QUOTATIONS FOR BUSINESS AND LIFE

Powerful, Inspiring and Life-Changing Words of Wisdom to Inspire You and Your Business



Over the last few years every morning at 9.30am I broadcast through social media a quotation for daily reflection. Following numerous requests, I have now pulled together my favourite quotations to inspire both you and your business.

Quotations About Life

"Life is a question and how we live it is our answer." Gary Keller

"Keep looking up... that's the secret of life." Snoopy

"Life is too important to be taken seriously." Oscar Wilde

"One day your life will flash before your eyes. Make sure it is worth watching." Unknown

"Ours is a world where people don't know what they want and are willing to go through hell to get it."

Don Marquis

"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years." Abraham Lincoln

"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts." Marcus Aurelius

"We are all born originals. Why is it so many of us die copies?" Edward Young

"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind." *Dr. Seuss*

"We know what we are, but know not what we may be." William Shakespeare

"Don't define your world in black and white, because there is so much hiding amongst the greys."

Unknown

"There is only one success: to be able to spend your life in your own way." Christopher Morley

"I can't imagine a person becoming a success who doesn't give this game of life everything he's got."

Walter Cronkite

"When you cease to dream you cease to live." Malcolm Forbes

"Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it's inspiring." Anonymous

Quotations About Life's Journey

"If you can't fly then run. If you can't run, then walk. If you can't walk, then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." *Martin Luther King*

"Everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you're climbing it." *Andy Rooney*

"Becoming isn't about arriving somewhere or achieving a certain aim. I see it instead as forward motion, a means of evolving, a way to reach continuously toward a better self. The journey doesn't end."

Michelle Obama

"Some pursue happiness- others create it." Anonymous

"Knowing what you want is the first step in getting it." Louise Hart

"If not now, when? If not you, who? If not this, what?" Unknown

"In between goals is a thing called life that has to be lived and enjoyed." Sid Caesar

"All animals except man know that the principal business of life is to enjoy it." Samuel Butler

"It is never too late to be what you might have been." George Eliot

"In order to carry a positive action we must develop here a positive vision." Dalai Lama

Quotations About Life

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." Robert Collier

"What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals."

Henry David Thoreau

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start."

Nido Qubein

"Define success on your own terms, achieve it by your own rules, and build a life you're proud to live."

Anne Sweeney, Walt Disney president

"There is no scientific answer for success. You can't define it. You've simply got to live it and do it."

Anita Roddick

"There are no traffic jams along the extra mile." Roger Staubach

"Those at the top of the mountain didn't fall there." Unknown

"Don't Be Too Timid And Squeamish About Your Actions. All Life Is An Experiment. The More Experiments You Make The Better." *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

"Success Is Getting What You Want, Happiness Is Wanting What You Get." W. P. Kinsella

"A Clear Vision, Backed By Definite Plans, Gives You A Tremendous Feeling Of Confidence And Personal Power." *Brian Tracy*

"Timing, perseverance, and ten years of trying will eventually make you look like an overnight success."

Biz Stone

"Risk more than others think is safe. Dream more than others think is practical." Howard Schultz

"The only impossible journey is the one you never begin." Anthony Robbins

"Do not wait until the conditions are perfect to begin. Beginning makes the conditions perfect." Alan Cohen

"Although no one can go back and make a brand-new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand-new ending." *Carl Bard*

"Live out of your imagination, not your history." Unknown

"Life is a series of experiences. The quality of those experiences determine the quality of your life" *Unknown*

"If you set goals and go after them with all the determination you can muster, your gifts will take you places that will amaze you." Les Brown

"If you believe it will work out, you'll see opportunities. If you believe it won't, you will see obstacles." Wayne Dyer

"Definiteness of purpose is the starting point of all achievement." W. Clement Stone

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step." Lao Tzu

"If You Are Working On Something That You Really Care About, You Don't Have To Be Pushed. The Vision Pulls You." *Steve Jobs*

"The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it." Henry David Thoreau

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them." Walt Disney

"If you don't design your own life plan, chances are you'll fall into someone else's plan. And guess what they have planned for you? Not much." *Jim Rohn*

"Every single thing that has ever happened in your life is preparing you for a moment that is yet to come." *Unknown*

"Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we react to it." Dennis P. Kimbro

"It does not matter how slowly you go, so long as you do not stop." Confucius

"I believe every human has a finite number of heartbeats. I don't intend to waste any of mine." Neil Armstrong

"Have the end in mind and every day make sure your working towards it" Ryan Allis

"Happiness is not something you postpone for the future; it is something you design for the present."

