21 Serious Alternatives to eBay for Online Sellers and Buyers

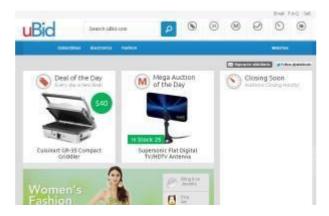
Looking for some serious alternatives to eBay in order to buy or sell your goods? Below are 21 of the best and most popular eBay alternatives for those who are fed up with the Internet giant and want to take their business elsewhere.

Who is Looking for Alternatives to eBay Anyway?

All criticism and mudslinging aside, eBay continues to dominate the Internet as a premiere online auction and marketplace. But even with hundreds of millions of registered users, over \$16 billion in revenue, and consistent year-over-year growth, many are really not happy with the platform citing high seller fees, intense competition, fraudulent activity, weak markets, and poor customer service.

That said, here are 20 serious (and often cheaper) alternatives to eBay for sellers and buyers online. Each one offers it's own unique services and setup that differs from eBay and that may be better suited to specific industries and business models. Though you may want to continue to maintain a presence on eBay, you should definitely give some of these other platforms a chance to increase your exposure and sales, and ultimately improve the buying experience:

1. uBID.com



With over six million active members, Ubid is a popular eCommerce site that offers a wide range of over 5 million products (brand new, used, and refurbished) in dozens of categories including: consumer electronics, computers, home and garden, and jewellery. Just like eBay, these goods are sold directly by uBid and its pool of certified third-party merchants through auction listings or fixed-price listings.

2. Artfire



Artfire is an online marketplace focused on crafts, craft supplies, vintage goods, and fine art. Unlike eBay, sellers pay no fees unless they choose to open a Pro account. In that case, they pay a monthly subscription fee. There are several helpful features to the site including: SEO tools, a coupon feature, and Google Analytics integration. Artfire also has a solid reputation for good customer service and site management.

3. Ruby Lane



Ruby Lane has a decent following among the buyers and sellers of high-end antiques, collectibles, and vintage items. Though many of the site's users consider it to be a worthwhile and profitable venue, some users, however, may find their fee structure to be a bit expensive (and even prohibitive in some cases). It really depends on what is being sold and how much the sellers build up their storefronts.

4. Bonanza



Bonanza is a general online marketplace offering fixed price listings on general merchandise, including fashion items and collectibles. Compared to other sites, Bonanza has one of the lowest fees- which is a draw for those who need to keep their overhead costs down. However, there is no auction-style buying and selling, and the site is a virtual no-name when compared to the likes of eBay.

5. Cqout



Pronounced like "seek-out," Coout is a

rapidly growing online marketplace based in the United Kingdom. The site launched in 1999, currently operates in more than 70 countries across the world. Among the major features of Cqout is its "no sale, no fee" service where a fee is collected from the final selling price of any sold item. Buyers and sellers, however, are required to pay an upfront registration fee to use the platform.

6. Ebid



Ebid offers several merchant programs including, auctions, fixed-price transactions, and storefronts. The platform has a reasonable fee structure and is also a Google Shopping Marketplace Partner. One nice feature on the site is the "Ninja listing tool" that allows for bulk uploading.

7. iOffer



iOffer supports both an auction format as well as fixed price transactions. But, what truly makes iOffer unique is its swaps and trades platform. Sellers can automatically receive a storefront when they upgrade to a seller account. The store and all listings are free, and they will only pay a fee when items are sold.

8. Amazon Marketplace



Amazon Marketplace allows online sellers to sell new, used, collectable, and refurbished items alongside Amazon's regular offerings. While you may get a good reach for your listings with Amazon, if you are looking for a break from seller fees, you won't find them here. On Amazon, sellers can create either an individual or business account, each with different features. Both accounts have the option to use the "Fulfilment by Amazon" program, allowing sellers to store and ship their products from Amazon fulfilment centres. Individual accounts will incur fees only when an item sells- a feature that may work well for low sales volume. Professional accounts have a monthly charge but also have lower selling fees than individual accounts. With a professional account

sellers can add their own products to Amazon.com, but individual accounts are limited to existing products.

9. Etsy



For those who make handmade items or sell vintage products or crafting supplies, Etsy is a serious alternative to eBay to consider. Etsy has its own unique culture and an exceptionally loyal following. Though setting up a storefront is free, fees are charged for listing items with an initial listing period of four months.

