INDIE

BY CYPHER LEARNING

VS

Teachable

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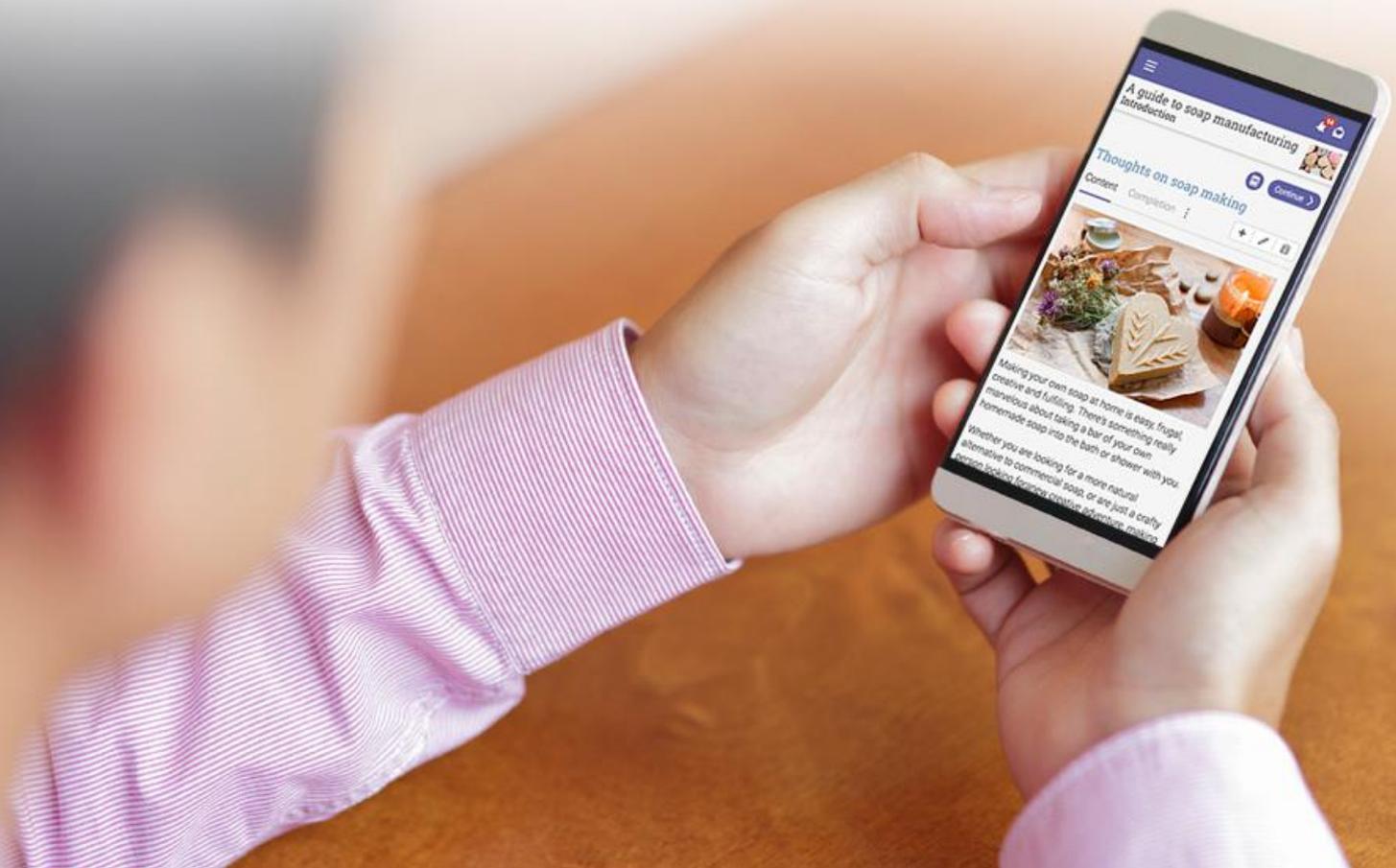
Introduction

This document is a detailed comparison between INDIE and Teachable, taking into consideration the features, functionality, and cost of each platform.

INDIE is an LMS for entrepreneurs that makes it easy to create, manage and sell online courses. With a beautiful and intuitive design, easy to use features and attractive pricing, the platform is the perfect solution for people that want to market their knowledge and grow their online business.

Teachable is a website for hosting and selling massive open online courses (MOOCs).

User interface

INDIE has a modern, responsive design that looks great on any device. The platform has a clean and intuitive interface including beautiful tile-based graphical dashboards for all users and an attractive course catalog that allows entrepreneurs to showcase their courses. INDIE users can fully customize their website with their own logo, theme, terminology, visitor portal, and more. INDIE is available in more than 40 languages, including right-to-left languages.

The Teachable user interface focuses on the content of a course and not the actual learning experience. For example, the learner can only access their courses, catalog and have a minimum of collaboration tools at their disposal. There are no tiled-based dashboards to easily access information, no welcome page for the site, and no activity feeds.