Jim Rohn

"Don't live the same year 75 times and call it a life." Robin Sharma

Quotations on Dealing With Challenges

"It always seems impossible until it's done." Nelson Mandela

"We Generate Fears While We Sit. We Overcome Them By Action." Dr. Henry Link

"It's Not Whether You Get Knocked Down, It's Whether You Get Up." Vince Lombardi

"You Learn More From Failure Than From Success. Don't Let It Stop You. Failure Builds Character."

Unknown

"Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time." *Thomas Edison*

"Every problem is a gift — without problems we would not grow." - Anthony Robbins

"The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old but on building the new." Socrates, father of Western philosophy

"You Learn More From Failure Than From Success. Don't Let It Stop You. Failure Builds Character."

Unknown

"If you absolutely can't tolerate critics, then don't do anything new or interesting." Jeff Bezos

"I'm a very positive thinker, and I think that is what helps me the most in difficult moments." *Roger Federer*

"I learned long ago, never to wrestle with a pig. You get dirty, and besides, the pig likes it." *George Bernard Shaw*

"Don't let the fear of losing be greater than the excitement of winning." Robert Kiyosaki

"It doesn't get easier. You get better." <i>Unknown</i>
"Don't worry about failure; you only have to be right once." <i>Unknown</i>
"Worrying does not empty tomorrow of its troubles, it empties today of its strength." Corrie Ten
"It always seems impossible until it's done." Nelson Mandela
"Persistence can change failure into extraordinary achievement." Matt Biondi
"You're never a loser until you quit trying." Mike Ditka
"I have to believe that when things are bad I can change them." The Cinderella Man
"Falling down is an accident, staying down is a choice." <i>Unknown</i>
"The only way to achieve the impossible is to believe it is possible." Alice in Wonderland
"Oh yes, the past can hurt. But you can either run from it, or learn from it." Rafiki, The Lion King
"Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom." George S. Patton
"Sometimes the wrong choices bring us to the right places." <i>Unknown</i>
"The best way out is always through." Robert Frost

"Tough times never last, but tough people do." Dr. Robert Schuller

"Extraordinary people survive under the most terrible circumstances and they become more extraordinary because of it" *Robertson Davies*

"We Generate Fears While We Sit. We Overcome Them By Action." Dr. Henry Link

"Just when the caterpillar thought the world was ending, he turned into a butterfly." Proverb

"If you want to make a permanent change, stop focusing on the size of your problems and start focusing on the size of you!" *T. Harv Eker*

"Develop success from failures. Discouragement and failure are two of the surest stepping stones to success." *Dale Carnegie*

"If you live long enough, you'll make mistakes. But if you learn from them, you'll be a better person." *Bill Clinton*

"When everything seems to be going against you, remember that the airplane takes off against the wind, not with it." *Henry Ford*

"Life's challenges are not supposed to paralyze you; they're supposed to help you discover who you are."

Bernice Johnson Reagon

Quotations About Mindset

"Change your thoughts and you change your world." Norman Vincent

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then is not an act but a habit." Aristotle

"Things Work Out Best For Those Who Make The Best Of How Things Work Out." John Wooden

"Failure Will Never Overtake Me If My Determination To Succeed Is Strong Enough." Og Mandino

"People Who Are Crazy Enough To Think They Can Change The World, Are The Ones Who Do."

Rob Siltanen

"Don't Let Yesterday Take Up Too Much Of Today." Will Rogers

"Don't let the fear of losing be greater than the excitement of winning." Robert Kiyosaki

"See things in the present, even if they are in the future." Larry Ellison

"The secret of change is to focus all your energy not on fighting the old but on building the new."

Socrates

"A man is what he thinks about all day long." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"What is the hardest task in the world? To think." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Learn the rules like a pro, so you can break them like an artist." Pablo Picasso

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you." Anne Lamott

"I will have to remember 'I am here today to cross the swamp, not to fight all the alligators." From The Art of Possibility by Rosamund and Benjamin Zander

"To win, you must have good psychology. You cannot afford to have an analogue mind in a digital age."

