

Freestyle Note: Kia ora whanau - use this space to write a message & let your loved one know why you thought they'd be interested in this article.

How to make money BUSKING #4

In my busking articles 1-3 I've focused on singing or music.

But when it comes to busking there's no end to what you can offer as a street performer. Your busking licence is actually a street 'performing' licence - with 'performing' being the key word.

Here's a list of other types of performances you could do:

- Dancing.
- Poi Dance & Waiata
- Chalk Art.
- Juggling.
- Bubble Blowing
- Mime.
- Puppetry.
- Harakeke.
- Performance art.
- Magic tricks.
- Acrobatics.
- Reciting poetry.
- Storytelling.

Do you have any other ideas that'd work?





More Busking / Street Performance Tips

Tips we've already discussed:

- USE SIGNAGE & BUSINESS CARDS
- HAVE A BUSKING LICENSE
- TRY TO FORGET ABOUT THE MONEY
- BE OPEN & ENGAGING
- BE YOURSELF
- ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR BENEFACTOR!
- BRING A MASSIVE WATER BOTTLE (& GO 2 THE TOILET BEFOREHAND)

Other helpful Tips:

Be good!

If you're using busking to practice your instrument, make sure that before you start busking that you are ready.

It can be cute to do one mistake, but if you chain them invariably, it's not so cool anymore. People will just leave and you'll feel sorry for yourself for not being good enough. The world is a stage but busking is no different than other concerts. Come prepared and be good! **It'll take away the stress from playing in the street if you know the songs inside out.**

Link-up

If you have family or friends that'd make a good busking team then ask them. If you have a fledgling band - then busking is a great way to promote yourselves.

Dress the part

As an artist you should understand that the image you're projecting is hyper important. If you're dressing shabby, people will take you for a beggar. You're not a beggar. You're showcasing your music to the world ... Make a good impression, use your persona and dress the part!

Be friendly to other buskers

Especially in big cities, there might be well established buskers or busy areas where all the buskers converge cos they know they'll make a lot of money.

Choose your location / strip / pitch well

You should choose a place where there are a lot of passers-by but not too much (avoid rush hours), where people can sit and listen to your music, where you can be heard well (avoid places where there is work going on or other buskers 100m from you).

If your location / strip / pitch is already taken, don't hesitate to come and ask the busker in place how long he's planning to stay and when you can come back. Otherwise go somewhere else. Always be friendly. The same person might keep your spot for you when you come back and you should do the same for him if he asks that of you. You can even collaborate and share the revenues.

Be Aware that playing at night can be tricky especially if you're surrounded by drunkards. If you feel safe then, go ahead as a night performance could financially pay-off.

Understand and compliment the environment

Nothing worse than a sound that conflicts with all of the other sounds around it. A big part of receiving donations is how you can improve an environment rather than invade it. Some places call for a big energetic show that pulls people in from far and wide, and some do not. The easiest way to get a complaint is to set up on a strip that has a relaxed vibe and the you go nuts in your set. People will then notice you for all the wrong reasons, even if you are good. Keep the local shop owners happy and some may even ask you to come in and play to the customers who have been sticking around due to your sweet tunes.

