

12 Keys to Success on Your Own Terms

By: Janine L. Moore

There are 12 keys that can help you create success on your own terms. Keep these in mind while planning your career change.

- A. Get clear about **why** you want to work on your own terms. Focus on a compelling vision. Considering saving funds for your future, which would motivate you more? Saving a large sum of money to pay for your care in a senior citizen home or saving for an RV so you can travel across country while working on the road?
- B. **Create a picture of what you want.** A Vision Board can be a useful tool for this. Some might prefer to create one on their computer using Pinterest. Remember to view your vision often.
- C. Be willing to face your fears. **Knowing your why and having a clear vision of what you want** will help you to overcome any obstacles along the way. Use obstacles as a challenge to generate creative solutions.
- D. Take yourself out of your comfort zone. **Don't be afraid of failure.** If you have not had any recent failures, you are not reaching high enough. Trial and error and learning what doesn't work is how we learn what will work for us.
- E. Quit activities that don't interest you and someone else can do better. **Consider how you can best serve others.** This will lead to your own success. Encourage others to do what they do best. Exchange products and services with each other.
- F. Express passion in your work. **Tap into your emotions.** What do you love? What makes you angry? What do you wish to share with others? Tap into the answer in your work.
- G. Don't settle for mediocrity. **Be your best.**

- H. **Be persistent.** Most people who are viewed as an ‘overnight success’ spent years perfecting their craft. A musician does not create a #1 hit the first time she picks up a guitar to play it. In today’s ‘quick fix’ world, this may be the most difficult to master.
- I. **Find a support group** you can learn from and brainstorm with. Nobody succeeds without the help of others. Trying to do everything yourself may be what delays your success.
- J. Give more than you receive. Say thank-you. **Show gratitude** to everyone who has helped you along the way.
- K. Devote yourself to lifelong learning. **Listen more often** than you speak. It’s the best way to learn.
- L. Commit to reaching your goals. Take a step today. **Life is too short not to live your dreams.** By midlife, it feels even shorter. Do it now!