Jose Mourinho

"The successful warrior is the average man, with laser-like focus." Bruce Lee

"Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference." Winston Churchill

"Creativity is intelligence having fun." Albert Einstein

"Optimism Is The One Quality More Associated With Success And Happiness Than Any Other."

Brian Tracy

"Every time you stay out late; every time you sleep in; every time you miss a workout; every time you don't give 100% – You make it that much easier for me to beat you." *Unknown*

"My mind rebels at stagnation. Give me problems, give me work. The sooner the better." Sherlock Holmes

"Do or do not. There is no try." Yoda, The Empire Strikes Back

"The greatest discovery of any generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitude." William James

"The ordinary focus on what they're getting. The extraordinary think about who they're becoming."

Unknown

"Believe and act as if it were impossible to fail." Charles Kettering

"You are the average of the five people you spend the most time with" Jim Rohn

"Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." Abraham Lincoln

Quotations About Business

"Every day that we spent not improving our products was a wasted day." Joel Spolsky

"The last 10% it takes to launch something takes as much energy as the first 90%." Rob Kalin

"Always think outside the box and embrace opportunities that appear, wherever they might be."

Lakshmi Mittal

"Get five or six of your smartest friends in a room and ask them to rate your idea." Mark Pincus

"If you define yourself by how you differ from the competition, you're probably in trouble." *Omar Hamoui*

"Always look for the fool in the deal. If you don't find one, it's you." Mark Cuban

"If you are not embarrassed by the first version of your product, you've launched too late." *Reid Hoffman*

"When you innovate, you've got to be prepared for people telling you that you are nuts." Larry Ellison

"Play by the rules, but be ferocious." Phil Knight, founder, Nike

"Concentrate on measuring performance and winning will take care of itself'. That is a brilliant excuse for coming second." *Clive Woodward*

"Don't play games that you don't understand, even if you see lots of other people making money from them." *Tony Hsieh*

"Anything that is measured and watched, improves." Bob Parsons

"Make every detail perfect and limit the number of details to perfect." *Jack Dorsey, co-founder of Twitter*

"If You Are Working On Something That You Really Care About, You Don't Have To Be Pushed. The Vision Pulls You." *Steve Jobs*

"...innovation as "natural selection for ideas". There should be no process to implement this evolution. Its defining characteristic is its lack of process." *Eric Schmidt, How Google Works*

"Being customer-led is a continual, unforgiving, process of destruction and reinvention that has to be repeated without fail by each managerial generation." *Tim Mason, former Marketing Director, Tesco*

We don't have a single big advantage, so we have to weave a rope of many small advantages." Jeff Bezos

"In the new economy, those who live by the sword will be shot by those who don't." Gary Hamel

"Statistics suggest that when customers complain, business owners and managers ought to get excited about it. The complaining customer represents a huge opportunity for more business." Zig Ziglar

"I'm convinced that about half of what separates the successful entrepreneurs from the non-successful ones is pure perseverance." *Steve Jobs*

"No matter what, expect the unexpected. And whenever possible BE the unexpected." Unknown

"Dreaming, after all, is a form of planning." Gloria Steinem

"A hill is just another opportunity to leave your competition behind." *Unknown*

"Wonder what your customer really wants? Ask. Don't tell." Lisa Stone

"Be undeniably good. No marketing effort or social media buzzword can be a substitute for that."

Anthony Volodkin

"The value of an idea lies in the using of it." Thomas Edison

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started. The secret to getting started is breaking your complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks and then starting on the first one." *Mark Twain*

"Any business plan won't survive its first encounter with reality. The reality will always be different. It will never be the plan." *Jeff Bezos*

"Time is the friend of the wonderful business, the enemy of the mediocre." Warren Buffett

"If people like you, they'll listen to you, but if they trust you, they'll do business with you." Zig Ziglar

"It's more effective to do something valuable than to hope a logo or name will say it for you." *Jason Cohen*

"Change before you have to." Jack Welch

"The secret of success is to do the common thing uncommonly well." John D. Rockefeller Jr.

"Stop chasing the money and start chasing the passion." Tony Hsieh

"The supreme art of war is to subdue the enemy without fighting." Sun Tzu

"If you can't feed a team with two pizzas, it's too large." Jeff Bezos

"Don't tell people how to do things, tell them what to do and let them surprise you with their results."

