

# BEST QUOTES ON DEDICATION/ DETERMINATION

When nothing seems to help, I go and look at a stonecutter hammering away at his rock perhaps a hundred times without as much as a crack showing in it. Yet at the hundred and first blow it will split in two, and I know it was not that blow that did it—but all that had gone before.

--Jacob Riis

Those on top of the mountain didn't fall there.

--Vince Lombardi

The value of courage, persistence, and perseverance has rarely been illustrated more convincingly than in the life story of this man (his age appears in the column on the right):

Failed in business	22
Ran for Legislature—defeated	23
Again failed in business	24
Elected to Legislature	25
Sweetheart died	26
Had a nervous breakdown	27
Defeated for Speaker	29
Defeated for Elector	31
Defeated for Congress	34
Elected to Congress	37
Defeated for Congress	39
Defeated for Senate	46
Defeated for Vice President	47
Defeated for Senate	49
Elected President of the United States	51

That's the record of Abraham Lincoln.

--Unknown

Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.

--Thomas Alva Edison

Many of life's failures are men who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.

--Thomas A. Edison

I wouldn't listen to the naysayers and haters. Who cares? The people who succeed are the people who don't quit.

—Cyndi Lauper

In the confrontation between the stream and the rock, the stream always wins—not through strength, but through persistence.

--H. Jackson Brown

It's not that I'm so smart. It's that I stay with problems longer.

--Albert Einstein

If people knew how hard I worked to get my mastery, it wouldn't seem so wonderful after all.

--Michelangelo

Grit—perseverance plus the exclusive pursuit of a single passion—is a severely underrated component of career success.

—Angela Duckworth

I never once made a discovery ... I speak without exaggeration that I have constructed three thousand different theories in connection with the electric light ... Yet in only two cases did my experiments prove the truth of my theory.

--Thomas A. Edison

[Thomas Edison] ate at this desk and slept in a chair. In six weeks he had gone through the books, written a volume of abstracts, and made two thousand experiments...and produced a solution.

—Edward Hibberd  
Johnson

I never lose. Either I win or I learn.

—Nelson Mandela

On particularly rough days when I'm sure I can't possibly endure, I like to remind myself that my track record for getting through bad days so far is 100%...and that's pretty good.

—Unknown

I fear not the man who has practiced 10,000 kicks, but I fear the man who has practiced one kick 10,000 times.

—Bruce Lee

I think and think for months and years. Ninety-nine times, the conclusion is false. The hundredth time, I am right.

--Albert Einstein

Ask Americans which they think is more important to success, effort or talent, and they pick effort two to one. Ask them which quality they'd desire most in a new employee, and they pick industriousness over intelligence five to one.

—Jerry Useem

When I was young I observed that nine out of every ten things I did were failures, so I did ten times more work.

—George Bernard Shaw

Most careers are made or marred in the hours after supper.

--C. R. Lawton

The real difference between men is energy. A strong will, a settled purpose, an invincible determination, can accomplish almost anything; and in this lies the distinction between great men and little men.

—Thomas Fuller

When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.

--Franklin D. Roosevelt

R. H. Macy failed seven times before his store in New York caught on.

Novelist John Creasey got 753 rejection slips before he published the first of his 564 books.

Thomas Edison was thrown out of school in the early grades when the teachers decided he could not do the work.

Harry S. Truman failed as a haberdasher.

When Bob Dylan performed at a high school talent show, his classmates booed him off the stage.

W. Clement Stone, successful insurance company executive and founder of *Success* magazine, was a high school dropout.

--Joe Griffith

If I miss one day's practice, I notice it. If I miss two days, the critics notice it. If I miss three days, the audience notices it.

--Ignace Paderewski

We must remember that one determined person can make a significance difference, and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history.

--Sonia Johnson

Things may come to those who wait, but only the things left by those who hustle.

--Abraham Lincoln

Do a little more each day than you think you possibly can.

--Lowell Thomas

All the performances of human art, at which we look with praise or wonder, are instances of the resistless force of perseverance: it is by this that the quarry becomes a pyramid, and that distant countries are united with canals. If a man was to compare the effect of a single stroke of the pick-ax, or of one impression of the spade with the general design and last result, he would be overwhelmed by the sense of their disproportion; yet those petty operations, incessantly continued, in time surmount the greatest difficulties, and mountains are leveled, and oceans bounded, by the slender force of human beings.

--Samuel Johnson

The thing to try when all else fails is again.

--Shirley Chisholm

It is harder to engrave on marble than on sand, but the inscription lasts much longer.

--Moliere

Keep on going and the chances are you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I have never heard of anyone stumbling on something sitting down.

--Charles F. Kettering

When you have exhausted all possibilities, remember this: you haven't.

—Thomas Edison

With ordinary talent and extraordinary perseverance, all things are attainable.

--T. F. Buxton

Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal. My strength lies solely in my tenacity.

--Louis Pasteur

I am only an average man, but, by George, I work harder at it than the average man.

--Theodore Roosevelt

If ambition doesn't hurt you, you haven't got it.

--Kathleen Norris

You can see things, and you say, 'Why?' but I see things that never were and I say, 'Why not?'

--George Bernard Shaw

When Henry Ford wanted safety-glass for one of his new models, he went to his tried and tested engineers for help. All 130 of them knew too many reasons why safety-glass could not be produced. Finally, a young engineer, who knew no reason why it couldn't be done, set to work and developed safety-glass.

