

Want to actually make money with n8n? Here's a simple system you can copy.

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Most people learn n8n and make small automations. Cool... but how do you turn it into **real income**?

This document shows you a **clear plan**: find what's growing with **Exploding Topics**, then use **n8n** to build and deliver a small service or product people will pay for.

You can do this if you're a **beginner** or **advanced**.

What you'll build (in plain English)

A tiny "machine" that does this:

1. **Find a hot idea** with [Exploding Topics](#).
 2. **Turn it into offers** people want (service or mini-product).
 3. **Use n8n** to create the assets **automatically** (emails, posts, landing text, checklists).
 4. **Deliver** it to a client, either:
 - You **host n8n** and charge monthly, or
 - You **set up their n8n** and hand it over for a setup fee.
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Tools (only these)

- **Exploding Topics** (to find rising topics)
- **n8n** (to automate work, includes an OpenAI node)

Optional but helpful: subscribe to the Exploding Topics newsletter and have n8n read those emails. (Still only ET + n8n.)

Step 1 — Pick a money-ready trend (10 minutes)

1. Go to Exploding Topics.
2. Pick a **category** you understand (e.g., fitness, e-commerce, creators, local business, AI tools).
3. Choose **one** “rising” topic that looks useful for business (not a random meme).

Quick checks (plain and simple):

- Can a business use this to **save time** or **make sales**?
- Are people already **talking about it** online?
- Can you explain it to a 7th grader in one sentence?

ChatGPT prompt (copy-paste into n8n’s OpenAI node later):

You are my “Trend to Money” helper.
Trend: {TREND_NAME}.
Explain in one sentence what it is.
List 5 business problems this trend can solve.
For each problem, give a simple paid offer I can sell for \$200–\$1000.
Return in bullet points.

Step 2 — Choose your money path (pick 1)

A) “Done-for-you” service (fastest)

- You build and run the n8n workflow weekly for the client.
- You host it (self-host n8n or n8n Cloud).
- **Charge monthly** (e.g., \$149–\$499 to start).

B) “Set it up for me” (one-time setup + small support)

- You set up **their** n8n account/server.
- Import your workflow.
- They own it.
- **Charge a setup fee** (e.g., \$300–\$1,500) + optional support.

ChatGPT prompt (offer planning):

Trend: {TREND_NAME}

Audience: {WHO} (e.g., Etsy sellers, local gyms, YouTube creators).

Make 2 simple paid offers:

- One monthly service (I host and run the workflow).
- One one-time setup (I build it in their n8n).

For each, include price, deliverables, and success metric.

Return as a short checklist.

Step 3 — Build your base n8n workflow (starter version)

We'll make a **simple “idea-to-assets” workflow** you can reuse for any trend.

What it does:

- You enter a trend (or have n8n read it from email).
- n8n asks OpenAI (inside n8n) to generate:
 - 3 offer ideas,
 - a short landing page blurb,
 - one email pitch,
 - 3 social posts.
- n8n returns everything in one clean package (a single response you can copy-paste).

Nodes to add in n8n (step-by-step):

1. Trigger

- Easiest: **Webhook** trigger. You'll send a simple JSON like `{"trend": "Notion templates for teachers"}`
- Or use **Manual** trigger while you test.
- Optional later: **Email (IMAP)** trigger that watches for the Exploding Topics newsletter.

2. Set node

- Create a field called `trend` (or map it from the Webhook/Email).

3. OpenAI (Chat) node

- Model: GPT-5 (or your available model).

System prompt (copy-paste):

You turn trends into simple, sellable assets for small businesses.
Keep language 8th-grade simple. Be concrete.

User prompt (copy-paste):

Trend: {{\$json.trend}}

- 1) Explain the trend in 1 simple sentence.
- 2) List 3 paid offers I can sell to {AUDIENCE}: price, what I deliver weekly, success metric.
- 3) Write a 60-word landing page section (headline + 2 bullets + call to action).
- 4) Write 1 short cold email pitch (under 120 words).
- 5) Write 3 social posts (platform-neutral).

Return in clean Markdown with clear headings.

4. (Optional) Format

- Use a **Set** node to add a title like {{\$json.trend}} – Client Pack.

5. Respond to Webhook (or Return in test)

- Return the Markdown from the OpenAI node.
- Now you can copy-paste the output into an email, doc, or Skool post.

That's your **base workflow**. It already saves you time and gives you client-ready assets.

Step 4 — Upgrade it with the ET newsletter (optional but cool)

If you get the Exploding Topics newsletter:

1. Add **Email > IMAP Email** node as the **Trigger**.

2. Filter on subject like “Exploding Topics” (or the newsletter’s exact subject line).
3. Use a **Function** or **Regex** node to pull the main topic names from the email body.
4. **Loop** over each topic → send each into the **OpenAI (Chat)** node.
5. Combine results with **Item Lists** → return one big Markdown package.

