**10 Fundamental Habits for Success**

Some people believe that success just falls in people's laps. They are under the impression that some people are just born successful, like it's some kind of gene that you get by luck or happenstance. These people are wrong.

Success is earned. Through hard work, determination and will, success comes to those who are willing to put in the work and go the extra mile.

Even the people who get a lot of flack like celebrities and millionaire business owners put work in to learn about and hone their craft. They took an idea—a dream—and they ran with it. They had the courage to step outside of themselves and do the things they never imagined they could.

There is no more birthright, there is no stumbling into success, there is no getting lucky...there is only putting your head down and taking it a step farther than anyone else is willing to go.

If you are able to do this, if you are truly able to step outside of yourself, if you are willing to do what it takes, you will find a world of possibility. Your dreams will come true and you will live the life you've always wanted to have.

Now, no one said this is going to be easy. It's going to take practice with a lot of different skills—some that you may have never used before. Don't worry though, they're all easy to grasp.

Do you want to know these skills? Do you want to take your life to the next level?

Great!

That's what we're going to do in this report. I'm going to show you ten amazing, life-changing habits that will take you from where you are to where you've always wanted to be.

Don't worry! It's nothing that you can't handle. I have the upmost faith that you will be able to not only comprehend these habits, but to actively put them into practice.

I hope you're ready to change your life!

Before we get going, though, I wanted to let you know that there will be plenty more where this came from! Just make sure to keep up with my newsletter for more killer tips on how to take your life to the next level!

**Habit # 1: Network!**

It's not all about what you do. Very often, more often than not, it's about who you know.

Trust me, there are plenty of other hungry, talented people who want the same spot that you do. Having any kind of edge can be the difference between you getting your dream job or that next client.

One of the biggest advantages that you can have is a solid network. If you are able to surround yourself with likeminded people, if you are able to build real and lasting relationships, new doors will open up that you never even knew were there.

Let's say that you're applying for your dream job. You may not know this, but there are ten other candidates that they have interviewed, some that they really like and some that have made it to the next round of the interview.

Scenario 1:

You walk in off the street with a good (not great, but good) résumé. You kill it in the interview, you answer all the questions right, you are charming and smart, but for some reason your phone isn't ringing.

You call back to follow up and you find out someone else got the job. You don't know this, but the boss' son had a friend who was in the field and needed work. Although they wanted to check out other candidates, this kid had the job before you even walked in the door.

Seems unfair, right? Not really. Let's look at the next scenario.

Scenario 2:

You walk into an interview for a killer job, just as prepared as Scenario 1. Once again, you knock it out of the park. You're quick witted, you say all the right things and you let them know how much you want the job. You leave feeling good about what went down.

Two days later, your phone rings. You got the job!

What was different this time? Everything seems exactly the same, right?

Well, what I didn't tell you about this scenario is that you had a leg up. You didn't just walk in unknown off the street.

Your friend Chris already works at the company you interviewed with and he made sure to put in a great word. He spoke very highly of you and because he is well respected at the company, they took his word into pretty sincere consideration.

Sure, you nailed the interview, but it was Chris' word that put you over the edge.

This is a prime example of what a good network can do for you. If you are able to properly leverage your network, you will be able to achieve far more than you would have ever been able to do on your own.

Don't be afraid to call in favors when you need them. You'll have your turn to be in the same position later and you can help someone else to achieve their goals by putting in the right word with the right person.

Build your network, talk to new people and make friends. You never know when that network will come in handy!

**Habit # 2: Get things done before they are due/Time management**

Some people like to turn things in on time. That's great. They've achieved their goal and they've done the bare minimum to get by.

While you obviously don't want to be late, getting things done on time often isn't enough to push you to the next level. Nobody recognizes someone who just shows up and gets the job done—people are rewarded when they show initiative.

Push yourself to have things done ahead of the set timeline. Always strive to pace yourself so you can have things done in a good timetable, instead of procrastinating and getting things done at the last minute.

