60 SIMPLE STRATEGIES TO INCREASE YOUR PRODUCTIVITY

- 1. Creating a universal system and protocols and making sure your team knows these can help increase productivity 100%.
- 2. If you want to increase productivity in your team, establish a performance goal that inspires people to take action.
- 3. One habit that many highly productive people confess to is getting up earlier than others. How could you use an extra hour or two?
- 4. Find the right tools to help you achieve your daily goals. Finding ways to simplify tasks will boost productivity and increase mindset.
- 5. It's not enough to plan to reach a goal: For maximum productivity, plan how you can maintain success once you reach it.
- 6. Make a list of the "time waster" habits in your everyday life. How will you take steps to reduce these?
- 7. Important tasks are worth doing well. ("Hurry and impatience are sure marks of the amateur" -Evelyn Underhill)
- 8. It's important to keep up with business learning. Listen to podcasts while doing other things, if you don't have time or to read books.
- 9. Combine your personal life action list with your work action list for maximum effectiveness.
- 10. If you really want to be more productive, learn to say "no". (What are three things you can start saying "no" to?)
- 11. Identify distractions and replace them with new, productive habits. (What is one distraction you can eliminate right now?)
- 12. Review your "to do" list at the end of the day. If you consistently don't achieve its goals, reduce the number of tasks.
- 13. "You can prepare all you want, but if you never roll the dice you'll never be successful" Shia LaBeouf
- 14. To eliminate time wasted on meetings, plan them, send everyone an agenda, appoint a chairperson and stick to your agenda.
- 15. Respect your team members' expertise and remember that different viewpoints can lead to innovative solutions.

- 16. To increase productivity, eliminate reactivity. Plan at least a week ahead, using a system that you find easy and pleasant to use.
- 17. If you don't like videos, and a particular business person's emails always contains videos you have to watch, clear the clutter. Unsubscribe.
- 18. When it comes to productivity, find out if it works best for you to tackle your hardest task first or last. (Everyone is different!)
- 19. To increase productivity, set time limits on meetings, phone calls and tasks. Make note of what works and doesn't and refine these.
- 20. If you want to increase productivity, resist the urge to multi-task. Focus on one task at a time and get each one done.
- 21. Get rid of clutter to increase productivity and this includes ruthlessly dumping negative, energy-sapping people.
- 22. Take a leaf from your high school days and work on different tasks in "periods". This technique can actually increase productivity.
- 23. Recognize that "emails aren't letters, they're tasks". Use Active Inbox to help clean and sort: http://www.activeinboxhq.com/index.php
- 24. If you want to increase productivity in your team, learn to recognize what each person's "reward" is and provide it.
- 25. Which apps do you use to boost your productivity? What's the common denominator in why you like each one? (E.g. easy to use, visuals, etc.)
- 26. Create an "Action List" not a "chore" or "to do" list and learn to think of it that way. The positive wording can work miracles.
- 27. Knowing team member motivations helps productivity, but it's also important to understand what discourages each one.
- 28. Use a project management system if your team consists of more than just you and your VA. (Try Basecamp or Asana.)
- 29. If you want to increase team productivity, try "walking a mile" in members' shoes. Ask about their challenges and goals.
- 30. "Concentrate all your thoughts upon the work in hand. The Sun's rays do not burn until brought to a focus" Alexander Graham Bell
- 31. To increase productivity, take the initial time to learn programs or apps you use completely. E.g. explore your inbox capabilities.
- 32. Eliminate distractions. Don't run desktop apps that give alerts about non-productive stuff, such as the latest tweet or email.

- 33. Use the power of systems and software you already have: For example, use Excel to create a time-tracking spreadsheet.
- 34. If you really want to increase productivity, do small or unpleasant tasks "right now" instead of assigning them to your To-Do list.
- 35. To simplify and streamline your Outlook Express inboxes, use a manager like Clear Context: http://www.clearcontext.com/gtd/
- 36. To increase productivity, identify your best money-making activities and focus more time and priority to each one.
- 37. To increase productivity, work smarter by delegating, discarding and outsourcing more tasks.
- 38. Don't just identify money-making activities to increase productivity: Pay attention to each one's ROI.
- 39. Ruthlessly eliminate procrastination habits and activities if you want to create more productivity. Do it one habit at a time.
- 40. "Amateurs sit and wait for inspiration, the rest of us just get up and go to work" Stephen King, on writing productivity.
- 41. "Nothing is less productive than to make more efficient what should not be done at all" Peter Drucker, originator of "outsourcing".
- 42. Follow through and follow up are as important in increasing productivity as planning. Have you found this to be true?
- 43. Keep a notebook or record your ideas via your smartphone and Evernote as they occur, to make the most of creative bursts.
- 44. To increase productivity, cross half the things off your To-Do list every day and highlight no more than 3 remaining ones as top priority.
- 45. "Taking action without thinking is the cause of every failure" Peter Drucker, originator of the business "community" concept.
- 46. Adopt taking a "power period" every day a chunk of time in which you work on something, allowing absolutely no distraction.
- 47. Schedule your "power period" for the daily time slot you notice you're usually the most productive within.
- 48. If getting started is your nemesis, schedule your "power period" for first thing in the morning (when you would usually be on Facebook!)
- 49. If typing slows you down, either outsource written content or learn/brush up on your touch typing at (free) http://www.keybr.com/.

- 50. To increase productivity, look for external distractions and remove them. Face your desk away from the window, turn off the radio, etc.
- 51. Try playing classical or meditation music softly in the background. Are you one of those whose productivity increases when you do this?
- 52. Which Google app could help you increase productivity the most? http://www.google.com/enterprise/apps/business/index.html
- 53. To increase productivity, take five minutes to print out Google keyboard shortcuts: http://support.microsoft.com/kb/126449
- 54. "When you find something you want to view later, put it in Pocket" https://getpocket.com/
- 55. When trying to streamline family life create an Action Station in a central place where family can check schedules, post notes, etc.
- 56. Answer emails you look at either straight away or not at all. Don't promise yourself you'll do it "later". (You won't.)
- 57. Track your time at least twice a year. Seeing where you waste it can help you be more productive. (Try https://www.toggl.com/.)
- 58. To increase productivity, give your mind a makeover. Spend a few sessions with a Lifestyle Coach to help find the leaks.
- 59. Productivity tip: Create routines but make sure they work for all family members. If one isn't working, change it (or change the time).
- 60. "Productivity is being able to do things that you were never able to do before" Franz Kafka



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