--Unknown

One step won't take you very far;  
You've got to keep on walking;  
One word won't tell folks who you are;  
You've got to keep on talking;  
One inch won't make you very tall;  
You've got to keep on growing;  
One deed won't do it all;  
You've go to keep on going.

--*Arkansas Baptist*

The secret of success can be stated in nine words: Stick to it, Stick to it, Stick to it.

--Unknown

I studied the lives of great men and famous women, and I found that the men and women who got to the top were those who did the jobs they had in hand, with everything they had of energy and enthusiasm and hard work.

--Harry S. Truman

You've got to keep fighting—you've got to risk your life every six months to stay alive.

--Elia Kazan

Never let your head hang down. Never give up and sit down and grieve. Find another way. And don't pray when it rains if you don't pray when the sun shines.

--Satchel Paige

Whether it be to failure or success, the first need of being is endurance—to endure with gladness if we can, with fortitude in any event.

--Bliss Carman

The heights by great men reached and kept  
Were not attained by sudden flight,  
But they, while their companions slept,  
Were toiling upward in the night.

--Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

I have been driven many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me seemed insufficient for the day.

--Abraham Lincoln

What saves a man is to take a step. Then another step. It is always the same step, but you have to take it.

--Antoine de  
Saint-Exupéry

Where the willingness is great, the difficulties cannot be great.

--Niccolo Machiavelli

Those who live are those who fight.

--Victor Hugo

By perseverance the snail reached the ark.

--Charles Haddon  
Spurgeon

The best way out is always through.

—Robert Frost

It is not necessary to hope in order to undertake, nor to succeed in order to persevere.

--Charles the Bold

Three simple rules in life: If you do not go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you do not ask, the answer will always be no. If you do not step forward, you will always be in the same place.

—Nora Roberts

I know of no more encouraging fact than the unquestionable ability of man to elevate his life by a conscious endeavor.

--Henry David Thoreau

Lord, grant that I may always desire more than I can accomplish.

--Michelangelo

It is not by finding new and easy ways to accomplish any work that it has ever yet been accomplished in this world; it is by holding hard to the handles of the plow and driving the furrow through.

--Elihu Root

There is probably not a single man or woman, who, mostly from self-interest, it is true, but it might also have been from a superior motive, has not overcome powerful obstacles and accomplished things extremely difficult to undertake.

--Ernest Dimnet

No one has the divine right to survive and to prosper. It is a right that must be earned day in and day out.

--John Stewart Mill

What and how much had I lost by trying to do only what was expected of me instead of what I myself had wished to do? What a waste, what a senseless waste.

--Ralph Ellison

People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them.

--George Bernard Shaw

The busiest man needs no more hours of rest than the idler.

--William James

Thinking always ahead, thinking always of trying to do more, brings a state of mind in which nothing seems impossible.

--Henry Ford

Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after another.

--Walter Elliott

The man who gives up accomplishes nothing and is only a hindrance.

The man who does not give up can move mountains.

--Ernest Hello

Among the things that I did was the photographing of a cup and saucer, a white cup and saucer on white ground, with what photographers call a gray scale in front of it. I photographed that throughout one entire summer. When the summer was over, just for the heck of it, I started counting the negatives. When I got to a thousand, I stopped counting....The knowledge I gained of photography then became like something in my bloodstream.

--Edward Steichen

Mediocrity obtains more with application than superiority without it.

--Baltasar Gracian

An impossibility does not disturb us until its accomplishment shows what fools we were.

--Henry S. Haskins

In this age, which believes that there is a short cut to everything, the greatest lesson to be learned is that the most difficult way is, in the long run, the easiest.

--Henry Miller

All the best work is done the way ants do things—by tiny but untiring and regular additions.

--Lafcadio Hearn

It takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!

--Lewis Carroll

When a distinguished but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he is almost certainly right. When he states that something is impossible, he is very probably wrong.

--Arthur C. Clarke

The expert in anything was once a beginner.

--Helen Hayes

The sooner you make your first five thousand mistakes, the sooner you will be able to correct them.

--Kimon Nicolaides

All rising to great places is by a winding stair.

--Francis Bacon

Nothing is really over until the moment you stop trying.

—Brian Dyson

No one knows what is in him till he tries, and many would never try if they were not forced to.

--Basil W. Maturin

Ignore people who say you can't do it, even if this person is yourself.

—Martha Reed

Pray to God, but keep rowing to the shore.

--Russian Proverb

One can go a long way after one is tired.

--French Proverb

Before the gates of excellence the high gods have placed sweat; long is the road thereto and rough and steep at first; but when the heights are reached, then there is ease, though grievously hard in the winning.

--Hesiod

I walk firmer and more secure up hill than down.

--Michel de Montaigne

Much effort, much prosperity.

--Euripides

He that would have the fruit must climb the tree.  
--Thomas Fuller

He who limps is still walking.  
--Stanislaw Lec

No one knows what he can do till he tries.  
--Publilius Syrus

Nothing can come of nothing.  
--William Shakespeare

The unfinished is nothing.  
--Henri Frederic Amiel

Roasted pigeons will not fly into one's mouth.  
--Pennsylvania Dutch  
Proverb

Go and wake up your luck.  
--Persian Proverb

If you don't crack the shell, you can't eat the nut.  
--Russian Proverb

A man that is young in years may be old in hours if he have lost no time.  
--Francis Bacon

The loftiest towers rise from the ground.  
--Chinese Proverb

There is no fruit which is not bitter before it is ripe.  
--Publilius Syrus

Continual dripping wears away a stone.  
--Lucretius

Little by little does the trick.  
--Aesop

If you start to take Vienna—take Vienna.