Let's look at an example.

Let's say that your boss has some really important documents that he needs you to fill out. You could get them to him on time, which is fine, but he may be stressing that you will hit the timeline because you are really pushing it to the last minute.

On the other hand, if you get the documents to him early, you will relieve a lot of his stress and free him up to focus on other things. This will make him grateful and will make you look like a better employee in his eyes.

People who get things done at the last minute get by...and they may even get by okay.

Those who focus on getting things done ahead of time on the other hand, show initiative and show that they are invested in what they are doing.

Don't be the guy who skates by. Be the person who people know will knock things out of the park ahead of time and will be able to move onto the next thing with time to spare.

**Habit # 3: Surround yourself with better people**

This sounds very similar to networking, but it is not actually the same thing. There's a difference between building a network that you can rely on and personally surrounding yourself with people who share your values and goals.

Keep in mind that your personal life can greatly affect your work life. If you are out every night getting wasted with partiers, you may struggle to get up on time and get your work done when you need to.

In the same respect, if you hang out with a bunch of negative people who do nothing but complain and point fingers, you will be likely to get sucked into their drama.

Now, on the flip side, if you are able to surround yourself with successful people who always look on the bright side and work hard towards their goals, you will be MUCH more likely to be working hard toward your own goals as well.

People have a tendency to adapt to their environments, whatever those environments may be. If you put yourself in a good, success oriented environment, it is likely that you'll be working towards your dreams and making progress.

If you hang out with a bunch of lazy burnouts or party animals...well...your goals may become a little harder to achieve than you had anticipated.

Find a good group of people and help to push them forward. In turn they will reciprocate this help and will help to keep *you* focused on the task at hand.

Remember that you are the people you surround yourself with. Make sure you surround yourself with winners!

**Habit # 4: Own up to your mistakes**

Look, we all screw things up. No one is perfect. I've known millionaires who have almost lost their entire fortune because of mistakes they made. This doesn't make them any worse of people, it just makes them human.

The difference between successful people and unsuccessful people is that successful people own up to their mistakes. They take responsibility for their actions and they don't let others take the fall.

Sure, owning up may mean repercussions, but "being found out" will be much, MUCH worse.

Let's look at an example.

Let's say that you are working as a temp at an agency and things are going really well. The staff really likes you and it looks like you may get hired on if you keep up the good work.

One day you are in the middle of filing paperwork when you realize something is missing. You've lost a document! There are two ways you can handle this:

1. You freak out and try to cover your tracks. When anyone asks you about it, you lie and misplace the blame.

2. You own up to your mistake, apologize sincerely and take whatever is dished out to you.

Sure, number two could go south. They may not be very forgiving and they may even let you go. Really, if they go that far, you probably don't want to work for people like that anyway.

What's more likely is that if you own up to your mistakes, they may be upset with you, but they will respect the fact that you were honest and this will go a long way towards building trust.

It may even work in your favor! By owning up, you show that you are trustworthy, which makes you an even more valuable team member.

On the other hand, if you lie and cover things up, things could go either way. If they never find out the truth, sure you won't get in trouble, but you'll have to live with the fact that you're a liar.

If they *do* find out that you lied, not only will they most likely fire you on the spot, but it may tarnish your reputation. Word gets around and even though they aren't legally allowed to give you a bad reference, it is likely that the information will leak one way or another.

This is an example of a network working against you. You better believe the higher ups have a network and not just within their own company. Once word gets around that you are a liar and that you don't own up to your mistakes, it may become very difficult to recover and take back your reputation.

It's better to avoid all the hassle and own up to what you did. Even if there are consequences, at least your conscience can be clear and you will have other's respect for being truthful. Nobody wants to deal with a liar.

**Habit # 5: Learn from your mistakes**

After owning up to your mistakes, you need to take a moment to process them. What did you do wrong? Why did you do it? What about your mistake made it a mistake?

