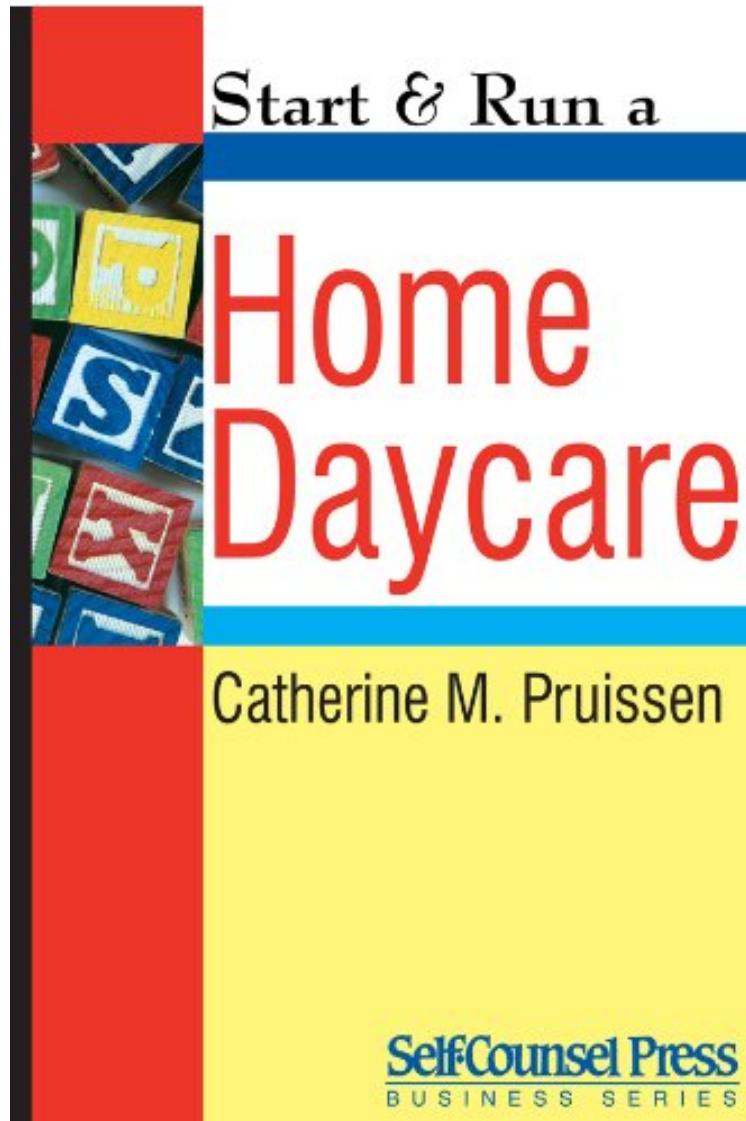


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## Start Run a Home Daycare (Start Run Business Series)

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**Catherine M. Pruissen : Start Run a Home Daycare (Start Run Business Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Start Run a Home Daycare (Start Run Business Series):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Good InvestmentBy Wa MomThis book is well organized and very informative. It gives you a lot of resources for deciding to start a home daycare. Unfortunately, I couldn't afford to start my own daycare - I simply couldn't afford the startup costs - but if you've got a home and some money to invest into starting your own business, this book is a good purchase.39 of 39 people found the following review helpful. a great start to learningBy Jennifer WolmanSince the birth of my first born child I've been pondering an in-

home daycare. I had no idea where to start and this book was perfect for that. It gave me direction and helped to answer questions. The book has a C.D. with forms which has been very helpful. A wonderful resource to the start of your potential business. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Decent book By Khosmo2 Lots of good tips and advice for starting up. Making sure you're ready, and checklist are really good. Easy read.

Child care is a much sought-after service today. If you love working with children and want to run your own business, a home daycare could be the perfect choice.

