I will be talking about just a few of those methods. Hope you enjoy.

There are many different ways to make money with your camera. The key is to start with one particular kind of photography that works best for you and stick with it. I will be highlighting some of the best known ways to make a lot of money with digital photography, so if you love photography like I do, I am sure your mind will be spinning with ideas after you are done with this book.

In this ebook I will be giving 7 tips on how to bring in the money with your camera. These tips are by no means exhaustive and that's why I am writing another ebook that will have all the juicy details of how to make it big with this business. So sit back, and enjoy as you learn how to hit it big with your passion of photography. Don't you just love the thought of getting paid for something you love to do!

Tip #1: Get As Many People as Possible to See Your Pictures.

Get those millions to see your pictures instead of just thousands or just your circle of friends.

Exposure is crucial. Not only will having more people see your pictures help you make more money, but it's also good for branding.

If people begin to see your pictures in more than one place they will begin to see that you are a big name photographer. Suddenly, the demand for your pictures will go up and people will be willing to spend more to have your images.

Years ago it would be tough to get a huge amount of people to see your pictures if you were just starting out, but with the internet it's not only possible, but it should be one of your main priorities to make your pictures viewable online.

No matter what kind of photography you want to get into, if you don't have some samples of your work online, you will be shutting out what could be a huge portion of your income.

So how do I get those pictures online?

Well you have two options:

- 1. Get your own website
- 2. Use existing websites for free

There are a lot of advantages to having your own website. No matter which option you pick, you will eventually want your own website. This helps with the branding process and gaining brand recognition too. Get your own name as the domain name i.e. "yourname.com" or you can be a little more creative.

Even with absolutely no HTML or web design experience I was able to set up a website using the free software called <u>Wordpress</u>. If you can use a word processor you can build a site.

First you need a webhost. I recommend <u>Hostgator</u>. <u>Check them out here</u>. They are the cheapest around with amazing customer support if you ever need help.

Using their cpanel you can install Wordpress with a couple clicks of the mouse.

Then just find a nice free Wordpress theme and you are ready to let the world see your photos.

Not ready to build a website yet?

Here are some ways you can use some free websites online to show off your pictures and your portfolio:

100 Companies Paying Cash for Local Pictures- EasyPhotoBiz.com

- 1. <u>http://www.myphotofolio.com/</u>
- 2. <u>http://www.voodoochilli.net/</u>
- 3. <u>http://www.onetalentsource.com/</u>
- 4. <u>http://www.deviantart.com/</u>
- 5. <u>http://www.flickr.com/</u>

You can also just put some of your best pictures together on a free hosted blog. The best free blogging services to use are:

- 1. Blogger.com
- 2. Wordpress.com

Or if you want you can use some social networking sites and use the power of Web 2.0. Here are some free sites you can join to advertise your photography for free and get some traffic to your portfolio:

- 1. <u>http://squidoo.com</u>
- 2. <u>http://hubpages.com</u>
- 3. http://www.zimbio.com/
- 4. <u>http://www.wetpaint.com/</u>

With all of the sites above you can add your photos and write something about them and your photography.

Then you can put the URL of your portfolio on your Facebook, Myspace, or Linkedin pages so your friends can see your work.

You can also use that URL in your email and forum signatures for even more exposure.

But if you really really REALLY want people to see your pictures you have to put them where people who are LOOKING for pictures go.

And where is that?

Every month there are MILLIONS of people who visit micro stock photography sites with money in hand, ready to buy photos.

You can upload your pictures to these sites and people can buy downloads of them. So after you put your pictures on there they can sell over and over again while you do nothing but rake in the dough. It's really quite simple and there are some making 6 digit figures with micro stock right now.

Once you build up a nice size portfolio on the sites below it will not be impossible to be making at least an extra \$1,000 a month, and the more you work at it you can make that \$1,000 per week. Many give up before they see profits like this, but don't be like them=)

Here are some of the sites I am making money on right now, while at the same time getting more exposure for my photos.

- 1. <u>www.Dreamstime.com</u>
- 2. www.istockphoto.com
- 3. <u>www.Fotolia.com</u>
- 4. www.shutterstock.com
- 5. www.Bigstockphoto.com

I would recommend starting with <u>dreamstime.com</u>. They are fairly lenient on accepting your pictures and you can upload a bunch at one time to start selling them one download at a time.

<u>Fotolia</u> is a great place to start too. There is one certain picture that I sell at least once a day on <u>Fotolia</u> and it makes me over \$100 a month, every month, no matter what.

