



Real Life Affiliate Training Guide

Long gone are the days when you could slap a banner on your website and make sales through affiliate programs. Website surfers are immune to banners and “suffer” from what is commonly called “banner blindness”. Graphics are pretty and still have their place, but if you want to get serious about affiliate marketing you’ll need to go further than that.

This affiliate marketing guide includes 13 surefire ways to help you generate an income from the Real Life Affiliates program. The great thing is you can apply these tips to all the affiliate programs you are involved with.

The Real Life affiliate program has several products that you can promote; including a report, ebook, teleseminars and one-on-one coaching. You can find our affiliate center at RealLifeAffiliates.com.

We offer a variety of promotional material for your use. You’ll find graphics, special reports, short and long ad text, articles as well as some product reviews customized for our program.

So let’s get started!

1. Get to know our products. You can better promote a product if you are familiar with it and like it. We’re not just saying this to get you to buy our product, but a personal recommendation and good product knowledge goes a long way.

You may not be able to try every product you promote, but it is well known that affiliates that use the product will make better sales. So, we make our affiliates the following offer:

Get 40% discount on our [Journey to Joy](#) ebook

Our other products include:

- Life Coaching: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/coaching-packages.html>
- School’s Out: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/schools-out.html>
- Guidance Reports: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/guidance.html>

2. Write Your Own Recommendations & Ads: You can always take any pre-written text provided in our affiliate program and see how they work for you, but it’s generally better to write your own recommendations and ads. They add a personal touch that will persuade people to find out more.

Tips for Writing Ads & Recommendations

Be Aware of Your Target Reader’s Needs: Understand the benefits (most important!) and features of the products that will appeal to them.

Share Your Experience: Give concrete examples of how the product has worked for you. Don’t just say you love it...illustrate the *benefits* it has provided to you.

For example, one might say: "I was really struggling with trying to balance my job and family. It seemed like I was constantly being pulled one way or the other. I felt guilty that I couldn't dedicate more time for each but I just couldn't seem to make it all work. I was exhausted at the end of each day and dreaded mornings.

After just 3 coaching sessions with Aurelia, the Real Life Coach, I had a better understanding of what was causing part of the problem and how to fix it. I implemented suggestions she offered and I already see an improvement in my time. I'm able to prioritize my day to make better use of my time. I'm learning to let some of the small, unimportant items go or to outsource them and my family is finally accepting the new routine. I feel great, more relaxed and definitely more energized at the end of each day. "

Give Information, Not Necessarily A Sales Pitch: They'll get a sales pitch when they get to our website. Keep the tone informational and friendly...gain trust of your reader first. Your job is to warm up the visitor to our product. We'll close the sale.

More Internet Writing Tips

- **Use a provocative, attention-getting headline:** Ask a question: give a hard to resist benefit; tell your visitor how you've benefited from the product.

- **Prove your claims:** Don't say, "It worked for me". Say, HOW it worked for you. List concrete benefits of using Real Life products, how you implemented the use of the product and what results it produced.

- **Avoid excessive exclamation points!!!!!!** It looks like insincere hype.

- **Avoid excessive capitalization.** WRITING IN ALL IN CAPITAL LETTERS IS LIKE SHOUTING! Don't yell at your readers, okay?

- **Keep it simple.** People tend to skim while reading on the net and it can be hard on the eyes. Some ways to do this are to:

- Break up your paragraphs into bit-sized chunks
- Use headlines and subheadings
- Write in short sentences with simple language

If you'd like to build upon our pre-written text, you can do so here:

Short ad text: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/all-short-ads.html>

Long ad text: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/all-long-ads.html>

3. Never Expect a Banner or a Graphic to Do All the Work: "Banner blindness" is a common phenomenon as we've already mentioned. In other words, people ignore banners. Although graphics can grab the attention of a website visitor, text and information is what they're looking for when they want to buy.

4. Create a Whole Page Review Dedicated to the Product: Now, we're not trying to bully our way into your website by asking for a whole page. The fact of the matter is, full pages work. Your full-page feature will serve as the focal point of many of your promotions.

Benefits of Full Page Recommendations:

- Permits targeting specific keyword phrases to rank well on search engines.
- Commands your visitor's full attention.

- Allows you to go into detail about why you like and recommend the product. Include product benefits, features, personal experiences, graphics and anything else you feel is relevant. You can NEVER give too much information.

- Helps you warm up your visitor to the product before sending them to the website for a sales pitch.

How to Use Your Full Page Recommendation:

- Optimize your page for search engine visitors. Do your keyword research (<http://www.wordtracker.com>) to see what people are looking for and optimize your page for that. Include your chosen keyword phrase(s) in your title tag, description tag, page content, etc.

- Link to your full page recommendation from various areas of your website. Perhaps put a graphic and a little introductory information on your home page. Then, you can give your visitors the option of following the link to the sales website or reading more about your product review.

