Part 2

Creating your project

Everything you need to know

JANUARY JUMPSTART





support@crowdfunder.co.uk



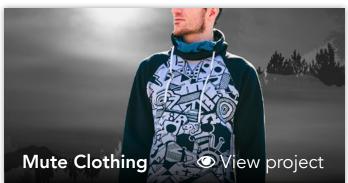
GETTING STARTED

Now that you're ready to start building your project page, it's a great idea to look at some examples of other business who have raised money with Crowdfunder. These guys have all been successful, so take a look and get inspired.

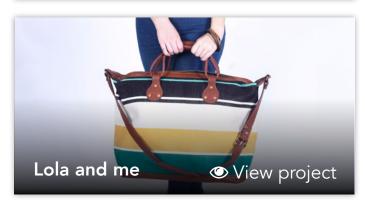
Be a critic. What do you like? What don't you like? What would you have done differently?









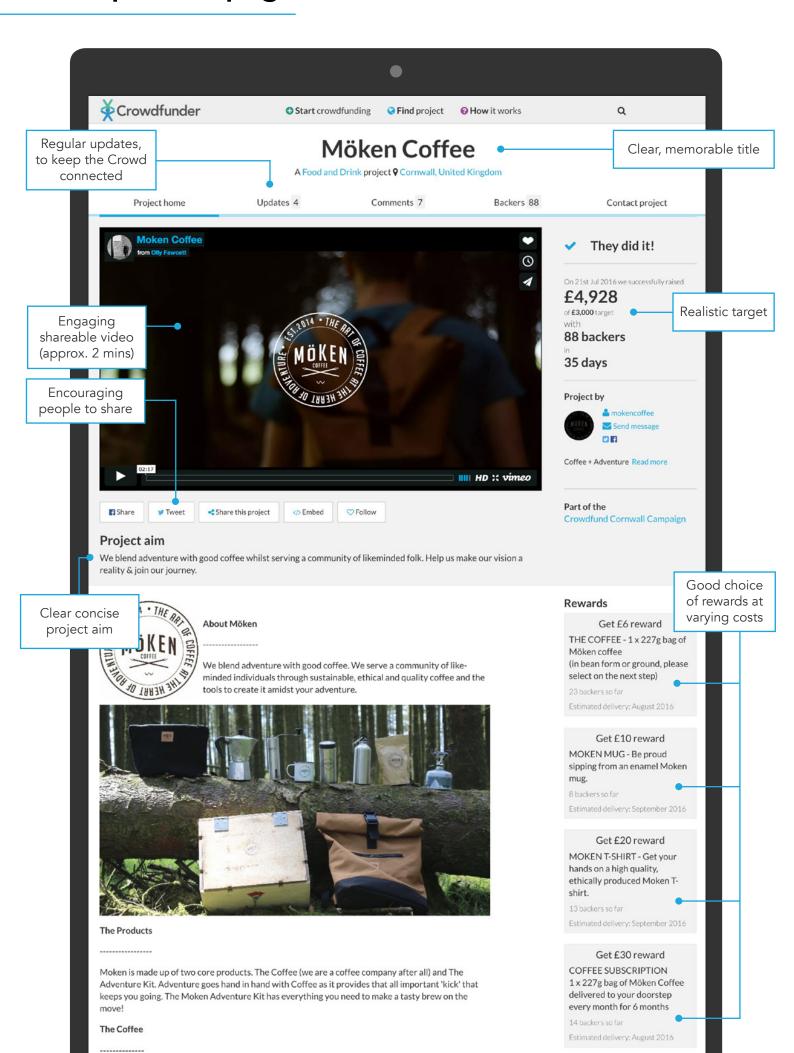








The perfect page



Key messages

You will probably already have a clear idea of your business' personality, core values and unique selling points. Think of words that you would use to describe your business. Cross out or circle our suggestions below, then add some more of your own. Keep referring back to these words to check that your finished project page reflects them all.

Smart	Timeless	Beautiful	Fun
Adventurous	Masculine	Rugged	Urban
Slick	Simple	Traditional	Fresh
Innovative	Vibrant	Luxurious	Sweet
Classic	Cool	Feminine	
Trendy	Youthful	Mature	

Next, use this space to work out the key messages that you need to get across on your project page.

