
THE ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET

You might be wondering why entrepreneurial thinking is so important. Is it something you can apply to your life even if you don't have a business? The answer is yes!

So, what exactly is entrepreneurial thinking?

Entrepreneurs are responsible for creating their own incomes and so they have to be open to finding creative solutions. Entrepreneurs must always be evolving and growing so that they can be ahead of the curve, not behind it. They have to see opportunities where other people may not see anything, in addition to possessing a great deal of creativity and a large tolerance for risk. In an environment where there is a great deal of churn in the economy, people who can stay focused in the face of uncertainty are the ones who will be able to prosper. Those who are only focused on losses and are paralyzed by fear will have a difficult time making it through. This is why having an entrepreneurial mindset is perfect for the global financial shifts that we've all been experiencing.

For instance, using entrepreneurial thinking can help you when:

- You've experienced a job loss
- You want to change careers and don't know how to transfer your current skills
- You want to start a business
- You want to get "unstuck" and move towards your goals
- You want to manage uncertainty due to life changes and transitions
- You want to find your purpose
- You want to be open to new opportunities personally and professionally

Think Like an Entrepreneur

Why would a non-entrepreneur want to adopt an entrepreneurial mindset?

No one wants to feel that his or her work has no purpose. It's hard to get through a day or feel any enthusiasm for your work if you feel that none of it matters. One reason why people go into business for themselves is because they want more freedom over their lives. They don't want to be in an environment where they spend the day reacting to the decisions of others.

If you're ready to adopt entrepreneurial behaviors such as taking more risks and creating a vision for what you want to achieve, you'll be less likely to get stuck in a career rut. It means taking responsibility for your decisions and for the results.

Here are tips to get into an entrepreneurial mindset in your career right now:

1. Take an honest look at your work situation. How do things look in your company and in your industry? Are there growth opportunities?
2. Be open to learning and growing. If your skills have not been updated in years, find opportunities to upgrade them now.
3. What's your vision for your future? Where do you see yourself in six months or in a year? Are you willing to take steps to reach your goal?
4. Become more of a risk taker. Is there a project that you'd like to work on or a new process you'd like to introduce to your department? Are you willing to share your ideas or make a request for what you want?
5. Learn to trust yourself. If you don't have confidence in yourself or your ideas, it will be difficult for you to take charge of your career. You have to believe that you deserve to have a better experience and that you do have something to offer.

“What else are we going to live by if not dreams?” – Jill Robinson

TRUST YOUR GUT

"Create a definite plan for carrying out your desire and begin at once, whether you're ready or not, to put this plan into action." Napoleon Hill

Sometimes it's not easy to find focus. You can reach a point where you know something must be done, you just don't know what. I can spend hours considering this plan or that one. Each alternative makes sense, and yet none of them seems like the way to go.

We can be afraid to commit to an idea or a plan of action because we want to know for sure what the outcome will be.

Often our gut feeling, or intuition is ready to show us the way. It's sort of an early warning system, but so many of us simply ignore it.

There are times when we may rely on a mentor, or someone who appears to have the wisdom that we lack. But there are other times when we know perfectly well what the best course of action is...we just don't follow it.

If you are going in circles about a decision, is it because you can't decide what path to take? Or do you already have a gut feeling about what you want to do, but you don't trust it?

Questions to think about...

How many mentors or advisors have you had in your life?

Do you trust your own guidance when making decisions?

How often do you trust your intuition?

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