While Teachable is customizable, there are areas where users require technical skills such as experience with CSS and HTML to edit themes. INDIE offers a simple way to build a selling site by creating a carousel with images or using portal panels such as clickable text blocks and counters. Everything is very easy to use and configure.

Teachable courses are quite simple and don't provide a logical sequence of content pages and assessments, which might be restrictive for some users. The lessons editor allows instructors to add different blocks of information on one page such as text, files and quizzes. This might work for smaller courses, but it can be confusing once there are many lessons or instructors simply need more versatility in creating their content. There is no option to record audio or video directly from your browser.

Teachable is only available in English. Users have to translate the platform themselves if they want to use another language.

Ease of use

INDIE is very intuitive and easy to use. In addition, it includes an online help center, with videos, getting started guides and searchable help content. INDIE has a rapid response support forum where staff members typically respond to questions within 15-30 minutes during business hours, 24/5.

Teachable is easy to use, includes a knowledge base, searchable help content and a support forum, 8/7. Their higher priced plans include priority support.
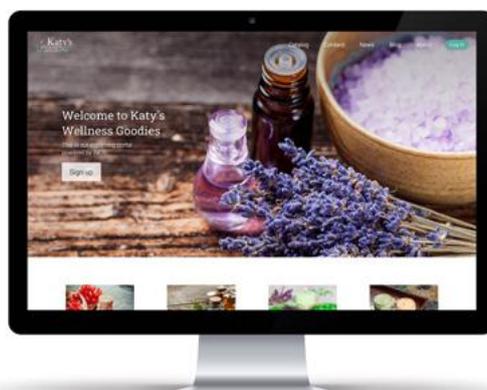
Features

INDIE provides the range of functionality you'd expect in a modern LMS for entrepreneurs, such as support for courses content authoring, integrated e-commerce functionality, graphical course catalog, beautiful module layouts, gamification, automation, drip content, a customizable selling site, support for affiliates, marketing tools and more.

INDIE integrates with a wide variety of systems, including Google Drive, Calendars (iCal), PayPal, Stripe, Authorize.net, PayUbiz, Zapier, Panopto, and SMTP/POP3, SCORM, Common Cartridge Format, and QTI.

Teachable is missing important learning engagement tools such as gamification, chat and activity feeds. There is also no automation for triggering rules when learners complete tasks in courses and there is no resources catalog to store and organize all materials.

In terms of marketing tools, entrepreneurs need more advanced SEO features such as setting keywords, editing metadata descriptions, enabling/disabling search engine indexing, and more. Teachable's SEO options are limited to optimizing the URL, page title and meta description of a sales page.

Teachable has limited SEO options, mainly focused on on optimizing the page title, description and URL. In comparison, INDIE offers users additional options such as setting up keywords, uploading a custom robot.txt file, adding SEO metadata for individual catalog items, and more.

INDIE vs Teachable

Here is a list of features that Teachable does not provide:

User Interface

- Graphical dashboards
- Customizable welcome pages
- Support for 40 + languages
- Automatic translation of communications
- Accessibility features

Content

- Automation
- Gamification
- Resources catalog
- Record video or audio from browser
- Sell digital media
- Archiving courses
- Certificates of completion

Marketing tools

- Advanced SEO features
- Course ratings and reviews

INDIE vs Teachable

Assessment and Analytics

- Survey assessment
- Question banks
- Custom reports for all users
- Saved and scheduled reports
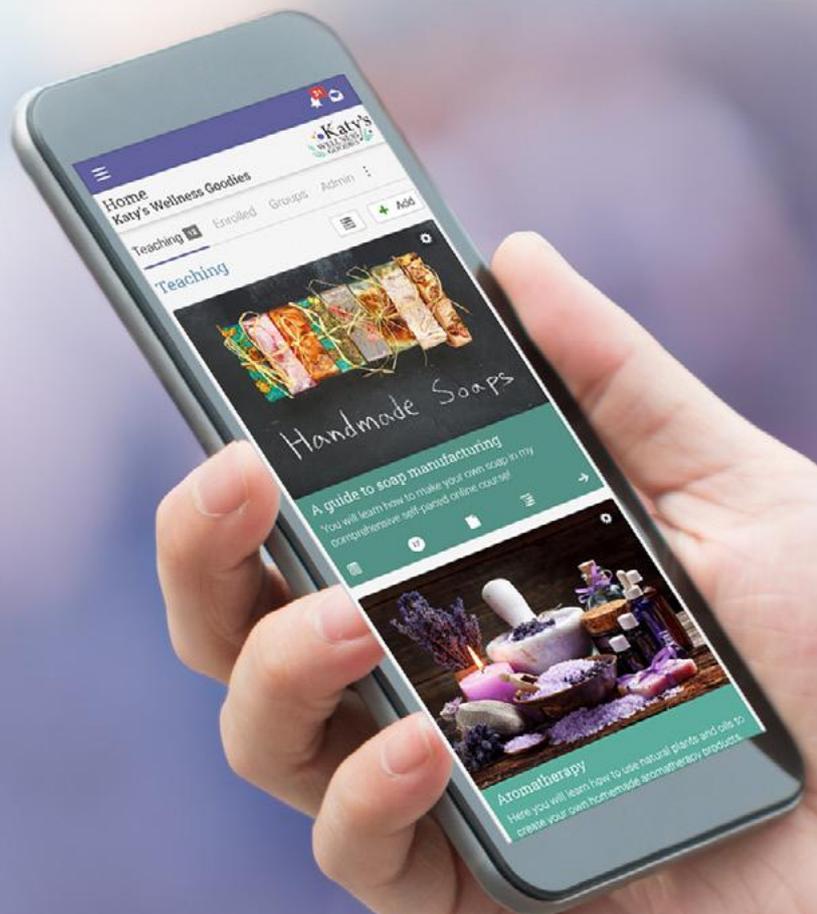- Learner activity timelines

