



What's your key to success?

Sure, you are successful. To be successful you must have followed certain principles in your life. Would you like to share it?

To make it easy, we have compiled a list of "Success Mantra". Please choose one that has helped you the most in achieving success and share with us how you applied it.

Here goes the list.

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to...

- 1) have faith in oneself.
- 2) adapt and change.
- 3) define success in ones own terms than letting others decide.
- 4) accurately assess and systematically acquire what it takes to succeed.
- 5) accept failure gracefully, learn from it and move on.
- 6) make timely decisions than making perfect decisions.
- 7) accept than to blame.
- 8) accept and respect others the way they are.
- 9) identify and exploit ones strength than worrying about the weaknesses.
- 10) make the best of the present than worry about past or future.
- 11) identify, understand and follow the laws of nature.
- 12) stay in touch with oneself as much as with the outer world.
- 13) observe, listen and respond.
- 14) stay focused and committed till the end.
- 15) collaborate and leverage.

Look forward to your valuable insights. Thanks in advance.

PS: If you don't find your unique key to success in the list above, please don't hesitate to share. Do remember to elaborate on how you applied it in your life/career.

Octavio Ballesta

Based in what I have lived and learned during my professional life I will share this concise list of key factors of success that have been instrumental in shaping my professional growth. Let's see:

Passion: The energy, motivation and passion that I usually dedicate to become real my idea, venture or initiative is a direct consequence of my enthusiasm about life and my positive mental attitude.





Perseverance: It has been one of my key personal qualities that I have applied consistently to build my foundation on which my success happens and it is manifested by my ability to go ahead and persevere beyond of the difficulties, failures, fears and opposite forces.

Creative thinking: I have felt true empowerment when I have enjoyed the freedom to dream as I apply my imaginative mindset, and by transforming all those dreams in powerful energy and creative initiatives to get the motivation and the focused attitude that I need during my involvement in stupendous projects that usually have generated stellar outcomes.

Humility: a necessary condition is my ability to discover, analyze and internalize learned lessons from my failures and mistakes and have the courage of recognizing them positively to start again if it is needed and take advantage from a unique opportunity for becoming a wiser person and a better professional.

Personal empowerment: Being self-confident about my skills, competences and inner abilities in a consistent way that inspire to others to share my vision while being extraordinary overachievers has been a key factor of success.

Excellent communication: My capacity to communicate my ideas, dreams and hypothesis and convert them in tangible projects and business realities by effective hard-work, full commitment, good management and personal discipline has been an essential factor in my route to success.

Innovative mindset: Being curious with reference to the last innovations in science, trends in life issues and best business practices is an attribute typical of a proactive professional who has the willpower to envision, conceptualize and develop practices, products and methodologies that could be well ahead from present time.

Willingness to learn: The learning curve of a successful person never ends. Each opportunity, perspective and situation that I have faced along my professional life has been indeed a new chance to learn, assume consciously and decide confidently in the challenging highway to success.

Courage: When everybody seems to be opposite to my venture or initiative I show how well emotionally strong and focused I can be, being persistent about how to follow the envisioned path and introducing the needed adjustments to make my dreams come true.

Leadership: My ability to be influential in others. My empathy to manage effectively dedicated teamwork. My engagement in the search of excellence has been fundamental for me in the science and art of being successful as a knowledgeable professional.



Priti Dahima

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to have faith in oneself

Very true! Faith and confidence is self and the universal powers go a long way is success. Faith keeps us positive, enthusiastic and gives us the energy to go on, since somewhere deep within we have the faith that yes we can do it, and more so the universal power is guiding us through everything. When we come from this thought we will accept even failure as a learning experience and quickly move on with the lesson. Failure will no longer be regretted as we will have the faith that something much better is in store and we will confidently move towards it.

Vandana Bhatia

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to observe, listen and respond. Everyone understands listening is a strong area and almost everyone needs to work on it. Yet we all falter. And it is also the key to take the decisions via carefully listening, observing and using the experience to reciprocate to the need of the hour. Experience helps attain the maturity to be able to understand the difference between right and wrong decisions and it is an undying formula for success.