--Napoleon Bonaparte

Never give up and never give in.

--Hubert H. Humphrey

The person who makes a success of living is the one who sees his goal steadily and aims for it unswervingly. That is dedication.

--Cecil B. De Mille

They can do all because they think they can.

--Virgil

Never give in! Never, never, never, never, never, never. In nothing great or small, large or petty—never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense.

--Winston Churchill

You may be whatever you resolve to be. Determine to be something in the world, and you will be something. 'I cannot' never accomplished anything; 'I will try' has wrought wonders.

--Joel Hawes

Every noble work is at first impossible.

--Thomas Carlyle

The dog that trots about finds a bone.

--Golda Meir

He conquers who endures.

--Persius

Impossible is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools.

--Napoleon I

They can conquer who believe they can. It is he who has done the deed once who does not shrink from attempting it again.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

The mode by which the inevitable comes to pass is effort.

--Oliver Wendell  
Holmes

If we want to see what men are capable of when they wish, we need only think of the people who have escaped from prisons or who have attempted to escape. With a single nail they have achieved as much as if they had had a battering ram!

--Georg Christoph  
Lichtenberg

Life gives nothing to mankind unless they strive mightily.

--Horace

Inch by inch, life's a cinch.

--John Bytheway

Nothing is to be had for nothing.

--Epictetus

Perseverance can lend the appearance of dignity and grandeur to many actions, just as silence in company affords wisdom and apparent intelligence to a stupid person.

--Georg Christoph  
Lichtenberg

Many strokes overthrow the tallest oaks.

--John Lyly

Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little.

--Plutarch

Even after a bad harvest there must be sowing.

--Seneca

Where there is a will there is a way.

--French Proverb

Unremitting toil overcomes every difficulty.

--Virgil

If you want a place in the sun, you will have to expect some blisters.

-- Loretta Young

Obstacles cannot crush me

Every obstacle yields to stern resolve

He who is fixed to a star does not change his mind.

--Leonardo da Vinci

Slow and steady wins the race.

--Aesop

The fall of dripping water hollows the stone.

--Lucretius

Stopping at third base adds no more to the score than striking out.

—American Proverb

Just over the hill is a beautiful valley, but you must climb the hill to see it.

--Unknown

The man who gets ahead is the man who does more than is necessary—and keeps on doing it.

—E. C. McKenzie

The man who really wants to do something finds a way; the other man finds an excuse.

--Jim Rohn

If you get up one time more than you fall, you will make it through.

--Chinese Proverb

It is often the last key on the ring that opens the door.

--Paulo Coelho

Behind every successful man there are usually a lot of unsuccessful years.

--Bob Brown

The man who wins may have been counted out several times, but he didn't hear the referee.

--H. E. Jansen

Diligence is the mother of good fortune.

--Miguel de Cervantes

Little strokes,  
Fell great oaks.

--Benjamin Franklin

Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

--Thomas Edison

For every person who will say yes, there are twenty who will say no. For a positive response you must find the twenty-first person.

--Chuck Reaves

Nothing great will ever be achieved without great men, and men are great only if they are determined to be so.

--Charles de Gaulle

To endure is greater than to dare; to tire out hostile fortune; to be daunted by no difficulty; to keep heart when all have lost it; to go through intrigue spotless; to forgo even ambition when the end is gained--who can say this is not greatness?

--William Makepeace  
Thackeray

There is no substitute for hard work.

--Thomas Alva Edison

Vitality shows in not only the ability to persist but the ability to start over.

--F. Scott Fitzgerald

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,  
But he with a chuckle replied  
That 'maybe it couldn't,' but he would be one  
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.  
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin  
On his face. If he worried he hid it.  
He started to sing as he tackled the thing  
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

--Edgar A. Guest

Never say die.

--Charles Dickens

Nothing is impossible; there are ways that lead to everything, and if we had sufficient will we should always have sufficient means. It is often merely for an excuse that we say things are impossible.

--François de La  
Rochefoucauld

Genius begins great works; labor alone finishes them.

--Joseph Joubert

If your determination is fixed, I do not counsel you to despair. Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. Great works are performed, not by strength, but by perseverance. He that shall walk, with vigor, three hours a day, will pass, in seven years, a space equal to the circumference of the globe.

--Samuel Johnson

Victory belongs to the most persevering.

--Napoleon

Never despair; but if you do, work on in despair.

--Edmund Burke

No rock so hard but that a little wave may beat admission in a thousand years.

--Alfred Tennyson

People who want by the yard and try by the inch should be kicked by the foot.

--Willard Wirtz

Nature has herself appointed that nothing great is to be accomplished quickly, and has ordained that difficulty should precede every work of excellence.

--Quintilian

From my point of view, it is immoral for a being not to make the most intense effort every instant of his life.

--Jose Ortega y Gasset

Everything yields to diligence.

--Antiphanes

The key to everything is patience. You get the chicken by hatching the egg—not by smashing it.

--Arnold H. Glasow

Even without comparing ourselves to the world's greatest, we set such high standards for ourselves that neither we nor anyone else could ever meet them—and nothing is more destructive to creativity than this. We fail to realize that mastery is not about perfection. It's about a process, a journey. The master is the one who stays on the path day after day, year after year. The master is the one who is willing to try, and fail, and try again, for as long as he or she lives.