It's not as easy as saying, "Whoops! Won't do that again!" You have to actually take a moment to consider what you did and, more importantly, what you can do next time to avoid your mistake.

Mistakes aren't often isolated incidents. Sure, you could knock something over and break it, but making a major business error is a little complicated than that.

Assess what the severity of the mistake was and what steps could have been taken to prevent the mistake. In the perfect world, what would have happened differently? What would things have looked like if you didn't make that mistake? Most importantly, what are you going to do moving forward.

Insanity is doing the same thing over and over while expecting different results. Don't make the same mistake over and over. Make some tweaks and if you make the same mistake again, see what else you can change.

Life is a learning process. No one gets it perfect the first time around. It's what we do with the new information that counts.

**Habit # 6: Get back up when you're knocked down**

Life has a habit of pushing us off our high horse. Whenever we think things are going well, whenever we think we are on top of the world, things take a turn for the worst.

Suddenly everything is upside-down. What was consistent is scattered, what was aligned is made askew. You are thrown into turmoil and the more you stress out, the more you flounder.

The instinct of the average Joe in this situation is to drown. I don't know why most people's natural instinct is to give up, it seems counter-intuitive for survival, yet people do it every day. They face one small example of rejection and they throw their hands up, walking away in defeat.

DON'T BE THAT GUY.

I REPEAT, **DON'T BE THAT GUY!**

If I can stress anything in this report, it's that life will kick the crap out of you. It's not about how well you were doing. It's not about how hard life hits you either. As Rocky puts it, "It ain't about how hard you're hit, it's about how you can get hit and keep moving forward. How much can you take and keep moving forward?"

Well put, Rocky.

You're going to take a lot of blows and sometimes you will learn to duck. Other times, you will get pummeled and you'll go down. The question is, will you stay down? Will you accept defeat? Will you let the bell ring and hang your head as you exit the arena? Will you put up your gloves and never step in the ring again?

I don't mean to sound harsh, but if this is you, if you are the guy who walks away after getting batted around a little, then you might as well never even try. If you can't handle the fight, don't step in the ring.

I'm not trying to be a jerk, I just want to be realistic and express the importance of this.

Don't be a coward. Don't walk away. That's what everyone else is doing and that's what everyone expects you to do. If you're like everyone else, you'll never pull ahead. You can't win a race if you're always tied.

Be strong, be vigilant and NEVER give up.

**Habit # 7: Take risks**

The only way to change things around you is to step off your current path. The only way to see new things, to experience the thrill of doing something new, is to get out of your comfort zone.

The bold are the ones who get the rewards. The confident guy gets the girl, the entrepreneur makes the millions and the brave soldier earns the respect. Everyone, at some point, has to take risks if they want to succeed.

There is no playing it safe. There is no waiting out the storm. If you want something, you have to go after it with everything you got. No pulling punches, no cowering in the corner...you have to fight for each inch and you have to put your chin out and be willing to take the hit.

Sometimes life will punch you in the face. I'm not going to lie, not every risk ends with success. In fact, most risks you take will end in failure. Get over it.

You aren't putting in the effort for the times you fail. You are taking the risk for that one time you succeed. That's all it takes. With all of the risks you take and all of the failures you have to deal with, it will all be worth it when something pans out.

No one said being successful would be easy. The path isn't filled with fluffy pillows and flowers. You are constantly on the edge of a cliff, you are always in peril and you could fall at any minute. Once you get to the top of the mountain, though, you will see that it was all worth it.

You can't get to the summit if you never start the climb. You'll never see that beautiful view if you give up every time something dangerous comes up. You have to be willing to stick with it through still and storm to come out successful on the other side.

Take risks, big and small. When things work out, celebrate, but stay humble. Remember these things could be stripped away at any minute.

When things don't work out, stay strong. Keep taking risks until something hits.

You are always taking risks in life. It's time to take some that actually matter.