George S. Patton

"Don't spend time beating on a wall, hoping to transform it into a door." Coco Chanel

"If Plan A doesn't work, the alphabet has 25 more letters." Claire Cook

"Waiting for perfect is never as smart as making progress." Seth Godin

"Successful entrepreneurs are givers and not takers of positive energy." Anonymous

"Always deliver more than expected." Larry Page, co-founder of Google

"Business has only two functions – marketing and innovation." Peter Drucker

"A business that makes nothing but money is a poor business." Henry Ford

Quotations About Leadership

"The function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers." Ralph Nader

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

John Quincy Adams

"Human beings have an innate inner drive to be autonomous, self-determined and connected to one another. And, when that drive is liberated, people achieve more and live richer lives." *Daniel Pink*

"You can't be a good boss unless you say goodbye to the drongos." John Timpson

"Perpetual optimism is a force multiplier." Colin Powell

"Put your best people on your biggest opportunities, not your biggest problems." *Jim Collins, Good to Great*

"To achieve great things two things are needed: a plan, and not quite enough time." Leonard Bernstein

"Just because someone stumbles and loses their path, doesn't mean they're lost forever." X-Men Days of Future Past

"First rule of leadership: everything is your fault." A Bug's Life

"There's an enormous number of managers who have retired on the job." Peter Drucker

"Few things can help an individual more than to place responsibility on him, and to let him know that you trust him." *Booker T. Washington*

Quotations About Teams

"Individual commitment to a group effort--that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." *Vince Lombardi*

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships." Michael Jordan

"Remember, teamwork begins by building trust. And the only way to do that is to overcome our need for invulnerability." *Patrick Lencioni*

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success." *Henry Ford*

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." Henry Ford

"It's the attitude of the players, not their skills, that is the biggest factor in determining whether you win or lose." *Harry Sinden*

"You are a winner when you become obsessed with being prepared to do whatever it takes to be victorious; where you have the drive and the motivation to excel and dominate in a competitive environment." *Sir Clive Woodward*

"Our success has not been a continual series of victories. We have had a number of devastating setbacks; how these are handled is the making of a great team... winning does not happen in straight lines." *Sir Clive Woodward*

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships." Michael Jordan

"Walk the walk: model to your team what you find most important in the way you think, behave, and make decisions." *Julia Hartz*

Quotations About Personal Development

"Be patient with yourself. Self-growth is tender; it's holy ground. There's no greater investment."

Stephen Covey

"If you can allow yourself to trust those little movements around your gut that tell you when something is interesting or exciting, they will tell you where to go." *John Cleese*

"My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there." Charles F. Kettering

"Nothing that is worth knowing can be taught." Oscar Wilde

"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions." Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

"It is by logic that we prove, but by intuition that we discover." Henri Poincaré

"The secret to success is to know something nobody else knows." Aristotle Onassis

"Man's mind, once stretched by a new idea, never regains its original dimensions." - Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr

"What is the hardest task in the world? To think." Ralph Waldo Emerson

"People grow through experience if they meet life honestly and courageously. This is how character is built." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

"Know yourself. Don't accept your dog's admiration as conclusive evidence that you are wonderful."

Ann Landers

"'Stop doing' lists are more important than 'to do' lists." Jim Collins, Good to Great

"We are really competing against ourselves, we have no control over how other people perform." *Pete Cashmore, founder and CEO Mashable*

"If it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you." *Unknown*

"When we strive to become better than we are, everything around us becomes better too." *Paulo Coelho, The Alchemist*

"Move Out Of Your Comfort Zone. You Can Only Grow If You Are Willing To Feel Awkward And Uncomfortable When You Try Something New." *Brian Tracy*

"You don't learn to walk by following rules. You learn by doing and falling over." Sir Richard Branson

"To be prepared against surprise is to be trained. To be prepared for surprise is to be educated." *James P. Carse*

"Even if you are on the right track, You'll get run over if you just sit there." Will Rogers

Quotations For Daily Inspiration

"Have the end in mind and every day make sure your working towards it" Ryan Allis

"If You Are Working On Something That You Really Care About, You Don't Have To Be Pushed. The Vision Pulls You." *Steve Jobs*

"If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way." Napoleon Hill

"People often say that motivation doesn't last. Well, neither does bathing -- that's why we recommend it daily." Zig Ziglar

"All genius is a conquering of chaos and mystery." Otto Weininger

"To doubt everything or to believe everything are two equally convenient solutions; both dispense with the necessity of reflection." *Henri Poincaré*