—George Leonard

Mushrooms scramble up in a night; but diamonds, you know, lie a long while ripening in the bed.

--Charles Lamb

The Difficult is that which can be done immediately; the Impossible that which takes a little longer.

--George Santayana

Energy will do anything that can be done in the world; and no talents, no circumstances, no opportunities will make a two-legged animal a man without it.

--Johann Wolfgang  
von Goethe

Energy and persistence conquer all things.

--Benjamin Franklin

To endure is the first thing that a child ought to learn, and that which he will have the most need to know.

--Jean Jacques Rousseau

Consider the postage stamp: its usefulness consists in the ability to stick to one thing till it gets there.

--Josh Billings

Each of us must earn our own existence. And how does anyone earn anything? Through perseverance, hard work, and desire.

--Thurgood Marshall

Some succeed because they are destined to, but most succeed because they are determined to.

--Henry Van Dyke

It is not your environment, it is you—the quality of your minds, the integrity of your souls and the determination of your will that will decide your future and shape your lives.

--Benjamin E. Mays

It's a rare person who doesn't get discouraged.  
Whether it happens to us or to someone we know, the answer to this dilemma centers around one word: perseverance.

--Unknown

Continuous effort—not strength or intelligence—is the key to unlocking our potential.

--Liane Cardes

All things excellent are as difficult as they are rare.

--Benedict Spinoza

There are but two roads that lead to an important goal and to the doing of great things: strength and perseverance. Strength is the lot of but a few privileged men; but austere perseverance, harsh and continuous, may be employed by the smallest of us and rarely fails of its purpose, for its silent power grows irresistibly greater with time.

--Johann Wolfgang von  
Goethe

There's no thrill in easy sailing when the skies are clear and blue. There's no joy in merely doing things which anyone can do. But there is some satisfaction that is mighty sweet to take, when you reach a destination that you thought you'd never make.

—Edgar A. Guest

Being challenged in life is inevitable; being defeated is optional.

—Roger Crawford

For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.

—Aristotle

It is a mistake to think that the practice of my art has become easy to me. I assure you, dear friend, no one has given so much care to the study of composition as I. There is scarcely a famous master in music whose works I have not frequently and diligently studied.

—Wolfgang Amadeus  
Mozart

Practice does not make perfect – it makes permanent.

—Alexander Libermann

The best way for a student to get out of difficulty is to go through it.

—Aristotle

Other people and things can stop you temporarily. You're the only one who can do it permanently.

—Zig Ziglar

The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of the depths. These persons have an appreciation, a sensitivity, and an understanding of life that fills them with compassion, gentleness, and a deep loving concern. Beautiful people do not just happen.

—Elisabeth Kübler-Ross

What we hope ever to do with ease, we must learn first to do with diligence.

--Samuel Johnson

If you're going through hell, keep going.

—Winston Churchill

The harder you work the luckier you get.

--Gary Player

I have heard there are troubles of more than one kind. Some come from ahead and some come from behind. But I've bought a big bat. I'm all ready you see. Now my troubles are going to have troubles with me!

—Dr. Seuss

The difference between ordinary and extraordinary is that little extra.

--Jimmy Johnson

Keep trying. It's only from the valley that the mountain seems high.

--Zig Ziglar

The difference between the impossible and the possible lies in a person's determination.

--Tommy Lasorda

Endurance is essential for completing the marathon of life.

--Unknown

If we can dream it, we can achieve it.

--Walt Disney

All things are difficult before they are easy.

--Thomas Fuller

It is while we are young that the habit of industry is formed. If not then, it never is afterwards.

--Thomas Jefferson

The young do not know enough to be prudent and therefore they attempt the impossible and achieve it, generation after generation.

--Pearl S. Buck

A tree does not fall with one blow.

--Finnish Proverb

From the word to the deed is along way.

--Mexican Proverb

Don't just put in the day—put something into the day.

--Unknown

Perseverance is a great element of success; if you only knock long enough and loud enough a the gate you are sure to wake up somebody.

--Henry Wadsworth  
Longfellow

There is really no insurmountable barrier save your own inherent weakness of purpose.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

Don't quit until every base is uphill.

--Babe Ruth

Grain by grain—a loaf; stone upon stone—a palace.

--George Bernard Shaw

Diligence is the mother of good luck and God gives all things to industry. Then plough deep while sluggards sleep, and you shall have corn to sell and to keep.

--Benjamin Franklin

Don't bother about genius. Don't worry about being clever. Trust to hard work, perseverance and determination. And the best motto for the long march is: 'Don't grumble. Plug on!'

--Sir Frederick Treves

Diamonds are nothing more than chunks of coal that stuck to their jobs.

--Malcolm Forbes

To be somebody, you must last.

--Ruth Gordon

He worked by day  
And toiled by night.

He gave up play  
And some delight.

Dry books he read,  
New things to learn.

And forged ahead  
Success to earn.

He plodded on  
With faith and pluck.

And when he won  
Others called it luck.

--Unknown

## DON'T QUIT

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,  
When the road you're trudging seems all up hill,  
When funds are low and the debts are high,  
And you want to smile but you have to sigh.  
When care is pressing you down a bit,  
Rest if you must--but don't you quit.

