

Martina Walsh

KnitAnything.com



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After working as a software developer for 20 years, Martina Walsh wanted to be her own boss. Her skills and experience, combined with a life-long hobby in knitting, sparked the clever idea for KnitAnything.com.

When her youngest child started secondary school, Martina returned to college for a year to upskill on the latest computer systems.

Starting in 2014, she designed the software for KnitAnything.com; a website which designs knitting patterns that allow the knitter to knit practically any jumper or dress. In three steps the knitter selects their style, size, and yarn type; their own measurements and stitch; and finally, they purchase the pattern for just \$8 (€7) to knit their jumper or dress.

KnitAnything.com went live in February 2017 and Martina is currently running the business herself in Limerick. She has plans to expand the website's offering by including more patterns such as cardigans, hats, tea cosies, and more. While her software can be used worldwide, Martina is finding the US — with its 9 million knitters — her main target market.

Taking part in ACORNS was a real confidence boost for Martina as networking with other women also starting their own businesses encouraged her to step outside her boundaries. The honest opinions of her fellow ACORNS helped Martina see her own strengths and weaknesses.

Running a business can have its challenges but the support she received from ACORNS and the Local Enterprise Office has helped motivate Martina.

And while she may be busy running her own business, Martina still finds the time to relax and enjoy knitting new projects — all patterns from KnitAnything.com of course!

Providing early stage female entrepreneurs, living in rural Ireland, with the knowledge, support and networking opportunities to meet and even exceed their current aspirations.