- Recommend Real Life products to others in email or on message boards (only where allowed), and send them to your product review page. An affiliate link is often looked upon with suspicion and may not be allowed on a message board. Besides, you know these people; they want to know YOUR opinion. What they don't want a sales pitch from us.

5. Write Articles on Related Topics to Draw in Traffic & Interest: Write articles about:

How a personal or life coaching can benefit a business

Why one-on-one time is crucial for a healthy family relationship

How tough it is to find a work/life balance

Tips for raising children or dealing with certain aspects of parenting

...anything related to finding balance, family and parenting. You can include a subtle recommendation for the product within the article or in your signature line.

Article Writing Tips:

- Provide "real" information and tips in your articles. Make sure it doesn't sound like a sales pitch. Any recommendations you make should be added value to your article. The recommendation should not be its main purpose.

- Some marketers say to never put your recommendation or what you are selling in the body of your article. They say it belongs in your byline. But let's be serious. People will read your article, but they don't always read the byline. They are just grateful to get good information. As long as you write a highly informative article, your recommendation certainly has a place within the article itself.

- Not sure what to write about? This is a common problem. Here are a few ideas, but you are encouraged to come up with your own ideas, too:

a) Write a "Top 5" or "Top 10" article regarding issues working parents face when trying to balance work and family. Include a short explanation of each. For example: Top 5 Issues Working Parents Face When...

b) Expand on the "Top" issues to write a full article on each issue, with Real Life products being a solution.

c) Other article ideas:

- Making Mornings Run Smoothly
- Tips for Parenting Rebellious Teens

- Keeping Kids Active during the Summer Months
- Extracurricular Activities: How many is too many
- Delegate to Gain More Time in Your Day
- Taking “Me” Time to Save the Insanity

When writing your articles, always keep your target reader and her desires in mind.

Getting Your Articles Published:

Of course, you should publish your articles on your website and in your newsletter. You can also find other web publishers to run your articles as well. Many will not mind the inclusion of an affiliate link, as long as your article contains good, solid content.

Hide Your Affiliate Links in Your Email Articles:

If you'd prefer to keep people from seeing that your recommendation comes with an affiliate link, you can do the following:

1. Redirect a page from your website to your affiliate link, so it will read something like: yourdomain.com/internet-based-mom/ but it will send visitors directly to the ebook sales page with your affiliate link. Check if your hosting control panel allows for easy redirects.
2. Send traffic to your full page recommendation page. You can send people to your website to read your full review. That way, you don't have to include your affiliate link in the article.

Where to Send Your Articles for Publishing & Consideration

We have compiled a list of places that accept Ezine article submissions. Be sure to read all the submission guidelines before sending your articles.

www.LadyPens.com
www.Wahm-Articles.com
www.GreatArticlesForMoms.com
www.FamilyContent.com
www.GoArticles.com
www.EzineArticles.com
www.Amazines.com

Make your articles available from your website. Include a note on your articles which states they are available for reprint as long as your byline and links remain intact.

Offer your articles to members of your networking groups or people you know that have newsletters targeting your market. Generally, you should not post your articles to groups unless they specifically allow this. Just let them know you have some free content that may interest them.

You're welcome to use our free reprint articles located in our affiliate center as well: <http://www.reallifeaffiliates.com/all-articles.html> - **BUT NOTE:** These are ***for use on your own website only***. These articles cannot be submitted for publication on other websites.

6. Promote the products in Your Opt-in Newsletter: If you have an opt-in newsletter list, tell them about Real Life products. If you have a letter from the editor section, tell them about the product and how it has helped you. Your personal recommendations will go a long way.

7. Promote Real Life products on Highly Trafficked and Relevant Pages of Your Website: Check your website statistics to see which pages visitors view the most. These are great target areas for your promotions, especially if they are relevant to our product line.

8. Promote Real Life products in Your Signature Line: If you frequent message boards or belong to email groups that allow signatures, tell people about the great products you found. Include your signature in all your business and personal emails, too.

9. Offer a Freebie with Purchase: It doesn't hurt to give your visitors a little incentive to buy the products. You could give out a free consultation, a free ebook—whatever you think your visitors would like—when they make a purchase. Just ask them to forward their email sales receipt to you. Email receipts do not include credit card information, so it should be safe to forward this information.

10. Promote Real Life products on your thank you pages: After a visitor has made a purchase from you, give them a recommendation for Real Life products on the thank you page. They are about to leave your website, so this is a great time to give them this extra information.

11. Promote Real Life products on your custom error (404) pages: You know that page that shows up when your visitors enter a URL in wrong? Don't waste this space; use it to promote an affiliate product.

12. Promote Real Life products in your thank you emails: Whether you're saying thanks for joining the newsletter or for buying a product, always give your email recipients a product recommendation. This is the perfect opportunity for a backend sale.

13. Autoresponder Courses: Create an Autoresponder course on a topic related to Family, Parenting and Finding balance, or possibly one on each. Include lots of great information about the topic and subtly promote the product at the end of, or within, your lessons. You can deliver the course every day for a certain period, once a week or whatever frequency you choose.