Freelancers Forum: Is Independent Consulting Right for Me?

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Advantages of Independent Consulting

- Autonomy – choose what you want to work on
- Variety – work with multiple clients
- Flexibility – choose when/where to work
- Control – choose your own benefits, equipment, travel, etc.
- Income – get paid for the value you bring
- Stability – diversify risk across multiple clients
- Tax Savings – keep more of what you earn
Disadvantages of Independent Consulting

- Marketing – you have to find the work
- Requires discipline – must find internal motivation
- Work-life balance – no paid-time off
- Expenses – buy your own equipment, supplies, benefits, travel
- Administration – lots of non-billable tasks
- Inconsistency – workloads can be highly variable
"Is independent consulting right for me?"
"It depends."

- Personal values
- Desired lifestyle
- Likes and dislikes
- Risk tolerance
- Versatility

- People skills
- Technical skills
- Family situation
- Personal finances
- Discipline and motivation
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