Collaboration

- Chat
- Groups
- Activity feeds
- Social networking
- Display of online users

Integrations

- PayPal Payments Pro
- PayUbiz
- PayU Latam
- Authorize.net
- Panopto
- CometChat
- QTI and CCF standards

Other

- Archiving learners
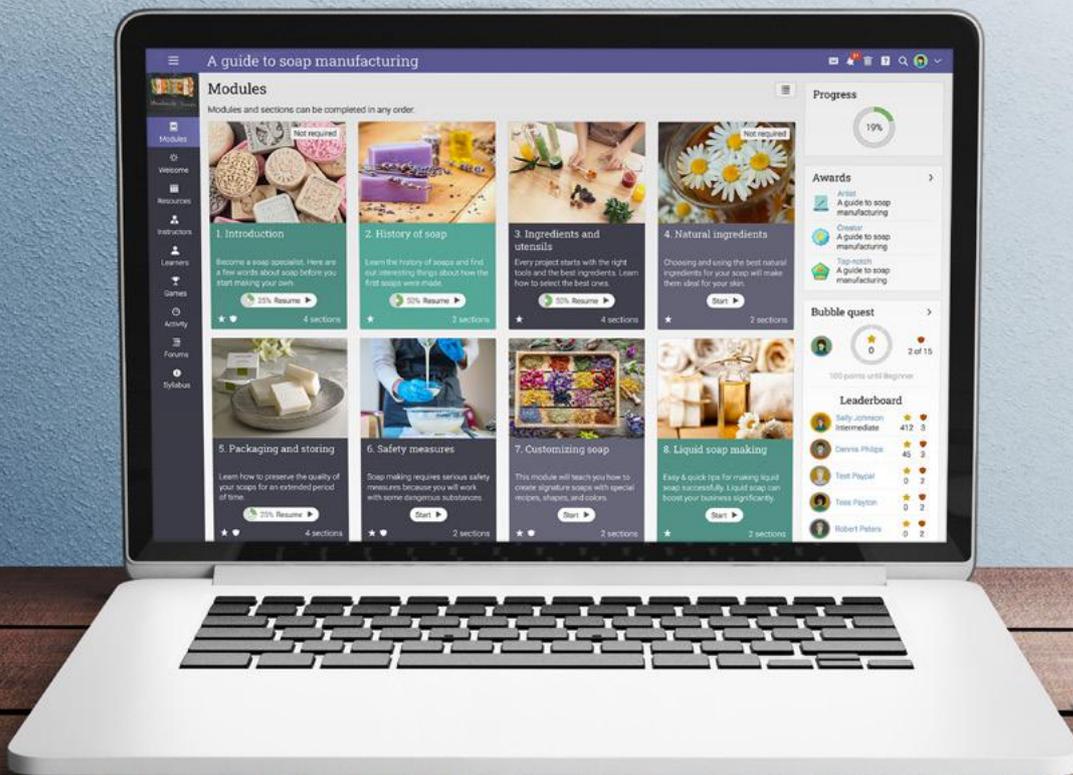- Trash can for restoring deleted items
- Learner help desk

Cost

INDIE's pricing plans range from $103/month for 1,000 active learners and $639/month for 50,000 active learners (yearly billing). There is a discount for yearly billing. There are no setup fees, cancellation fees, storage fees, bandwidth fees, support fees, or other hidden costs. INDIE only considers learner accounts, so instructor and administrator accounts are not charged.

Teachable has a free version that is very limited in its offerings and monthly plans range from the $39/month to $299/month with a discount for yearly billing.

Summary

This document was a comparison of the most important feature differences between INDIE LMS and Teachable.

INDIE is a platform designed for individuals and entrepreneurs that want an accessible way to market their knowledge by creating, delivering, and selling self-paced online courses.

INDIE is a more attractive, easier to use, and has a more comprehensive feature set than Teachable. If you require additional information on INDIE, please contact us at sales@cypherlearning.com.

www.cypherlearning.com