Why was your product developed?

why was your product developed?		

Key messages

What makes your product great?
Who are you and what's your experience?

Writing your description

When visitors land on your project, you need to hold their attention and get them excited about your business. To do this well you'll need make sure your description is structured, concise and engaging. Add some images, testimonials and branding to give it a professional finish.

Structure

Opening – Briefly summarise your key points in two or three sentences. Keep it simple.

Why was your product developed? – Explain the problem that your product solves and why it's important. Does is make something easier? Does it offer an eco-friendly alternative to the norm? Does it make something more beautiful?

What makes your product great? – Introduce your product and all its key features. Focus on what makes it unique. What is it made of? How does it work? Why is that important?

Who are you and what's your experience? – This is your chance to show off your expertise and build credibility. Demonstrate clearly that you are the right people to make this idea happen.

Tell your story – Explain how your business was started and why you decided to create this product. Talk about your journey and inspiration. Don't forget that your story is still unfolding – what does the future hold, where are you going?

How is the money being spent? – Outline what the money raised will enable you to do. Create a pie chart to show that you're making smart decisions with your spending.

Rewards – Highlight the strongest rewards in your description to draw more attention to them. Give any extra information that will make them more attractive to potential backers.

FAQs – Anticipate common questions that people might have about your business, product or crowdfund.

Writing your description

Visual content



Product images

Mock ups, prototypes or the finished article – your backers will need to see what it looks like.



Infographics

Can you show dreary data in a more visual way?



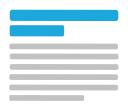
Testimonials

Add in some real quotes from people who like your product to build credibility.



Team photos

People fund people. Show that you are a real person and make sure your page shows off your personality.



Headings

Use snappy subheading these to separate each section.



Branding

Make sure that your page visually reflects your brand and core values.

TOP TIP

You can embed videos into your description to showcase other aspects of your product.

Creating your video

It's becoming more and more important for business to use video to connect with their customers. Stay ahead of the curve and create something bespoke for your Crowdfunder project.

Short and sweet

Less is more when it comes to video. Keep it short, 2-3 minutes maximum. Make sure you get the key information into the first 30 seconds - who, what, why, how?



Get personal

Getting in front of the camera will help you to build a rapport. Don't be afraid to include others too.



Script

If you're struggling to think of what to say, write a rough script but let people ad-lib and speak from the heart, honesty will always win people over.



Setting

Choose a place where your voice can be clearly heard on record wind, traffic and crowds will drown you out.



Avoid using animation video makers or image montages

They often come out tacky and won't get across your unique personality.



Watch the Möken Coffee video here



"Keep it short, to the point, clear and concise. Don't be scared of it. Your cameraphone will suffice, in one take. Script your main points, make sure you hit your marks and your idea will sell itself."

Murry Toms, Organiser, Cheltenham Town Billboard

TOP TIP

Include your campaign's URL at the end of your video to direct external traffic onto your project page.

Giving rewards

Rewards are about giving your backers something worthwhile in return for their support. For entrepreneurs, rewards should be centred around your products – think of your backers as future customers. Consider the four main types of reward that you can offer:



Products



Services



Experiences



Events

Your core product will usually be your most popular reward, so make sure you price it right!

7 top tips for rewards

- Add variations on your core product to entice different groups within your crowd to pledge a little more.
- Offer exclusive 'behind the scenes'
 experiences, tickets to events,
 masterclasses or special editions
 things that aren't available elsewhere.
- Early bird deals are a fantastic was of securing early support. Limit the number available to get your crowd excited.
- Rewards should be good value for money. If one of your rewards is available elsewhere, 20-30% discount it a great way of making it attractive to your crowd.

- Have a few rewards priced at around £20 this where a good chunk of pledges are made.
- Spread your rewards evenly across different price points from £10 to £100 and include something at the top end that might be attractive to other businesses.
- Don't just stick to numbers that end in zeros odd numbers imply that your rewards have been thoughtfully costed.