"Don't Let Yesterday Take Up Too Much Of Today." Will Rogers

"The Way Get Started Is To Quit Talking And Begin Doing." Walt Disney

"The difference between who you are and who you want to be is what you do." Unknown

"If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse." Jim Rohn

"The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today." Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Motivation is what gets you started, habit is what keeps you going." Jim Rohn

"It's better to beg for forgiveness than to ask for permission." Anonymous

"The ones who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones that do." Anonymous

"If you are not willing to risk the usual, you will have to settle for the ordinary." Jim Rohn

"Successful people do what unsuccessful people are not willing to do. Don't wish it were easier; wish you were better." *Jim Rohn*

"Don't be afraid to give up the good to go for the great." John D. Rockefeller

"Successful and unsuccessful people do not vary greatly in their abilities. They vary in their desires to reach their potential." *John Maxwell*

"Hard work spotlights the character of people: some turn up their sleeves, some turn up their noses, and some don't turn up at all." *Sam Ewing*

"Find a truly original idea. It is the only way I will ever distinguish myself. It is the only way I will ever matter." *A Beautiful Mind*

"Sometimes it is the people who no one imagines anything of who do the things that no one can imagine." *The Imitation Game*

"Don't talk, just act. Don't say, just show. Don't promise, just prove." Unknown

"If people around you don't think what you're doing is a bit strange, maybe it's not strange enough."

Patrick Collison

"Begin somewhere; you cannot build a reputation on what you intend to do." Liz Smith

"There are some things one can only achieve by a deliberate leap in the opposite direction." Franz Kafka

"I CAN is 100 time amore important than IQ." Unknown

"Your true success in life begins only when you make the commitment to become excellent at what you do." *Brian Tracy*

"If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door." Milton Berle

"A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him."

David Brinkley

"There are two types of people who will tell you that you cannot make a difference in this world: those who are afraid to try and those who are afraid you will succeed." *Unknown*

"If at first you don't succeed; you are running about average." MH Alderson

"Never sacrifice who you are, just because someone has a problem with it." *Unknown*

"The power of imagination makes us infinite." John Muir

"Always keep your eyes open. Keep watching. Because whatever you see can inspire you." *Grace Coddington*

"Anyone who has ever made anything of importance was disciplined." Andrew Hendrixson

"The road to success and the road to failure are almost exactly the same." Colin R. Davis

"Things do not change; we change." Henry David Thoreau

"Our ability to adapt is amazing. Our ability to change isn't quite as spectacular. " Lisa Lutz

"Every day of our lives, we are on the verge of making those slight changes that would make all the difference." *Mignon McLaughlin*

"Logic will get you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere." Albert Einstein

"Tension is who you think you should be. Relaxation is who you really are." Chinese Proverb

"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events; small minds discuss people." Eleanor Roosevelt

"Good things come to people who wait, but better things come to those who go out and get them."

Anonymous

"Trust because you are willing to accept the risk, not because it's safe or certain." Anonymous

"The number one reason people fail in life is because they listen to their friends, family, and neighbors."

Napoleon Hill

"The elevator to success is out of order. You'll have to use the stairs... one step at a time." Joe Girard

"The great accomplishments of man have resulted from the transmission of ideas of enthusiasm." *Thomas J. Watson*

"If you do what you've always done, you'll get what you've always gotten." Tony Robbins

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago." Warren Buffett

"If you desire to make a difference in the world, you must be different from the world." Elaine S. Dalton

"Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction." John F. Kennedy

"Happiness is the absence of the striving for happiness." Chuang-Tzu

"If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse." Unknown

"You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore." *Christopher Columbus*

"If you're offered a seat on a rocket ship, don't ask what seat! Just get on." Sheryl Sandberg

"When I let go of what I am, I become what I might be." Lao Tzu

"To succeed... You need to find something to hold on to, something to motivate you, something to inspire you." *Tony Dorsett*

"One finds limits by pushing them." Herbert Simon

"It wasn't raining when Noah built the ark." Howard Ruff

"Laughter connects you with people. It's almost impossible to maintain any kind of distance or any sense of social hierarchy when you're just howling with laughter. Laughter is a force for democracy."

John Cleese

For further quotes, strategies and inspiration for you and your business sign up to our weekly newsletter