

THINKING FOR A CHANGE

11 Ways Highly Successful People Approach Life and Work

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The Web site for this book is at www.thinkingforachange.com.

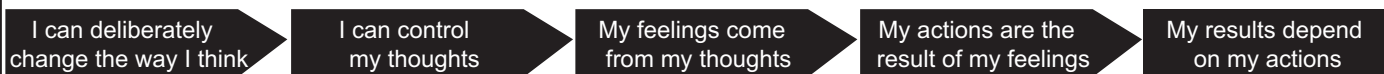
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MAIN IDEA

To change and enhance your life, learn how to think better.

Get into better thinking habits and you can actually change your life. This is the reason why some people are highly successful while others are not – the successful people think differently from those who are not. Therefore, whether you are currently successful or not, you can literally think your way to the top of your field if you make a deliberate and conscious effort to upgrade your own personal thinking habits and practices.

To be more specific, there is a direct cause-and-effect relationship between what you choose to think about, how you feel and what you accomplish in this way:



Thus, if you learn to think the way successful people do, you change your thinking. By enhancing the way you think, you change the way you feel for the better. By upgrading the way you feel, you'll change your actions – you'll do different things. And by changing your actions to become more productive, you'll achieve more. Changing the way you think sets off a chain reaction that will lead to greater success and achievement in the future.

"Life consists of what a man is thinking about all day." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

"The actions of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts." – John Locke

"You are today where your thoughts have brought you. You will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you." – James Allen

"Nothing limits achievement like small thinking; Nothing expands possibilities like unleashed thinking." – William Arthur Ward

"Nurture great thoughts, for you will never go higher than your thoughts." – Benjamin Disraeli

"What one thing do all successful people have in common? What one thing separates those who go to the top from those who never seem to get there? The answer: Good thinking! Those who embrace good thinking as a lifestyle understand the relationship between their level of thinking and their level of progress. They also realize that to change their lives, they must change their thinking. The problem with most educational institutions is that they try to teach people what to think, not how to think. Contrary to what Francis Bacon said, knowledge alone is not power. Knowledge has value only in the hands of someone who has the ability to think well. People must learn how to think well to achieve their dreams and to reach their potential. Jack Welch once said: 'Ninety nine point nine percent of all employees are in the pile because they don't think'. If you desire to climb up out of the pile, to rise beyond your circumstances, to move up to another level in your career and personal life, then you need to take the advice of Jack Welch. You need to become the best thinker you can be. It can revolutionize your life."

– John Maxwell

1. To change your life, change what you think about. Pages 2 - 3

Good thinking habits and practices are the distinguishing factor between high achievers and the average person. Quite literally, successful people understand the relationship between what they think about and what they achieve. By controlling and directing what they think about, they control what they accomplish.

2. The 11 thinking skills of successful people Pages 3 - 8

Eleven Thinking Skills of Success		
1	Think about the big picture	How can I gain wisdom by injecting a holistic perspective into my thinking?
2	Use tightly focused thinking	What clutter can be ignored so I can concentrate on the real issue?
3	Think creatively	How can I think outside the square to come up with some original ideas?
4	Be realistic in your thinking	How can I have certainty by building on a foundation of solid facts?
5	Think strategically	What can I plan today that will increase my results in the future?
6	Think in terms of possibilities	How can I harness enthusiasm to develop solutions for hard problems?
7	Embrace some reflective thinking	Will revisiting the past give me a better perspective and understanding?
8	Always question popular thinking	How can I overcome the limits everyone else just accepts?
9	Encourage the input of others	In what ways will using the ideas of others compound my effectiveness?
10	Try collaborative thinking	How can I work with others to create an enduring legacy?
11	Use bottom-line thinking well	How can I maximize the tangible results of my thinking?