ChatGPT “extract topics” prompt (if you prefer AI parsing instead of Regex):

You’ll receive the raw text of a newsletter.
Find up to 5 trend names mentioned.
Return only a JSON array of strings with the trend names.
Text:
{{RAW_EMAIL_TEXT}}

For folks who want to go further, the **first 10 people** who join **AI Titus+** get **10 custom trends they want to monitor on Exploding Topics** included. No hard sell—just a small boost if you’re ready to build faster. Sign up, space is limited:
<https://bit.ly/aititusplus> **Make sure to message Ai Titus when you join to activate this offer!**

Step 5 — Validate with one real person (same day)

Send 10 quick messages to people who could use this (local shops, creators, niche sellers).

ChatGPT prompt (outreach draft):

Audience: {WHO}
Offer: I build and run an n8n workflow that {RESULT} each week using {TREND_NAME}.
Write a short friendly DM and a short email.
Goal: book a 15-min call. No hype, keep it plain.

Step 6 — Deliver the work

Option A: You host n8n (monthly retainer)

- **Self-host** n8n on a small server (simple: a cheap VPS + n8n Docker).
- Or use **n8n Cloud**.
- You keep control. You run the workflow each week.
- **Charge monthly** (start with \$149–\$499).
- Deliver: the weekly Markdown pack + any custom bits you add.

Delivery checklist (copy-paste for your client):

- ☒ Weekly “Trend Pack” (Markdown): offers, landing text, email pitch, 3 posts
- ☒ One small tweak request per week
- ☒ Monthly summary of what worked

Option B: You set up their n8n (one-time + optional support)

- Make them an n8n account (or help them set up self-host).
- In your n8n, click **Export** on your workflow (JSON file).
- In their n8n, click **Import** and paste the JSON.
- Test run together on a call.
- **Charge a setup fee** (\$300–\$1,500) + optional support.

Handover checklist:

- ☒ Workflow imported + test run recorded (screen share)
- ☒ Clear instructions: how to change the trend topic / when it runs
- ☒ One-page mini-guide (you can generate this from the OpenAI node too)

ChatGPT prompt (one-page mini-guide):

Write a one-page quickstart for a non-technical business owner. Explain how to run the n8n workflow, how to change the trend name, and what the weekly output looks like. Write in plain, friendly language.

Three ready-to-use workflow ideas (choose one and ship)

1. Creator Post Kit

- Input: One trend from Exploding Topics.

- Output: 5 video ideas + 5 hooks + 1 script outline + 3 captions.
- Client: YouTubers, TikTokers, newsletter writers.

2. E-commerce Angle Finder

- Input: Trend related to niche products.
- Output: 3 product angles, 3 email subject lines, 3 product descriptions.
- Client: Shopify/etsy sellers.

3. Local Business Promo Pack

- Input: Local trend (e.g., “IV therapy”, “pickleball”).
- Output: 1 landing section, 1 promo email, 3 social posts, 1 FAQ.
- Client: clinics, gyms, clubs.

ChatGPT prompt (universal asset generator for any of the above):

Trend: {{\$json.trend}}

Audience: {WHO}

Goal: {e.g., more sales calls / more product page visits}

Create:

- 5 ideas
- 5 hooks
- 1 short script outline (5 bullets)
- 3 captions

Keep it simple. Use plain words. Return in Markdown.

Pricing (start simple)

- **Monthly (you host):** \$149–\$499 starting point.
- **One-time setup (they host):** \$300–\$1,500.
- **Optional support:** \$99–\$299/month for tweaks.

Tip: Raise prices after 2–3 happy clients.

Common pitfalls (and easy fixes)

- **Too fancy too fast.** Ship the base workflow first. Add extras later.
 - **Vague output.** Tighten your prompts. Ask for bullet lists and word counts.
 - **Wrong audience.** Pick a niche you understand (or can learn quickly).
 - **No follow-up.** Put a weekly reminder in n8n to ping leads (simple Cron → OpenAI → email draft you copy-paste).
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Copy-paste “What I do” (use in DMs/posts)

I help [audience] use the newest trends to make content and offers faster.

I build a tiny n8n workflow that turns one trend into ready-to-post assets each week.

Want me to host it for you (monthly) or set it up in your own n8n (one-time)?

Wrap-up

You don’t need a huge app. You need a **small, useful system**:

1. Find a rising trend
2. Turn it into offers and assets
3. Automate with n8n
4. Deliver + get paid

Start with one client. Keep it simple. Improve each week.

Friendly extra for early movers

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