**Habit # 8: Find your values and stick to them**

Your values should dictate what you do.

Let me repeat that.

YOUR VALUES SHOULD DICTATE WHAT YOU DO.

Notice what I *didn't say*. I didn't say:

* Money
* Power
* Fame
* Other people
* Material goods
* etc

Your values should be held dear to you. They are one of the only things that you *truly* own and they are one of the most important decisions that you can make.

Determining your values can change the way that you look at the world, your goals and your overall path in life. If you are able to live in accordance with your values, I *guarantee* your life will be better and more fulfilling.

First and foremost, you have to determine what your values are. You may *think* you value certain things, but when you get to the root of it, your values may be completely different than what you imagined they would be.

Here's an exercise:

Think about what you want your life to look like ten years in the future. Some people may automatically think *I want a big house, lots of money, nice cars, a beautiful significant other...*and that's not necessarily a bad thing. The question is, are those things *really* in line with your values?

Let's look at them a little closer. Let's say that you want a big house. Why? To fit all your stuff, right? Why do you need all that stuff? Does hoarding expensive items really make you happy? Do you feel the need to impress others? Probably not.

Instead, are you the kind of person who loves the beach? Wouldn't you rather spend your money on a nice beachfront property?

In this example, your value may be natural beauty, nature or living somewhere peaceful. How big the house is and what's in it may not be important—just the fact that you can walk out on your porch and see the ocean may be enough.

The same with lots of money. What does that really get you? A bunch of useless stuff? Maybe you just want to know that your family and you are taken care of, you can send your kids to college and you can live a good life. Is your value money, or is it family, comfort and peace of mind?

Keep these things in mind when determining your values. Look a little deeper and you'll find what is *actually* important to you and what just *seems* important.

Once you've learned your values, stick to them! Make sure that all of your decisions are in line with your values, even if it seems like you're missing out on opportunities. Trust me, if you are sacrifices your values for opportunities, you won't end up happy in the end anyway.

Find your values and let them lead you to a better life!

**Habit # 9: List your goals and break them down into chunks**

Once you know your values, you can start working on your goals. Remember, you're values should come first. Your goals can follow and be extrapolated from your values.

Once you have your goals list them out. Start pie in the sky. Look at the big picture. What do you want to accomplish overall? This should only be a few goals. Everything else should just end up feeding into these goals.

Once you know what your big picture goals are, start breaking them down into smaller, more manageable goals. You can then start to attack the smaller goals one at a time, instead of shooting straight for the big picture.

This will help you to focus on each part of your bigger goal and get it done properly, while also making the task of fulfilling your goals seem less daunting.

Setting goals is important, but it is only the first step in the process. Make sure to actively work on them, even if you can only work on them one small bit at a time. It may not seem like you're doing much, but over time the pieces of the puzzle will come together and your big picture will become a reality!

**Habit # 10: Take some time off**

I know you want to get things done and get them done as quickly as possible. There is nothing wrong with having drive, but you have to make sure to moderate it, otherwise you may burn out.

I've seen tons of people start projects with lots of zest. They have passion, they have drive and they push themselves as hard as they can...in the beginning. Over time, though, they start to get stressed out. Usually at that point they'll either get frustrated and quit, or slow down to a crawl and never get things finished.

To avoid this, take some time off. Pace yourself and make sure you are getting the rest and relaxation you need. Sure, it's important to reach your goals and you shouldn't go at a snail's pace, but you also shouldn't sacrifice your mental and physical health.

Don't neglect your family, don't get four hours of sleep a night and don't work a month at a time without a day off. It may seem like you are pulling ahead, but you are only hurting yourself in the end.

**YOU CAN DO THIS**

You can be successful and you can live the life you've always wanted. Just follow these ten amazing tips and you will be on your way to the top in no time!

Remember, if you liked this report, keep up with my newsletter! You'll get tons of life-changing tips for success that will take you to the next level!