

MAKING THE MOST OF
MYOB[®]
BUSINESS SOFTWARE

8th edition

Veechi Curtis

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Foreword

When Veechi Curtis first rang me in late 1995 to tell me of her plans to write a book about MYOB business software, I was thrilled and excited for a number of reasons.

Firstly, we had received many requests over the years from businesses wanting more information on how they could maximise their investment, streamline their work or tweak MYOB software one way or the other.

Secondly, through reading Veechi's incisive software reviews, I'd developed an enormous respect for her knowledge and thoroughness, but more particularly for her ability to dig beneath the surface and make her readers aware of the true nature of the subject matter she covers, whatever it may be.

And thirdly, Veechi placed high importance on having the MYOB Technical Support team collaborate with her on the book. This seemed a very sensible way of guaranteeing that the book hit the mark.

MYOB software has changed the way small businesses do their accounts. What was once viewed as an unenviable, even despised task, is now sometimes even looked forward to. Why?

MYOB is more than just software. Although we understand that businesses need software to help do their accounts, produce Business Activity Statements and get ready for their tax returns, we want to do more than that. We want to help with everyday business processes, turning tasks that were formerly cumbersome and time-consuming into quick and easy activities. With the new electronic payment and banking features that are part of MYOB M-Powered services, we've not only revolutionised the way businesses pay their suppliers and employees, and how customers pay businesses, but we've found many practical ways to contribute to the efficiency and growth of small business.

Hand-in-hand with continuous software development, we're always striving to provide customers with a variety of tools to make the most of our software and business services, including a web site crammed with resources and online help, high quality user guides, on-site consultants and premium telephone support. This book is a perfect complement to these resources.

It's now eight years since the first edition of *Making the Most of MYOB* was released. It's been a staggering success, by any yardstick, establishing itself as an Australian bestseller, month after month, year after year. Over 65,000 copies have been sold and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

Making the Most of MYOB is now in its eighth edition, bringing you right up to date with a myriad of changes. MYOB now offer a complete range of business software

and services, including transaction-based facilities such as MYOB M-Powered Payments and M-Powered Superannuation, point-of-sale software such as the new MYOB RetailBasics and RetailManager, as well as custom reporting tools in conjunction with the MYOB Developer's program.

I am honoured to have been given the opportunity to write this Foreword. The ingenious question and answer approach makes this book easily accessible to everyone, creating an invaluable resource that, in my opinion, should reside on every user's bookshelf.

Veechi has, as usual, been thorough and single-minded in her quest to cover as much ground as possible and to leave no stone unturned. And she's done it with eloquence. The result is truly stunning. I'm confident that it will indeed help you make the most of your MYOB business software.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Shofer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'B'.

Brad Shofer
Co-founder
MYOB Australia

Acknowledgments

This book was written with the assistance of many people at MYOB, in particular Andrew Stebbing, Alison Patchett, Duane Davison, Mario Galevski and Brad Shofer. Thanks also to the Certified Consultant network for their generous exchange of ideas, tips and workarounds and to my stupendously organised night-owl editor, Maryanne Phillips. And of course, thanks to John, Daniel, Isla, Angus and Finbar for their wonderful good humour and affection.

About the author

Veechi Curtis (BBus, ASA) is a qualified accountant and specialist consultant to small business on financial software. She has written professionally for many years and has been a regular columnist and contributor to the Sydney Morning Herald, Australian PC World, Australian Personal Computer, CCH Australia and other publications. She lives with her husband and three children in the Blue Mountains.

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