

The Margin Playbook

How to price white-label services — Private Label Agency

The one rule

Never price from your costs. Price from the market, then check your margin. Local businesses pay \$1,500–\$2,500/mo for competent marketing retainers in every US metro. That's the market. Your wholesale cost is what makes that price profitable — not what sets it.

The markup math

You sell	Market retail	Your wholesale	You keep
SEO Plan	\$1,795/mo	\$750 → \$450/mo	\$1,045–\$1,345/mo (58–75%)
Google Ads	\$1,795/mo	\$750 → \$450/mo	\$1,045–\$1,345/mo
Basic SEO	\$897/mo	\$397/mo	\$500/mo (56%)
Website Management	\$199/mo	\$75 flat	\$124/mo (62%)
20-Page Website	\$1,500	\$299	\$1,201 (80%)
SUPER SEO Authority Build	\$2,995	\$999	\$1,996 (67%)

The volume tiers

Your wholesale on every \$750 retainer drops as your active account count grows:

- **1–2 accounts: \$750/mo** — you keep 58% at suggested retail
- **3–5 accounts: \$650/mo** — 64%
- **6–11 accounts: \$550/mo** — 69%
- **12+ accounts: \$450/mo** — 75%

The tier applies to ALL your accounts, not just new ones. Account #12 makes accounts #1–11 more profitable the day it signs.

Three pricing mistakes that kill agencies

1. **Discounting retail because wholesale is cheap.** Your client pays for outcomes and accountability, not your costs. Hold retail.
2. **Custom quotes for everything.** Productize. Three prices beat thirty negotiations.
3. **Underpricing the first client to "get proof."** The first client sets your reference price forever. Start at market.

The compounding picture

Ten SEO Plan accounts at \$1,795 retail, at the \$550 tier: **\$12,450/mo gross profit** — with no fulfillment staff, no hiring risk, and your brand on every report.