Subhasis Bhattacharjee

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to make timely decisions than making perfect decisions...

The decision making is the key in ones success or failure but the important factor is time. Correct decisions may not get the desired result if they are not taken at the right time. Let me try and relate to a situation where an enterprise wants to announce IPO. In this situation both the decisions which are in favor or against going public can be correct or incorrect. The critical aspect will be the timing which will confirm if the decision maker has succeeded or failed to get the desired result.





[Naveen Bothra](#)

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to systematically acquire what it takes to succeed. Ability to systematically plan and follow it is a definite recipe to success irrespective of whether you are a genius or average in the field. Believe in your goal and prepare a plan with all-positive attitude. More important is to follow it consistently meeting self imposed deadlines and milestones.

I know of a person who never went to school but just by being consistent and systematic, he is a renowned Sanskrit scholar today. He can fluently debate in Sanskrit too!!

[Pramod Srivastava](#)

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to have faith in oneself. Out of all twitter available, this one touched me most. But statement looks generic. Faith in oneself... Faith about what? I tried to complete the sentence. Faith in oneself that, he will make others around him to be successful.

For me success means, making others successful. If I am working for my success only, it is not success; it is disaster for me and my surrounding.

[Mridula Sankhyayan](#)

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to identify, understand and follow the laws of nature. It is like swimming downstream as compared to swim upstream. As soon as we align ourselves with natural laws and forces the cosmic energies start to focus and make things happen. Once the alignments are right success becomes simple and easy. It becomes second nature.

[Manjula JN](#)

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to identify and exploit ones strength than worrying about the weaknesses.

It is only the strengths that make you for what you are and what you want to be. Weakness and worrying over them are for those you want to be with failure. Choose a friend who can help you and it is YOU and your virtues that motivate you, direct you and guide you.

Time is precious. Spend not a minute worrying about what you cannot (rather do not want to do). Work on yourself. Know yourself, your strengths, capabilities, virtues, skills, use



them (all of them or some of them, in various combinations and varying proportion) and reap the benefits with what you already have and for sure you will succeed.

Ravi Kikan

Propensity to succeed is directly proportional to the ability to make timely decisions than making perfect decisions.

Success as a ratio is like a marathon where it really does not matter who takes the lead in the first 100 meters but it is for the one who conserves his right energy at the right time and then goes for the run. Yes finally the last 100 meters does matter.

The first stop advantage for the people who feel and make their decisions based on today and choose to pick the best combination of success as visible to them do find themselves ahead of the pack. However the decision is not a static one and has to be molded and remolded based on the daily race scores to achieve his or her goal keeping in mind the chronic pang.

Timely decisions to select the right magnitude of efforts, right combination of energy boosters, and right spirit of moving forward clubbed with the right patience levels makes the climb to the ladder of success a perfect one. Perfection is only an offspring of all these efforts molded in the right places and at the right time to result in a fruitful successful path of thought or action.

Finally it is the timely decisions that give rise to perfect situations or stances to launch which one has to visit and revisit with respect to the moving clock.

Preeti

My key is "Practice" because I believe in practice makes a man perfect.

Dave Maskin

1. I've taken my hobby and made it my profession
thus:

2. I love what I do.
And

3. I'm unique in what I do.
Finally,



4. Anyone who sees me in person creating loves what I do too.

Leading to:

5. new clients...

[Naveen Bothra](#)

Consistency and never die attitude is the key to success. Whenever I followed it, I did succeed. Recently I saw the movie "Farmer Astronaut" and I will suggest everyone to see it once if not yet done.

Our current education system is just to make us worth working in a factory like many more others. So, if we have to succeed further, we have to learn something extra and unlearn many more.

[Ravi Kiran](#)

Defeat...And not accepting it anytime!