Life is strange with its twists and turns,  
As everyone of us sometimes learns.  
And many a failure turns about,  
When he might have won had he stuck it out;  
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow--  
You might succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than  
It seems to a faint and faltering man,  
Often the struggler has given up,  
When he might have captured the victor's cup.  
And he learned too late, when the night slipped down,  
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out--  
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt--  
And you can never tell how close you are,  
It may be near when it seems afar;  
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit--  
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit.

—John Greenleaf  
Whittier

Fall seven times, stand up eight.

--Japanese Proverb

The secret of success is constancy to purpose.

--Benjamin Disraeli

Perseverance, n: A lowly virtue whereby mediocrity achieves a glorious success.

--Ambrose Bierce

Paralyze their resistance with your persistence.

--Woody Hayes

When you get into a tight place and everything goes against you, till it seems you could not hold on a minute longer, never give up then for that is just the place and time that the tide will turn.

--Harriet Beecher Stowe

Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is?

--Frank Scully

Everything comes to him who hustles while he waits.

--Thomas Edison

Determination and perseverance move the world; thinking that others will do it for you is a sure way to fail.

--Marva Collins

I never could have done what I have done without the habits of punctuality, order and diligence, without the determination to concentrate myself on one subject at a time.

--Charles Dickens

If you don't climb the mountain, you can't enjoy the view.

--Pablo Neruda

Perseverance is the most overrated of traits, if it is unaccompanied by talent; beating your head against a wall is more likely to produce a concussion in the head than a hole in the wall.

--Sydney Harris

In the ordinary business of life, industry can do anything which genius can do, and very many things which it cannot.

--Henry Ward Beecher

A pint of sweat will save a gallon of blood.

--General George S.  
Patton

Luck? I don't know anything about luck. I've never banked on it, and I'm afraid of people who do. Luck to me is something else: hard work—and realizing what is opportunity and what isn't.

--Lucille Ball

I tell them that if you stay committed, your dreams can come true. I'm living proof of it. I left home at 17 and had nothing but rejections for 25 years. I wrote more than 20 screenplays, but I never gave up.

--Michael Balke, Author  
of *Dances with  
Wolves*

You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.

--Margaret Thatcher

You've got to stick at a thing, a particular thing, until you succeed. I feel that's the only way to succeed - by concentrating on something in particular. Once you know what you've got to do you will succeed, you will succeed.

—Betty Cuthbert

Ambition is the path to success. Persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.

—William Eardley IV

If there's no wind, row.

—Latin Proverb

Let thy step be slow and steady, that thou stumble not.

—Ieyasu Tokugawa

Persistence is what makes the impossible possible, the possible likely, and the likely definite.

--Robert Hall

Those that try the hardest, work the hardest, and put in the longest hours when necessary usually pull ahead of the pack just out of sheer effort.

--F. Lee Bailey

Endurance is frequently a form of indecision.

--Princess Elizabeth  
Bibesco

The man of genius is he and he alone who finds such joy in his art that he will work at it come hell or high water.

--Stendhal

I learned there is no substitute for persistence. It overrides everything.

--Andy García

When the going gets tough and you feel like throwing your hands in the air, listen to that voice that tells you 'Keep going. Hang in there.' Guts and determination will pull you through.

--Alice Coachman

A man can be as great as he wants to be. If you believe in yourself and have the courage, the determination, the dedication, the competitive drive and if you are willing to sacrifice the little things in life and pay the price for the things that are worthwhile, it can be done.

--Vince Lombardi

Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful people with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan press on has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.

--Calvin Coolidge

Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did.

--Newt Gingrich

Most people give up just when they're about to achieve success. They quit on the one yard line. They give up at the last minute of the game one foot from a winning touchdown.

--H. Ross Perot

Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing.

--Abraham Lincoln

'I can't do it' never yet accomplished anything; 'I will try' has performed wonders.

--George P. Burnham

It is only through labor and painful effort, by grim energy and resolute courage that we move on to better things.

--Theodore Roosevelt

One of the first principles of perseverance is to know when to stop persevering.

--Carolyn Wells

Big shots are only little shots who keep shooting.

--Christopher Morley

Never give up: the mighty oak was once a little nut that held its ground.

--Unknown

Perseverance is the result of a strong will; stubbornness is the result of a strong won't.

--Henry Ward Beecher

Americans never quit.

--Douglas MacArthur

You've got to get up every morning with determination if you're going to go to bed with satisfaction.

--George Horace Lorimer

Every great and commanding movement in the annals of the world, is the triumph of enthusiasm. Nothing great was ever achieved without it.

--Ralph Waldo Emerson

I've seen enough things to know that if you just keep on going, if you turn the corner, the sun will be shining.

—Al Sharpton

It's never too late to be what you might have been.

--George Ernst

Do not, for one repulse, forego the purpose that you resolved to effect.

--William Shakespeare

No great plan is ever carried out without meeting and overcoming endless obstacles.

--Donald Douglas

Talent takes you dancing, but perseverance buys your shoes.

--Michael Perry

It's not pure intellectual power that counts, it's commitment.

--Professor Dana Scott

The world is round and the place which may seem like the end may also be only the beginning.

--Ivy Baker Priest

Sticking to it is the genius.

--Thomas Edison

Once you learn to quit, it becomes a habit.

--Vince Lombardi

Let us not be content to wait and see what will happen, but give us the determination to make the right things happen.

--Peter Marshall

When your nose is bleeding and your eyes are black and you are so tired that you wish your opponent would crack you one on the jaw and put you to sleep, fight one more round—remembering that the man who always fights one more round is never whipped.

