

# Celebrity Women Who Built a Business Empire With Their Husbands



 By Deanna Atkins

While our culture thrives on talent-less females to entertain us as we get out guilty reality tv fill, it's more than refreshing to see celebrity gal's with brains, and million dollar net worths, to give women back the reputation we deserve. All women are beautiful, bright and capable, and if the media would stop flooding its audience with Lindsey Lohan's latest relapse, we would be able to hear more about celebrity women who make remarkable role models. Female power is certainly something to embrace and there are plenty of women in the spotlight who used their platform to build lucrative businesses. Below are a handful of leading ladies that chose to make the most of their celebrity, by making themselves successful empires, of course with the help of their supportive and loving husbands:

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**1. Bethenny Frankel:** Reality star, entrepreneur, wife and mother, Bethenny Frankel, is easily envied by every woman in the world. By combining her passion for healthy, natural foods with her craving for cash, she developed and sold Skinnygirl Cocktails for over \$100 million to Fortune Brands' Beam Global in 2011. We were able to see Bethenny's dream become reality over season's of Bravo's series, The Real Housewives of New York, and Bethenny and her husband, Jason Hoppy's, own show, Bethenny Ever After. Together the duo brought Skinnygirl to life as Jason brought his background in finance to the table

to ensure that Bethenny's business would flourish, and it did more than that.

**2. Tori Spelling:** From actress to author to executive producer of her own show, with husband Dean McDermott, *Tori & Dean: Home Sweet Hollywood*, it's no wonder she stays so skinny, she can't possibly have enough time to eat. Coming a long way since her roll as Donna Martin on *90210*, she happily resides in Los Angeles with her hubby, their three children and another baby on the way. She's written four books with her first, *sTORI Telling*, on the New York Times Bestsellers list, operated a bed and breakfast with Dean, created a signature fashion and jewelry line and manages her own site, *ediTORIal* by Tori Spelling.

**3. Beyonce Knowles:** Bringing in a whopping \$87 million a year is nice, but it's even nicer once you've got rapper, producer, co-owner of the NJ Nets and entrepreneur, Jay Z, to put a ring on it, making their combined net worth over \$800 million. This brilliant couple brings in the dough with their chart topping hits, but Beyonce also acts, designs, and models which is why she gained the #2 spot on *Forbe's 2010 list of 100 Most Powerful and Influential Celebrities in the World*. Hollywood's hottest pair showed off their business smarts when they trademarked their first child's name, 'Blue Ivy' which is expected to become an empire of its own.

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**4. Lisa Vanderpump:** Even if you knew her dog, Jiggy's, name before her husband, Ken Todd's, there's still no denying that Lisa VanderPump's bank account is as obscenely large as it is because of her adoring spouse and business partner. Born in England and a *Real House Wives of Beverly Hills* star, the Britt earned her \$65 million net worth co-owning 26 restaurants with her hubby of 29 years. Hard work payed off as she now thoroughly enjoys her luxurious lifestyle while

designing shoes and clothes, developing a skin care line and writing for Beverly Hills Lifestyle Magazine.

**5. Jill Zarin:** Entrepreneur, business woman and Real Housewives of New York City reality star, Jill Zarin and husband and businessman Bobby Zarin own a home furnishing and fabric store on the Lower East side. Recently Zarin has expanded her business to the fashion world, as she created 'Skweez Couture' a fashionable and functional shapewear line for women. She has also launched her own jewelry line and bedding line, 'Jill Zarin Home.' The couple's business was big enough originally, but Jill's most recent endeavors are expanding her empire even further.