[Ronald Vermeij](#)

Stay 100% pure to myself and listen with my heart to others

[Benjamin Lambert](#)

Well, my key to success is actually being myself, and enjoying my profession, this, I believe, leads to the finest outcomes... Really loving what you do, really caring about what happens, and thus giving the best possible service to you clients...

[Sridhar K](#)

I have been practicing the habit of doing what I believe is right in each of the situations and not what someone would be wanting me to do. I strongly believe that Character is 'What you do when you know no one else is watching'. Better someone's character, better is the opportunity to achieve something successfully (of course, there are other requirements like skill, practice, experience etc. but the raw material is character)

Another belief I have is that everything is simple and more we believe that it is simple,





simpler it becomes. One area I have seen people getting caught up because things are considered to be complex and difficult. However, the power of mind is such that there is nothing difficult or complex for it and it is easy for the mind to reduce any such situation into simple and easy solutions. I am sure; all of us would have experienced it many a times. This of course, has helped me to get excellent solutions to the so called difficult situations and problems.

Vickie Elmer

Your success list is very good and others have added much of what I would say. But here's one thing that works for me:

Know what you're the best at and spend much of your time doing those things.

Make great choices - and that means editing out opportunities, possibilities. Say no often and you'll get to the right yes.

Make great friends - and great colleagues in work and life.

Take time to think, to reflect, and to recharge. A walk, a poem, a cup of tea all will lift up your creativity and energy and passion.

And I agree that when you welcome success, you also must accept failure. So persistence and plans B and G also are useful to add to the success stew.

Thanks for your list - and this great question.

Eric King

1. Resolve who you are what you will fight for in life.
2. Stay focused on being "others focused". Work to generate benefit in the lives of others and believe that if you do, the best in them will be unleashed.
3. Be confident, but not proud. The proud will be humbled.
4. Live in a student posture.
5. Work at finding the joy in every circumstance. It is there and if you don't have enough faith that it is there... borrow mine. I have plenty to spare.

There is more... but I'm still working on doing these well consistently. I'll let you know about the others when I get beyond these five. Still not there yet.





Mahavir Pati

A great collection! Indeed the points you mentioned are important to be successful. I think the most important of these are

- a) remain focused
- b) be positive. Never give up hope (which, I know, is difficult, in a world filled with negativity). Learn not to be demoralized by rejection
- c) Work on yourself by learning from your mistakes.
- d) Be patient and
- e) Be persistent. Learn to accept rejection

Jon Van Volkinburg

Hard Work
Good Mentors
a Supportive Family

Mahalakshmi Parthasarathy

A Well Compiled list...

I vote for

"Define success in one's own terms than letting others decide"

This has been my secret mantra...I would also like to add to the above list "accept realistic targets, Plan well to achieve the same". This will surely save you from failures :)

Dilip Naidu

I believe that real success in life can be achieved with 'humility'. The greatest and most noble people in the world have always had the virtue of 'humility' deep in them. A beautiful story on 'humility' is described in

<http://dilipnaidu.wordpress.com/2009/04/15/humilty-a-great-virtue/>





Soma Pal

The only thing that helped me to be successful (in whatever way I have been) is that I knew my passion and followed it. I was always interested in teaching and in human behaviour. Everything else (like self-discipline, hard work, collaboration, resilience, goal-orientation etc) came naturally because I was and am doing what I love.

How did I apply it?

During my intermediate studies (Std. 11th and 12th), everyone (except my dad) forced me to choose Science over Arts saying that only the underachievers go for Arts. I took up Science for 2 months and decided that though it was interesting, the teachers killed it in the classroom. I shifted to Arts and followed English Literature, till I discovered Psychology. People thought I was a fool that I was becoming a couch philosopher and dreamer.

After graduating with Psychology and Sociology, I wanted to do MA in Psychology. People again laughed at me. This is what they said:

“If you take up psychology, you are bound to go mad”

“You can’t have a career in psychology in India; you have to go to the US”

“You don’t get money...do you want to be dependent on parents for long?”

It was very confusing especially because I needed a job. After going through the MBA courses syllabus of different institutes, I realized, I cannot stick with it. So, I did MA Psychology.