--James J. Corbett

Patience and tenacity of purpose are worth more than twice their weight of cleverness.

--Thomas Henry Huxley

He that can't endure the bad, will not live to see the good.

--Jewish Proverb

Many men fail because they quit too soon. They lose faith when the signs are against them. They do not have the courage to hold on, to keep fighting in spite of that which seems insurmountable. If more of us would strike out and attempt the 'impossible,' we very soon would find the truth of that old saw that nothing is impossible....Abolish fear and you can accomplish anything you wish.

--Dr. C. E. Welch

It does not matter how slowly you go so long as you do not stop.

--Confucius

Storms make oaks take deeper root.

--George Herbert

One person with a belief is equal to a force of 99 who have only interests.

--John Stuart Mill

Persistent people begin their success where others end in failure.

--Edward Eggleston

Real courage is when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what.

--Harper Lee

More depends on determination than even on ability. Will, not talent, governs the world.

--*The Atlantic* (1859)

Age wrinkles the body; quitting wrinkles the soul.

--Douglas MacArthur

Strength does not come from winning. Your struggles develop your strengths. When you go through hardships and decide not to surrender, that is strength.

--Arnold Schwarzenegger

He who endeavors to serve, to benefit, and improve the world, is like a swimmer, who struggles against a rapid current, in a river lashed into angry waves by the winds. Often they roar over his head, often they beat him back and baffle him. Most men yield to the stress of the current... Only here and there the stout, strong heart and vigorous arms struggle on toward ultimate success.

--Albert Pike

If you really want it, keep knocking on doors until somebody says, 'Come on in.'

--Arsenio Hall

Pursue one great decisive aim with force and determination.

--Karl Von Clausewitz

I will persist until I succeed. Always will I take another step. If that is of no avail I will take another, and yet another. In truth, one step at a time is not too difficult... I know that small attempts, repeated, will complete any undertaking.

--Og Mandino

The greater the difficulty, the more the glory in surmounting it.

--Epicurus

Long-term consistency trumps short-term intensity.

--Bruce Lee

Defeat doesn't finish a man, quit does. A man is not finished when he's defeated. He's finished when he quits.

--Richard M. Nixon

Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging.

--Joseph Campbell

'Tis known by the name of perseverance in a good cause, and of obstinacy in a bad one.

--Laurence Stern

The little reed, bending to the force of the wind, soon stood upright again when the storm had passed over.

--Aesop

(Think of one's self as a teakettle) Though up to its neck in hot water, it continues to sing.

--Unknown

Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after another.

—Walter Elliott

Persistence plus no dignity equals success.

—Cynthia Wang

Either I will find a way, or I will make one.

--Philip Sidney

In writing, as in so many pursuits, it's not the most gifted but the most determined who succeed.

—Norman Mailer

Come what may, all bad fortune is to be conquered by endurance.

—Virgil

It's the constant and determined effort that breaks down all resistance, sweeps away all obstacles.

—Claude M. Bristol

The road to success is not straight. There is a curve called Failure, a loop called Confusion, speed bumps called Friends, red lights called Enemies, caution lights called Family. You will have flat tires called Jobs, but if you have a spare called Determination, an engine called Perseverance, a driver called Will Power, you will make it to a place called Success.

—Unknown

It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare; it is because we do not dare that they are difficult.

—Seneca

Discipline is the refining fire by which talent becomes ability.

—Roy L. Smith

You can have anything you want if you want it desperately enough. You must want it with an exuberance that erupts through the skin and joins the energy that created the world.

—Sheila Graham

Somewhere we have forgotten to teach that pleasure or reward follows effort and work.

—Monty Ellison

If I knock you off a chair, that's on me. If you're still on the ground a week later, that's on you.

—Jeffrey Goldberg

Nothing splendid has ever been achieved except by those who dared believe that something inside of them was superior to circumstance.

—Bruce Barton

When you have a great and difficult task, something perhaps almost impossible, if you only work a little at a time, every day a little, suddenly the work will finish itself.

—Isak Dinesen

The individual activity of one man with backbone will do more than a thousand men with a mere wishbone.

—William J. H. Boetcker

Those who have attained things worth having in this world have worked while others idled, have persevered while others gave up in despair, have practiced the valuable habits of self-denial, industry, and singleness of purpose.

—Grenville Kleiser

Although no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.

—Carl Bard

If you fail, never give up because F.A.I.L means 'First Attempt In Learning.' END is not the end. In fact, E.N.D means 'Effort Never Dies.' If you get NO as an answer, remember N.O means 'Next Opportunity.'

—Dr. A. P. J. Abdul  
Kalam

At any given moment you have the power to say: This is not how the story is going to end.

—*mindsetofgreatness.com*

When life shuts a door...open it again. It's a door. That's how they work.

—*www.mamamia.com.au*

Stubbornness is also determination. It's simply a matter of shifting from won't power to will power.

—Peter McWilliams

I may not be there yet, but I'm closer than I was yesterday. :)

—José N. Harris

Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go.

—William Feather

One small crack does not mean you are broken. It means that you were put to the test and you didn't fall apart.

—Ged Backland

America offers opportunity, not guarantees. You lose your job, you get another one or start your own business. You suffer a setback, you pick yourself up and press ahead. You don't wallow in self-pity, and you never give up. That's not always the easy way. But it's something better, more lasting and more satisfying. It's called the American way.