In the next email I am going to show you my blueprint for making BIG money with micro stock photography so hold on.

In the mean time you can get signed up at any of the micro stock sites above by clicking on the links provided.

Tip # 2: Use Micro Stock as Spring Board to Major Income

Blueprint for making BIG money with micro stock photography.

OK, say you have a picture like I mentioned in the last chapter that is selling fairly consistently on a micro stock site like <u>Fotolia</u> or <u>Dreamstime</u>, but it is only making you about a dollar a day on average, instead of \$3. You can have pictures selling much better than this, but let's just use a conservative figure for our example.

Now, let me remind you that not every picture is going to sell well, and it may take a while to learn the ropes.

About 20% of my pictures on micro stock make me 90% of my earnings. And that's because I did not understand what kind of pictures sell and which ones don't when I first started. Now I know how to take pictures that I know will sell like crazy. This is a topic I cover extensively in my ebook (which is coming soon by the way).

So let's do the math to see how much you can make even selling your pictures for a dollar at a time:

One picture in your portfolio makes you \$1 per day on average.

Then let's say you are able to grow your portfolio online to 100 pictures. A decent start. You can do this by just adding 10 pictures a day for 10 days.

100 Companies Paying Cash for Local Pictures- EasyPhotoBiz.com

If even 20% of your pictures are as successful as your first you will be making \$20 per day.

And remember you can sell your photos on more than one micro stock photo site at a time. I am selling my pictures on about 6 micro stock websites right now and that just multiplies my income with each picture I submit.

To remind you, here are some of the best micro stock websites I recommend and make me money right now:

- Dreamstime
- Fotolia
- Istockphoto
- Shutterstock
- Bigstockphoto

Let's say after a few months you are able to work very hard and build up your portfolio to 1,000 images on just one micro stock site. Again, assuming that only 20% of your pictures are able to sell once a day you can be making \$200 every day, and even if you don't work the next week, that money will still come in.

Now will everyone who does this make \$200 a day from their pictures? Absolutely not. But they CAN if they learn how to take pictures that people want to buy.

If you think you can just throw any old picture up on a site and see the money roll in then you will only be disappointed and give up too soon.

Here is a process that can help you make the most money for your pictures using micro stock:

- Focus on the pictures that are worth more to buyers
- Set aside a couple hours a day to start building up a stock photo portfolio
- Aim for getting 100 pictures or more every month approved by a site.
- After six months you will have 600 pictures.
- Review what pictures are selling the best.
- Keep taking pictures and submitting to micro stock sites.
- Set goals of making \$500 a month, \$1,000 a month, \$2,000, \$5,000 and beyond.

The key to making a huge amount of money with micro stock is to submit hot selling photos often to the sites. If you do this it will be difficult NOT to make money.

Once you are making \$1,000 or more a month, don't stop. As you keep working to build your portfolio with new photos you will continue to make money with the old ones that are already approved.

And therein lies the beauty of this strategy of making money with your camera. You are building residual income. You will be able to shoot weddings, senior portraits, and birthday parties WHILE you are still making money with your stock photos.

And by the way, you can get a lot of stock photos during some of your photo sessions too.

Some of my best selling photos I have taken while shooting a wedding. I would see the brides shoes in the window with some nice light coming in, take the picture, and upload it to a micro stock photo site later on to make even more

money. Keep in mind that you will need to put some language in your contracts to use some of those pictures for stock photos.

And any pictures of people will have to have a model release signed by those people. So for now, you might want to just focus on non-people photos.

In the 3rd tip for making money with photography we will look at finding those businesses that need a photographer like you.

If you want to get a jump start in micro stock photography and need some guidance, I would recommend checking out this guide called <u>Stock</u>. <u>Photography: Going Digital</u>. The website is VERY cheesy and he really needs a new design going on there, but this is an ebook written by a guy who is making a KILLING in the world of micro stock, so you might as well learn from the best if you want to become the best.

Tip #3: Find those businesses that NEED a photographer like you.

Every business needs photos, but some are willing to pay big bucks for you to take them.

Not all businesses want to simply buy their pictures off of a micro stock photography website because they want a picture that no one else has. Sometimes a photo will be sold on istockphoto thousands of times and the market gets too saturated with that one picture for a business to use it. Or sometimes they just need a very specific picture of the products that they make.

Here is why big and small businesses need your photos:

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