Example rewards

Some great reward examples from Möken Coffee

Get £6 reward

THE COFFEE - 1 x 227g bag of Möken coffee (in bean form or ground, please select on the next step)

23 backers so far

Estimated delivery: August 2016

Get £30 reward

COFFEE SUBSCRIPTION 1 x 227g bag of Möken Coffee delivered to your doorstep every month for 6 months

14 backers so far

Estimated delivery: August 2016

Get £85 reward

EARLY BIRD ADVENTURE KIT Be one of 10 earlybirds and get
everything you need for a tasty
coffee in the wild. Includes Bag of
Beans + 2 Mugs + Moka pot +
Metal Water Bottle + Coffee
Grinder + Möken Kit Bag + Möken
Back Pack + Camping Gas twister

10 backers so far

Estimated delivery: September 2016

Setting your target

Your crowdfunding target needs to be a balance between what you need to raise to make your idea happen and what you think you can raise from your crowd. Be realistic - remember that you can always raise more and stretch your target to a bigger number once you hit 100%.

Calculate the minimum amount of money you need to deliver your project and fulfil your rewards. Don't forget that if your project is successful, there is a 5% platform fee that you'll need to account for. Read more on fees

How big does your crowd need to be to reach your target? There are a few facts to note...



The **average pledge** on Crowdfunder is **£50**



On average, one in twenty people who view a project page will make a pledge

"Look at your network and work back to discover how much you think you can raise. It's got to be big enough to be worth all the effort - but it's also got to be attainable and realistic so you don't waste your time."

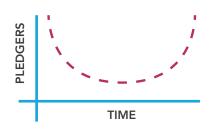
Sarah Bentley, Project Manager, Made in Hackey Community Kitchen

Choosing your project duration

Your campaign can last anywhere from one day to eight weeks, but more time doesn't necessarily mean you'll raise more money.

Choosing a short and sharp campaign means you can get your crowd excited and maintain a sense of urgency. Longer campaigns can start to lose steam and might actually end up becoming annoyingly repetitive.

When picking your launch date, be aware of the calendar and factor in any events that might slow down or promote your campaign. When choosing what time of the day to launch, keep in mind that whatever time you launch the project, it will end at the same time of day - choose a time that will allow you to have a big push at the end.



TOP TIP

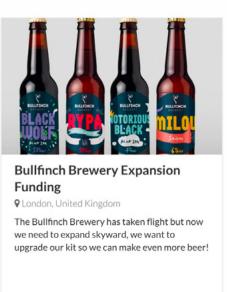
Most pledges will come in at the beginning and the end of your project - so you'll want to make sure you've got a great plan to keep engagement high the whole way through.

And finally...

Finish off by giving your project a strong title that's unique and catchy. Avoid using words like 'help', 'support', 'project' or 'fund' which are too generic.

Finally, upload a strong project image - something that captures the essence of your project - make sure it's inspirational, high resolution and good quality.





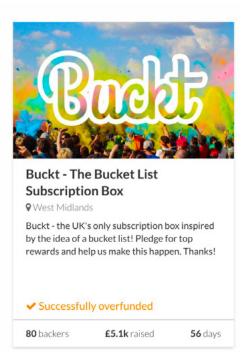
£8.4k raised

28 days

✓ Successfully overfunded

70 backers

874 backers







£100.9k raised

35 days



Recap

Let's recap what we've covered in this pack:

- Great example projects
- Refining you key messages
- Writing your project description
- Making your video

- Giving rewards
- Setting your target
- Choosing your project duration

Next step

You're now ready to create your perfect project page on Crowdfunder and start planning for the launch day.

Start crowdfunding

www.crowdfunder.co.uk/jumpstart

"Have a story. From day one, way before I even considered running a crowdfunding campaign, I had built up a story (largely through blogging and social media) about setting up Baked (i.e. why I did it, what it was about, week by week diary-esque. accounts). This meant by the time I decided to crowdfund I already had a) a well documented and read story and b) an army of supporters. People were able to delve into Baked Worthing's history and importantly, get to know me and my motivations."

Lauren Roffey, Raising Agent, Baked Worthing

Have any questions so far?

You can reach us at support@crowdfunder.co.uk

We always love to hear feedback, so let us know how we can make this pack better.



Part 3 coming soon

Download 'Running your project' from 12 January visit:
www.crowdfunder.co.uk/jumpstart