

# Be your own boss

These four women did it ...and you can, too



**Tip**  
Find the perfect franchise for you at [www.franchiseopportunities.com](http://www.franchiseopportunities.com)!

**Cheryl makes \$100,000 a year playing with pets!**

**T**wo years ago, Cheryl Smith, 30, of Venice Beach, California, had a bad back that was only made worse by her job as an administrative assistant. "The nine hours I was sitting at my desk each day made the pain unbearable," she says. So when she heard a friend was selling his Fetch! Pet Care franchise, a service that offers dog walking, in-home pet-sitting, and group play days, Cheryl, a dog lover, knew it was perfect for her. She borrowed the franchise fee—and bought it! At first, she juggled her job at the bank with her pet care business, but once she was earning real money, she quit her bank job. Today, her back has gotten better, and she's doubled her cash flow!

- **Franchise fee:** \$5,000
- **Skills you need:** None!
- **What you need to run it:** Three weeks of training, a computer and a phone.
- **For more information:** Call 800-FetchMe or visit [www.fetchpetcare.com](http://www.fetchpetcare.com).



**Peg makes more than \$150,000 a year—by staying in shape!**

**W**hen Chicago resident Peg Brom wanted to slim down, she signed up for a Jazzercise class, a fitness program based on aerobic exercises and jazz moves. At first, it was hard, but after a few weeks, "I started feeling better about my body than I had in a long time!" says the 48-year-old mom. Over the course of a year, she lost 40 pounds, became an instructor—and bought her own franchise! In her first month, Peg grossed just \$650, but she increased her profits by hiring other teachers and renting out more space. Now she owns six facilities and has 36 employees!



- **Franchise fee:** \$1,000
- **Skills you need:** You have to be a certified Jazzercise instructor, which involves some home study and three days worth of seminars.
- **What you need to run it:** A phone and some place to offer classes—common rental spaces include gyms and churches.
- **For more information:** Call 800-Fit-Is-It or visit [www.jazzercise.com](http://www.jazzercise.com).

**Make sure there's no competition!**

Make sure other franchise owners can't operate in your area before you buy. Otherwise, you'll be competing for business.