

TIPS FOR COUPLES WHO OWN A BUSINESS TOGETHER



Owning a business comes with its positives and negatives. It can be very rewarding or extremely disappointing. You just don't know how it will all pan out until you have been in business for a couple of months, or maybe even years. For those business owners who happen to be couples, we have put together a list of tips for you to work with your spouse or significant other. Understand When it is Time to Walk Away from your Spouse Realizing when it is time to walk away from your spouse during a difficult time at the office can be problematic. When you are close with someone such as a spouse or significant other, walking away from him or her can be difficult. You need to know when to step back from your spouse and let things go. If not, the issues will follow you home and could put a strain on your relationship. Know the Strengths and Weaknesses of the Couple It is best to know the strengths and weaknesses of yourself and your spouse when owning a business. When you determine what each person is capable of and struggles at, you can begin to divide the responsibilities. One person can handle the operations in front of clients and the other can handle the behind-the-scenes aspects such as accounting and payroll. Find Time for Each Other **Operating your own business** comes with a lot of hard work and responsibility. You will not be able to succeed by putting in the regular 40-hour work week. This can cause you to feel smothered by work. To get away from this, you need to make time for each other as a couple. Have lunch together, outside of the office, or schedule a date night. Make sure that you remove yourselves from the stresses of the business when you spend time together. Do not talk about the business. Instead, talk about your family, friends, or the news. Have Trust in Each Other Trust is not only important in a marriage, but also in running a business. When running a business with a spouse, you need to trust that he or she will accomplish their daily tasks on-time and without having to be prodded continually. The more trust you put in your spouse, the more successful your business can be. You also need to have trust in your partner at home so it carries over to the office. Following these tips is easier said than done, but if you can accomplish them, you will enjoy a successful career owning a business as a couple.