—Ruben Navarrette

What distinguished high performers was largely how they processed feelings of frustration, disappointment, or even boredom. Whereas others took these as signals to cut their losses and turn to some easier task, high performers did not—as if they had been conditioned to believe that struggle was not a signal for alarm.

—Angela Duckworth

Enough shovels of earth make a mountain—enough pails of water a river.

—Chinese Proverb

Don't bother about genius. Don't worry about being clever. Trust to hard work, perseverance and determination. And the best motto for the long march is: 'Don't grumble. Plug on!'

—Sir Frederick  
Treves

Most of life is routine—dull and grubby, but routine is the momentum that keeps a man going. If you wait for inspiration you'll be standing on the corner after the parade is a mile down the street.

—Ben Nicholas

A man can be as great as he wants to be. If you believe in yourself and have the courage, the determination, the dedication, the competitive drive and if you are willing to sacrifice the little things in life and pay the price for the things that are worthwhile, it can be done.

—Vince Lombardi

It's the steady, quiet, plodding ones who win in the lifelong race.

—Robert Service

Well, son, I'll tell you:  
Life for me ain't been no crystal stair.  
It's had tacks in it,  
And splinters,  
And boards torn up,  
and places with no carpet on the floor—

But all the time  
I've been a-climbin' on,  
And reachin' landin's,  
And turnin' corners  
And sometimes goin' in the dark  
When there ain't no light.

So, boy, don't you turn back.  
Don't you set down on the steps  
'Cause you find it's kinder hard.  
Don't you fall now—  
For I've still goin', honey,  
I've still climbin'  
And life for me ain't been no crystal stair.

—Langston Hughes

Most people never run far enough on their first wind to find out they've got a second.

—William James

I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions.

—Stephen Covey

Obsessed is just a word the lazy use to describe the dedicated.

—Russell Warren

There is no chance, no destiny, no fate, that can hinder or control the firm resolve of a determined soul.

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox

If you've ever been in a position in your life where you just can't take any more, you just have to get through the next second, and the next second after that.

—Michael Novak

There are no traffic jams when you go the extra mile.

--Roger Staubach

Do more than you are being paid to do, and you'll eventually be paid more for what you do.

—Zig Ziglar

We hold ourselves back in ways both big and small, by lacking self-confidence, by not raising our hands, by pulling back when we should be leaning in.

--Sheryl Sandberg

Real winners are ordinary people with extraordinary determination.

—Unknown

That which we persist in doing becomes easier, not that the task itself has become easier, but that our ability to perform it has improved.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

When you are in any contest, you should work as if there were—to the very last minute—a chance to lose it. This is battle. This is politics. This is anything.

--Dwight D. Eisenhower

If I were dropped out of a plane into the ocean and told the nearest land was a thousand miles away, I'd still swim. And I'd despise the one who gave up.

—Abraham H. Maslow

Real leaders are ordinary people with extraordinary determination.

--John C. Maxwell

Bear in mind, if you are going to amount to anything, that your success does not depend upon the brilliancy and the impetuosity with which you take hold, but upon the ever lasting and sanctified bulldoggedness with which you hang on after you have taken hold.

—Dr. A. B. Meldrum

Research is the reconnaissance party of industry, roving the unknown territories ahead independently, yet not without purpose, seeing for the first time what all the following world will see a few years hence.

--S. M. Kinter

I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident; they came by work.

--Thomas Edison

Getting ahead in a difficult profession requires avid faith in yourself. That is why some people with mediocre talent, but with great inner drive, go so much further than people with vastly superior talent.

--Sophia Loren

There is no force equal to a woman determined to rise.

—W. E. B. Dubois

School attendance is basic to success in school and groundwork for future success on the job. Daily attendance displays diligence and perseverance in an effort to succeed.

--Don Zimmermann

Nothing is as important as passion. No matter what you want to do with your life, be passionate. The world doesn't need any more gray. On the other hand, we can't get enough color. Mediocrity is nobody's goal and perfection shouldn't be either. We'll never be perfect. But remember these three Ps: Passion + Persistence = Possibility.

—Jon Bon Jovi

Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that ? We must have perseverance and, above all, confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted for something, and that this thing, at whatever cost, must be attained.

—Marie Curie

A determined soul will do more with a rusty monkey-wrench than a loafer will accomplish with all the tools in a machine shop.

—Rupert Hughes

By gnawing through a dyke, even a rat may drown a nation.

--Edmund Burke

I do not think there is any other quality so essential to success of any kind as the quality of perseverance. It overcomes almost everything, even nature.

--John D. Rockefeller

Don't aim at success—the more you aim at it and make it a target, the more you are going to miss it. For success, like happiness, cannot be pursued; it must ensue...as the unintended side-effect of one's personal dedication to a course greater than oneself.

--Viktor Frankl

The level of success you achieve will be in direct proportion to the depth of your commitment.

Roy T. Bennett

Persistence is the twin sister of excellence. One is a matter of quality the other, a matter of time.

—Marabel Morgan

Once I decide to do something, I can't have people telling me I can't. If there's a roadblock, you jump over it, walk around it, crawl under it.

—Kitty Kelley

Failure is the path of least persistence.

—Abraham Lincoln

A failure establishes only this, that our determination to succeed was not strong enough.

—Christian Nestell  
Bovee

Mistakes are easy, mistakes are inevitable, but there is no mistake so great as the mistake of not going on.

--William Blake

The price of success is perseverance. The price of failure comes cheaper.

