



Suitable for:



How it Works:



Pros:



Cons:

Factoring

Manufacturers or retailers with a large volume of unpaid sales

Factors purchase a company's outstanding invoices, assuming customer credit risk and advancing up to 80 percent of a business' receivables

Immediate access to capital for an upfront fee

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Sale or Leaseback Deals

Restaurants, medical facilities, construction companies, manufacturers that own costly equipment, or businesses that own expensive real estate property

Business sells assets for a lump sum, freeing capital, and then leases assets back

Turns illiquid fixed capital into available working capital

Equipment and real estate costs will be higher in the long term, despite potential tax savings of writing off lease payments. Property leaseback requires long-term commitments

Micro loans

Businesses that need small amounts of short-term ad hoc credit

Micro-lending institutions provides loan based on credit rating/collateral

Less documentation and lower credit requirements than a bank

Extremely high costs, requires collateral and puts strain on balance sheet

Royalty Financing

New businesses that need growth capital until their products or services go to market

Royalty financing firms lend based on projected revenues and take a share of revenues once they are received. Payoffs vary from five to 10 years

Less costly than selling equity in a young company

Costs can exceed those of bank loans, requires solid long-term sales forecasts

Merchant Cash Advance

Retailers, restaurants and other service-based businesses with a high volume of credit card sales

Independent finance companies give merchant a lump sum in exchange for a percentage of future credit-card sales, based on sales history

Allows a business to leverage solid sales record, offers flexible re-payment schedules

High cost

Purchase-order Financing

Businesses that need capital to help them fill a large purchase order

Business receives an advance against a signed purchase order to help fund manufacturing and fulfillment

Reasonable costs, readily available, credit matches order cycle, financing depends more on the credit standing of the business' customer than on its own

Must have a signed purchase order, financing depends more on the credit standing of the business' customer than on its own

Corporate Payment Card

Businesses that need to fill gaps in their working capital or have predictable cash deficiencies in their order cycles

Corporate card is used to pay suppliers and other business costs

Flexible limits, off-balance sheet and unsecured, generally interest-free and low cost

High interest rate if payments are missed, potential card acceptance challenges