From the Inside Flap CHILD CARE is a much sought-after service today. If you love working with children and want to run your own business, a home daycare could be the perfect choice. The initial cash investment can be minimal and the demand for safe, nurturing care for children is always high. Providing quality child care and making a profit isn't child's play. Caring for children is as challenging and multifaceted as parenting itself. In addition, you need to master record keeping, licensing requirements, and all other tasks associated with running a small business. This book will help you get started right and keep your daycare running smoothly and successfully. It answers questions such as: - How do I find out if there is a need for a daycare in my area? - How do I get my daycare license? - How much should I charge? - What kind of policies should I set? - What activities should I include in my daycare program? - What equipment will I need? - How do I gain and keep parents' confidence? From deciding whether a home daycare is for you to planning healthy, appealing meals, from keeping the books to keeping the children happy, Start Run a Home Daycare provides the information you need to build a thriving business caring for children. About the Author Catherine M. Pruisen is the CEO of About Child Care Consumer Services and developer of the child-care Internet site, Child Care Online ([www.childcare.net](http://www.childcare.net)). She ran a successful home day care for eight years. Excerpt. copy; Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved. Herbert Hoover once said, "Children are our most valuable natural resource." They are, in fact, our next world leaders. The love, the spirit, the zest for life, the quest for knowledge, and the respect for every living thing they learn from us today will govern all their tomorrows and shape the future for generations to come. With the ever-increasing pressure on women to work outside the home, much of what our children are learning about themselves and the world at large is coming from the nurturing and understanding of loving child-care providers. It takes a certain kind of person to undertake such a task. This chapter will help you decide if you are that kind of person. 1. The Entrepreneurial Spirit Setting up your home to provide care for children can be the road to independence. While people may have many reasons for opening their own business, the quest to be their own boss usually tops that list. Self-employment and the personal freedom it allows is a cherished dream for many people. But that dream, that longing to succeed, that urge to strike out on your own, can become a reality. No matter where you live in North America, there are parents who need someone to provide care for their children. It is estimated that close to 1.4 million children use paid child-care services in Canada but there are only about 500,000 regulated spaces. In the United States, it is estimated that 10,300,000 children under 13 are currently in need of some form of child care. When you also consider that, according to David Wanetick, author of the book "Hot Sector Investing," the child-care industry is booming and has been targeted as one of the hot growth sectors of the new millennium, with revenues of \$30 billion based on industry estimates, you can see the potential for this type of business. In fact, about 5,000 new centres are cropping up each year, as indicated by the National Child Care Association. Getting your dream out of the shadows and into the "open for business" spotlight is going to take a lot of planning, training, and sheer determination. In this book, I'll show you how to get there. Before we get started, however, you'll want to be absolutely certain that the business of caring for children is really for you. 2. The Business of Child Care Make no mistake about it. Opening a daycare will require an investment, but it will be an investment in you and in your dreams. If you plan to open a home daycare, your investment may be more in time than money, although you'll still need to purchase equipment, advertise, and perhaps take training courses or renovate areas of your home. If you are interested in an out-of-home daycare center, your expenses will be much greater: rent, renovations, large equipment purchases, staff, and extensive advertising. Unlike parents who work a standard eight-hour shift, your days are likely to include many twelve-hour shifts. If a desperate parent calls to say he or she is stranded with a flat tire on the freeway and will be late picking Janey up, you can't simply say, "Sorry, I shut up shop at 5 p.m. You'll find Janey waiting for you somewhere out on the street." You have the responsibility to look after the child, no matter how late the parent or how urgent your own appointment. As an entrepreneur, you'll find yourself resembling Bartholomew Cubbins in the Dr. Seuss tale The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins; you'll be wearing a new hat every time you turn around. From the moment you open your doors, you'll be owner, cook, bottle washer, diaper changer, storyteller, maintenance person, bookkeeper, advertising consultant, inventory clerk, parent counselor, administrator, and much, much more. You can rest assured that at some point it will seem overwhelming. The hours are long, stress is ever-present, recognition for this type of work may seem nonexistent, and quite often finding the stamina and ingenuity to entertain children all day requires real dedication. But to anyone who values the innocence, wonder, and unconditional love of children, this line of work can be a source of pride and pleasure as well as income. 3. Why Daycare? There are as many reasons for opening one's door to daycare as there are providers. The most

common reason is that a parent wants to be home with his or her own children while still contributing to the family budget. Other daycare providers want playmates for their children or want to enhance their children's social development. You can feel good about offering a community service desperately needed by many parents in your neighborhood who are searching for long-lasting, quality care for their children. Running your own business and providing a necessary service can give you a feeling of accomplishment and build your self-esteem. Whatever your reasons, you must realize that the service you provide will have a profound impact on the lives of young children at a time when they are most vulnerable. It is during the first three years of life that a child develops most emotionally. Young children need to be held, cuddled, played with, and talked to. By fulfilling these emotional needs as well as taking care of the basic physical needs to be fed, dry, and comfortable, you will build a foundation for "your" children that will enhance their later skills and relationships. There will be many rewards for you as a child-care provider. Each will make your work treasurable, memorable. In the words of Helene Sallans, a former daycare director, "My greatest success is when we had the children from infancy right up to school age, and they went away and came back just to visit...."