--Unknown

When Thomas Edison invented the light bulb, he tried over 2000 experiments before he got it to work. A young reporter asked him how it felt to fail so many times. He said, 'I never failed once. I invented the light bulb. It just happened to be a 2000-step process.'

—Phil Barton

Wilma Rudolph was the 20th of 22 children. She was born prematurely and her chances for survival were slim. When she was 4, she contracted double pneumonia and scarlet fever, leaving her with a paralyzed left leg. At age 9, she removed the metal leg brace she had been dependent on and began to walk without it. By 13 she had developed rhythmic walk, which doctors said was a miracle. That same year she decided to become a runner. She entered a race and finished last. For the next few years every race she entered, she finished last. Everyone told her to quit, but she kept running. Then she actually won a race. And then another. From then on she won every race she entered. Eventually this little girl, who was told she would never walk again, went on to win three Olympic gold medals.

—Phil Barton

Winners are losers who got up and gave it one more try.

—Dennis DeYoung

Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts.

—Winston Churchill

My success was due to good luck, hard work, and support and advice from friends and mentors. But most importantly, it depended on me to keep trying after I had failed.

—Mark Warner

You remember that time you were trying to open a jar but you just couldn't open it? Instead you gave up and asked someone else to open it. In an instant they opened it. That's how close you might be to succeeding. That tiny bit of extra effort might just make the difference. But you will never know how close you are to your goals until you succeed.

—*The Chive*

The art of love...is largely the art of persistence.

--Dr. Albert Ellis

We realize that our future lies chiefly in our own hands. We know that neither institution nor friends can make a race stand unless it has strength in its own foundation; that races, like individuals, must stand or fall by their own merit; that to fully succeed they must practice the virtues of self-reliance, self-respect, industry, perseverance, and economy.

--Paul Robeson

Tough times don't last, but tough people do.

—Bill Rancic

A little and a little, collected together, become a great deal; the heap in the barn consists of single grains, and drop and drop makes an inundation.

—Saadi

You can't turn back the clock. But you can wind it up again.

—Bonnie Prudden

The answer to old age is to keep one's mind busy and to go on with one's life as if it were interminable. I always admired Chekhov for building a new house when he was dying of tuberculosis.

—Leon Edel

There is no such thing as can't, only won't. If you're qualified, all it takes is a burning desire to accomplish, to make a change. Go forward, go backward. Whatever it takes But you can't blame other people or society in general. It all comes from your mind.

—Jan Ashford

No matter how you feel, get up, dress up, show up and never give up,

—Internet Meme

Endurance is patience concentrated.

—Thomas Carlyle

Most people who succeed in the face of seemingly impossible conditions are people who simply don't know how to quit.

—Robert H. Schuller

If you want your dreams to come true, don't sleep.

—Yiddish Proverb

Why are so many Asian kids good at math and achieve so much?...It's not genetic, it's not in the rice! It's about hard work.

--Amy Chua

Have you noticed how the cleverest people at school are not those who make it in life?

People who are conventionally clever get jobs on their qualifications (the past), not on their desire to succeed (the future).

Very simply, they get overtaken by those who continually strive to be better than they are.

—Paul Arden

Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better.

—Pat Riley

I am in earnest—I will not equivocate—I will not excuse—I will not retreat a single inch—and I will be heard!

—William Lloyd Garrison

It does not take a majority to prevail... but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men.

—Samuel Adams

One of the greatest resources people cannot mobilize themselves is that they try to accomplish great things. Most worthwhile achievements are the result of many little things done in a single direction.

—Nido Qubein

If you can't excel with talent, triumph with effort.

—Stephen G. Weinbaum

A man of conviction is often more to be desired than a man of experience.

—Curt Siodmak

The harder the struggle, the bigger the gain. The important thing is to stick with it, repetitively and consistently.

—Mara Schiavocampo

It's not about winning, it's about not giving up. If you have a dream, fight for it. There's discipline for passion and it's not about how many times you get rejected or you fall down or you're beaten up, it's about how many times you stand up and are brave and you keep on going.

—Lady Gaga

Prolonged endurance tames the bold.

—Lord Byron

Once a musician has enough ability to get into a top music school, the thing that distinguishes one performer from another is how hard he or she works. That's it. And what's more, the people at the very top don't work just harder or even much harder than everyone else. They work much, much harder.

—Malcolm Gladwell

Helen Keller became deaf, dumb, and blind shortly after birth. Despite her greatest misfortune, she has written her name indelibly in the pages of the history of the great. Her entire life has served as evidence that no one is ever defeated until defeat has been accepted as reality.

—Napoleon Hill

It is not speed that matters, it's persistence.

—Abhijit Naskar

The reason people fail to reach their goals is because they give up too early. They don't understand that most successes are built upon foundations of multiple attempts.

—Richelle E. Goodrich

Commitment is an act, not a word.

—Jean-Paul Sartre

At 23...

J. K. Rowling was broke.

Tina Fey was working at the YMCA.

Oprah had just been fired as a TV reporter.

Walt Disney had just declared bankruptcy.

It's okay if you feel lost.

Just don't give up.

—Internet Meme

People talk about caterpillars becoming butterflies as though they just go into a cocoon, slap on wings, and are good to go.

Caterpillars have to dissolve into a disgusting pile of goo to become butterflies.

So if you're a mess wrapped up in blankets right now, keep going.

—Jennifer Wright

Those who wish to sing always find a song.

—Swedish Proverb