

# Crafters & Makers Business 101 – – 5 Helpful Tips!

**Tip 1: Biz Plan and Overall Support** - Connect with a consultant at the Larimer Small Business Development Center for help on creating a business plan. You need a plan if you want to be successful! <https://larimersbdc.org/>

## Tip 2: Licenses and Sales Tax

- **Get your Sales Tax License for the City of Fort Collins.** There are 2 different kinds, see which you may need:
  - City of Fort Collins Temporary/Special Event License for a single event, market or event, you will need one per event: [www.fcgov.com/salestax/special-events.php](http://www.fcgov.com/salestax/special-events.php)
  - Permanent Sales Tax License: [www.fcgov.com/salestax/](http://www.fcgov.com/salestax/)
  - Get more City of Fort Collins Info or take the Sales tax class A list of class times is available at [www.fcgov.com/salestax](http://www.fcgov.com/salestax). Please call the Sales Tax office to sign up for a class at (970) 221-6780.
- **Sales Tax License for the State of Colorado and Larimer County.** The state will collect both the state and county sales tax due. The State issues Standard Retail Licenses, Wholesale Licenses and Special Event Licenses (Multi event too) Learn more and Apply Here: [www.tax.colorado.gov/how-to-apply-for-a-colorado-sales-tax-license](http://www.tax.colorado.gov/how-to-apply-for-a-colorado-sales-tax-license)
- **If you are doing business from your home:** The City of Fort Collins Zoning Department requires that you obtain a Home Occupation License if you are doing business from a residence within City limits. The fee for the license is \$25 and is renewed every two years. [www.fcgov.com/nbs/home-business.php](http://www.fcgov.com/nbs/home-business.php)

**Tip 3: SBDC Classes/Skills:** Take a low cost class and learn more about using Instagram, Intellectual Property, Entity Types, Making it Legal and more through the SBDC. Classes are in person and on demand: [www.larimersbdc.org/workshops/events/2021-2/](http://www.larimersbdc.org/workshops/events/2021-2/)

**Tip 4: Get Organized!** Whatever systems work for you, color code things, write down your inventory, use helpful computer programs and internet services. This will allow you more time to create and market your crafts!

**Tip 5: Markets in Town and Downtown Art Walk Businesses** See a list of makers markets and connect for next year's shows! [www.dfccd.org/call-to-artists-proposals-auditions/](http://www.dfccd.org/call-to-artists-proposals-auditions/) And connect with a Downtown Fort Collins Art Walk business, get info and connect [www.downtownfortcollins.com/experience/itineraries/first-friday-art-walk/](http://www.downtownfortcollins.com/experience/itineraries/first-friday-art-walk/)



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