

BUSINESS VALUE & CONTINUITY ASSESSMENT

Even if you're not looking to sell, this highlights what buyers often consider. It's not a test—just a look at traits that can make a business easier to run, grow, or hand off. The goal is awareness, not perfection.

Financial Clarity

- My financial records are organized and up to date (e.g., QuickBooks, CPA-reviewed)
- I can clearly explain all revenue streams and any financial irregularities (e.g., owner add-backs, one-time expenses, seasonal changes)
- My P&L, balance sheet, and cash flow statements are readily available and accurate
- I've minimized or clearly documented personal expenses run through the business
- I've separated one-time events (e.g., PPP loans, settlements, COVID spikes/dips) from core earnings

Operational Structure

- I've documented standard operating procedures (SOPs) for key functions
- My business can run without me being involved in every decision
- No single employee holds critical knowledge or control (no "tribal knowledge")
- I've started delegating key responsibilities to a capable team
- Our systems (CRM, inventory, billing, etc.) are digital, transferable, and up to date

Customers & Revenue Stability

- No single customer accounts for more than 15–20% of our total revenue
- We have strong customer retention or recurring revenue (e.g., contracts, memberships, long-term relationships)
- We have no unpaid invoices in dispute or aging receivables causing issues
- Our pricing and margins are healthy and sustainable across time

Vendor & Supply Chain Resilience

- I'm not dependent on one vendor for mission-critical products or services
- I have multiple sources or contingency options for key supplies

- I'm not exposed to sudden price hikes, product shortages, or single-supplier risk
- We have written agreements or terms documented for key supplier relationships

Legal & Compliance Health

- The business is in good standing legally and with any necessary licensing or certifications
- There are no active or pending lawsuits, liens, or regulatory disputes
- Employee, contractor, lease, and vendor agreements are current and documented
- Any intellectual property (e.g., website, logos, domain) is owned and transferrable

Brand & Reputation

- The business has a positive online reputation (e.g., Google reviews, BBB, social media)
- Our name, website, and brand materials are professionally presented and easy to transfer
- We have no major unresolved customer complaints or negative press
- Customers associate the business with reliability, service, or quality

Growth & Positioning Potential

- We have a clear niche or strong differentiators in the market
- The business is not easily replaced by DIY tools, automation, or AI
- There are realistic opportunities for growth (e.g., new markets, products, systems)
- Our margins and pricing support long-term sustainability or expansion

Boxes Checked

18–25

10–17

0–9

What It Might Suggest

Strong structure and higher buyer confidence.

Solid footing with room to boost value.

Still marketable if aligned with the right buyer.