10. Newegg



Newegg got its beginning as an online retailer of computer hardware and software, but it has been expanding into more categories and inviting third party sellers to take part in the marketplace. Their categories now include: Apparel & Accessories, Arts and Crafts, Auto & Hardware, Baby, Beauty, Consumer Electronics, Home and Living, Toys, and Jewellery, among others. People who want to sell retail items should give this site a try. It is a lot like Amazon but with much cheaper fees and simpler fee structure.

11. TIAS



TIAS is one of the oldest marketplaces in the lot, offering fixed price transactions in antiques, collectibles, arts and crafts, and jewellery. The platform also provides sellers with various store formats as several levels of customer support. TIAS does have a minimum fee requirement, but if a seller's TIAS commissions are higher than the minimum fee, then only the commission is paid. Other notable services include the submission of auctions automatically to eBay and sending selling listings to over 2000 classified ad networks.

12. Ealtbay



As the name suggests, this online auction website was initially created for those who buy and sell legal items that have been banned by eBay. Ealtbay offers free listings and a very reasonable final value fees. There are also several payment options including PayPal. Though it may not be as popular as the other platforms, it may be something to consider if you have been banned by eBay.

13. Delcampe



Delcampe is an online auction specializing in antiques and collectibles. Major categories include stamps, coins, and postcards, though other items can also be found there. Like Ealtbay above, the fees at Delcampe are pretty reasonable, and there are a variety of payment options to choose from.

14. eCRATER



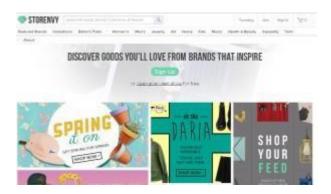
eCRATER offers a free web store builder and an online marketplace. There are currently millions of products listed there, and in addition to the free, easy-to-use store builder, sellers can use Google Wallet at checkout. Other notable features include that listed items are also submitted to Google Product Search, and sellers can import their products from eBay.

15. Bidstart



Bidstart is an online auction specializing in collectibles. The fees on this platform are about half that of eBay's, so if you are dealing in these products it is definitely worth checking out.

16. Storenvy



Storenvy is an online platform that hosts about 20,000 creative entrepreneurs and small businesses, offering a total of over 350,000 different products. The best part of using Storenvy is that the service is totally free for both buyers and sellers.

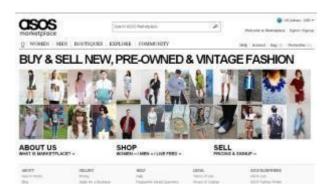
17.Quibids



Quibids is a serious option for online buyers or business owners looking to update their equipment, furnishings, or other inventory. This is a fast moving penny auction site. You have to pay a small fee to place a bid (currently it's less than a dollar), but the savings (as much as 95% off the retail price on a brand new item) can be shocking. But, it will take a little time getting used to the site

and learning how it works. Once you get the hang of it, though, you can get some amazing deals. Just beware, it can get addictive!

18. Asos Marketplace



At Asos Marketplace, fashion minded people from around the world can buy and sell new, pre-owned, and vintage fashion from a wide range of popular and independent designers. The site is easy to navigate, and all of the photos on the site feature regular people in regular conditions, so you get a better idea of what the clothes will look like out on the street. People on the site can set their own prices, so the savings can be really great, and the platform has a good reputation for its customer service and return policies.

19. OnlineAuction.com



Onlineauction.com functions a lot like a regular off-line auction where the highest bid wins. The site features a low monthly membership fee, no listing or re-listing fees, and no sales commissions. Sellers can post personal website information with every listing.

20. Liquidation.com



The last of the alternatives to eBay, Liquidation.com is a marketplace where professional buyers can source commercial surplus inventory and government surplus assets in an online environment. Bulk products are sold by the truckload, pallet, or small package, and conditions range from new in a box to customer returns and used. Product categories include: apparel, computers, electronics, housewares, industrial equipment, and even vehicles.

21. Tradesy



Tradesy is a pretty active online market place for new and pre-owned clothing. They take a 9% commission, and you can transfer your earnings directly to Paypal. It's a breeze to list new items; they even have a dedicated mobile app for the task. Their customer service is also pretty quick and responsive which is a big plus if you run into issues along the way. Another benefit that can come in handy is that they provide sellers with a shipping kit that includes instructions, tissue paper, a Tradesy sticker, and a prepaid mailing bag.

So, there you have it, 21 good alternatives to eBay for online sellers and buyers. Source is <u>Growing Your Business</u> which wasas correct at time of original publication