Then came the challenge. For one year I was running around for job. People never believed that a person with a degree in Psychology could join the HRD dept. In India, I think, preference is always given to MBA - HR for different reasons. I was very de-motivated, and had started questioning myself. After several applications, I got a job in eLearning as an SME for soft skills courses. I had to stay away, on my own, with really paltry salary. I was counting every rupee I was spending. However, all this became easier because I was doing something related to Psychology. People admired my commitment to the work, I was delivering results and I was able to climb the career ladder, slowly but surely.

Vijay Pereira

Self-Belief- Everything else will follow including success.



Giovanni Di Noto

The 4 P's: Passion, Patience, Perseverance and Professionalism

Jared James

I believe in the first one, have faith in oneself.

If you don't believe in yourself, you will not achieve what you want. It is crucial that we have our own mind on our side when becoming successful.

I have been my own worst enemy and once I started to believe in myself (which takes continued practice), I noticed that I would take more inspired action and know how to communicate with people better.

It's important that we 'Know thyself' and to 'Believe in thyself'

a great book on this is 'The Magic of Believing' by Claude Bristol.

From this principle, others follow, such as following the laws of nature, staying focused, etc. Great question.

Jay Vikram Bakshi

This is what I believe in:

1. there is no formula
2. Just do it! Or to paraphrase, Branson of Virgin- screw it, let's do it!

More in the spirit of teams

3. And finally, fake it, till you make it!

Enjoy the ride!

Alex Koscica

Know what you really want from life. Then you'll recognize it when your chance comes.





Bhaskar Natarajan

"Following my energy and investing my time there" is one of the success mantras that work for me.

Also I like to ask myself the following question, "What is the best use of my time, right now?"

Ankita C

My key to success is "living life"- with all the values, passion, ambitions, events (success/failure/opportunity) such that there is no looking back or forward and just being in peace with the present.

Atul Prasad

Success is liking oneself in a balanced way and working hard. By liking oneself in a balanced way I mean, accepting oneself as we are. This one trait, allows you to be comfortable with yourself and build confidence in your abilities. This I believe is the key, not talent, not education, not degrees. This is the reason why we see so many uneducated people; undergraduates do so well in different aspects of their lives. Compare them to an IIM, or a Harvard Graduate, they hardly have the "Usual" skills which makes people successful. Successful people make mistakes but they never stop liking themselves. When they fail, or encounter an event where life has been unreasonable with them they say "who cares, I did what I could" and they move on. It's this ability to like oneself that propels them to move from one failure to another. An unsuccessful person would deep down blame and dislike himself for what happened, brood and ultimately lack of self confidence settles in. I guess deep down your parents actually instill this in you, when they love you unconditionally and forgive you for your mistakes and say " Son, you are still the most wonderful thing for me, so, what you made a mistake, come I will teach you how not to repeat this mistake." That's when deep down you feel, mistakes do happen but basically I am good person, and I like myself for what I am.

PS. I would not like to take full credit for the above viewpoint; some of them are from my own experiences. But I feel anybody who needs to understand himself must read "The Road less Traveled" by M Scott Peck and "Emotional Intelligence" by Daniel Goleman.

Whereas the ability to like oneself allows you to progress the ability to like oneself in a balanced manner, gives you the discretionary power to decide in between liking yourself at any cost and justifying all your acts and chiding yourself for having done something which is bad, and harmful to others. There's a line which one should not cross, and successful people know that. It is this discretion which gives them the ability to exercise patience and wait for success. For example a sports person who uses dope crosses this line, and achieves



success, whereas a truly successful person will fail, not start disliking himself but try again and again till he succeeds. Both the athletes liked themselves, but one crossed the line and had no balance in his liking for himself, whereas the other had balance.

[Susan Shwartz PhD](#)

I do not feel especially successful. I do, however, respect myself, and I have built a life I consider to be worthwhile, entertaining, helpful, and stimulating. More, I don't need to speculate about.

