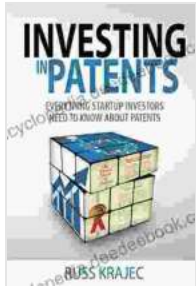


# Everything Startup Investors Need To Know About Patents



## Investing in Patents: Everything Startup Investors Need to Know About Patents by Russell Krajec

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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Patents can be a valuable asset for startups, but they can also be complex and expensive. This article provides everything startup investors need to know about patents, from the basics to the more advanced strategies.

### What is a patent?

A patent is a government-issued exclusive right to make, use, sell, or import an invention for a limited period of time. Patents are granted for inventions that are new, useful, and non-obvious.

### Why are patents important for startups?

Patents can provide startups with a number of advantages, including:

- **Protection from competition.** A patent can give a startup a monopoly on its invention, which can prevent competitors from entering the market and stealing its market share.
- **Increased value.** A patent can increase the value of a startup, making it more attractive to investors and potential acquirers.
- **Licensing revenue.** A startup can license its patent to other companies, generating additional revenue.

### **How do I get a patent?**

To get a patent, you need to file a patent application with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The patent application must include a detailed description of your invention, as well as claims that define the scope of your patent protection.

The USPTO will review your patent application and decide whether to grant you a patent. The process can take several years, and there is no guarantee that you will be granted a patent.

### **How much does it cost to get a patent?**

The cost of getting a patent can vary depending on a number of factors, including the complexity of your invention and the number of claims you file. However, you can expect to pay several thousand dollars to file and prosecute a patent application.

### **Is it worth it to get a patent?**

Whether or not it is worth it to get a patent depends on a number of factors, including the nature of your invention, your business goals, and your

financial resources. If you are unsure whether or not you should get a patent, it is a good idea to consult with an experienced patent attorney.

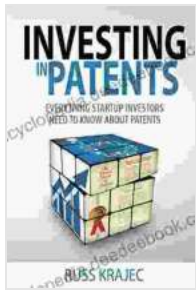
## **Advanced strategies for startup investors**

In addition to the basics, there are a number of advanced strategies that startup investors can use to take advantage of patents. These strategies include:

- **Patent pooling.** Patent pooling is an agreement between multiple companies to share their patents with each other. This can be a good way for startups to gain access to patents that they would not otherwise be able to afford.
- **Cross-licensing.** Cross-licensing is an agreement between two companies to license each other's patents. This can be a good way for startups to avoid patent infringement lawsuits.
- **Patent litigation.** Patent litigation can be a complex and expensive process, but it can also be a powerful tool for protecting your intellectual property.

Patents can be a valuable asset for startups, but they can also be complex and expensive. This article has provided startup investors with everything they need to know about patents, from the basics to the more advanced strategies. By understanding the patent process and the various strategies available to them, startups can make the most of their intellectual property.

**Image alt attribute:** A patent document with a USPTO seal on it.



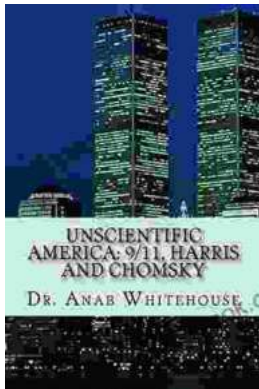
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