

DEDICATION/ DETERMINATION, BEST QUOTES ON

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

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

--Niccolo Machiavelli

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

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

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

--Michelangelo

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

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

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

--Walter Elliott

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

--Henry Ford

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

Slow and steady wins the race.

--Aesop

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

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

There is no substitute for hard work.

--Thomas Alva Edison

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

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

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

--Quintilian

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

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

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

--Charles Lamb

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

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

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

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

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

Age wrinkles the body; quitting wrinkles the soul.

--Douglas MacArthur

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)

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 it's 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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

--Edmund Burke

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

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.

—*theChive*

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.

—Robert H. Schuller

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 and show up.

—Regina Brett

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

Those who wish to sing always find a song.

—Swedish Proverb

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

However difficult life may seem, there is always something you can do & succeed at. It matters that you don't give up.

—Stephen Hawking

Give 100% in everything you do...unless you're donating blood...that would be bad.

—Internet Meme

If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it. If you don't ask, the answer is always no. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place.

—Calbert Morton

Do not many of us who fail to achieve big things...fail because we lack concentration—the art of concentrating the mind on the thing to be done at the proper time and to the exclusion of everything else?

—John D. Rockefeller

You can measure a man by the opposition it takes to discourage him.

—Robert C. Savage

Enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success. When you do a thing, do it with all your might. Put your whole soul into it. Stamp it with your own personality. Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your object. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Every calling is great when greatly pursued.

—Oliver Wendell Holmes

It is not the *IQ* but the *I Will* that is most important in education.

—Unknown

Facing it, always facing it, that's the way to get through. Face it.

—Joseph Conrad

We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.

—Jesse Owens

Maturity: Be able to stick with a job until it is finished. Be able to bear an injustice without having to get even. Be able to carry money without spending it. Do your duty without being supervised.

—Ann Landers

Success is more a function of consistent common sense than it is of genius.

—An Wang

Hard work, dedication and desire don't guarantee you a thing, but without them you don't stand a chance.

—Pat Riley

The soul of a lazy man desires, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich.

—*Proverbs* 13:4

He who labors diligently need never despair; for all things are accomplished by diligence and labor.

—Menander of Athens

Your success will be determined by your own confidence and fortitude.

—Michelle Obama

There are so many people out there who will tell you that YOU CAN'T. What you've got to do is TURN AROUND and say WATCH ME.

—Internet Meme

Don't be afraid to start over again. This time, you are not starting from scratch, you are starting from experience.

—*crafty.diply.com*

If you're not hopeful and optimistic, then you just give up. You have to take the long hard look and just believe that if you're consistent, you will succeed.

—John Lewis

It ain't about how hard you can hit, it's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward. That's how winning is done.

—Rocky Balboa from
Rocky

I am not what I have done. I am what I have overcome.

—Internet Meme

In the midst of hate, I found there was, within me, an invincible love.
In the midst of tears, I found there was, within me, an invincible smile.
In the midst of chaos, I found there was, within me, an invincible calm.
I realized, through it all, that...
In the midst of winter, I found there was, within me, an invincible summer.
And that makes me happy. For it says that no matter how hard the world pushes against me, within me, there's something stronger—something better, pushing right back.

—Albert Camus

I know so many writers who are 100 times better than me and have greater ideas, but they gave up. The biggest talent you can have is determination.

—Chuck Palahniuk

The biggest lesson for me this year has been to just keep going.
Lost everything? Just keep going.
Don't know what you're doing? Just keep going.
\$.88 in the account? Just keep going.
People played you? Just keep going.
No obstacle has been able to crush me. I keep going.

—Asamoah Evans

When you want to give up, remember why you started.

—Internet Meme

Grapes must be crushed to make wine.
Diamonds form under pressure
Olives are pressed to release oil.
Seeds grow in darkness.

Whenever you feel crushed, under pressure, pressed, or in darkness, you are in a powerful place of transformation.

—Lalah Delia

If you feel like you're losing everything, remember that trees lose their leaves every year and they still stand tall and wait for better days to come.

—*theChive*

Try.
Try again.
Try once more.
Try a little differently.
Try it again tomorrow.
Try and ask for help.
Try to find someone who has done it.
Try to fix what is not working
Try to expand what is working.
Just keep trying until you succeed.

—*theChive*

I wanted to teach myself some life lessons at the age of 60 and one of them was that you don't give up.

—Diana Nyad

The greatest heroes in life are those that never give up on someone. They stick it out and make it work. They sacrifice things in their life, in order to help others grow. They give up what they want because someone needs it more. They work hard and overcome adversity. They fail for a moment, but get back up on their feet to show others they don't have to stay down. They show their loved ones that love is not 'proved' by conformity. They teach others that having a voice is a sign of courage, and they will not stay silent to make people feel comfortable. They are fearless and will do whatever it takes to bring about the greatness in the ones they love because doing so brings them peace. Their name is—MOM.

—Shannon L. Alder

Chess teaches foresight, by having to plan ahead; vigilance, by having to keep watch over the whole chess board; caution, by having to restrain ourselves from making hasty moves; and finally, we learn from chess the greatest maxim in life—that even when everything seems to be going badly for us we should not lose heart, but always hoping for a change for the better, steadfastly continue searching for the solutions to our problems.

—Benjamin Franklin

Persistent people are able to visualize the idea of light at the end of the tunnel when others can't see it.

—Seth Godin

If you get tired, learn to rest, not quit.

—Banksy

One day I overheard the teacher tell the inspector that I was 'addled' and it would not be worthwhile keeping me in school any longer. I was so hurt by this last straw that I burst out crying and went home and told my mother about it. Then I found out what a good thing a good mother is. She came out as my strong defender. Mother love was aroused, mother pride wounded to the quick. She brought me back to the school and angrily told the teacher that he didn't know what he was talking about, that I had more brains than he himself, and a lot more talk like that. In fact, she was the most enthusiastic champion a boy ever had, and I determined right then that I would be worthy of her and show her that her confidence was not misplaced.

—Thomas Edison

[Thomas] Edison had very little formal education as a child, attending school only for a few months. He was taught reading, writing, and arithmetic by his mother, but was always a very curious child and taught himself much by reading on his own. This belief in self-improvement remained throughout his life.

—*National Park Service*

If you rearrange the letters in DEPRESSION you will get 'I Pressed On' meaning your current situation is not your final destination....Evolve or repeat. Anything that costs your peace is too EXPENSIVE.

—<https://thestateandmind.com>

The elevator to success is out of order. You'll have to use the stairs...one step at a time.

—Joe Girard

A young man was desperate to find the secret of becoming a success. After hearing about a wise old Indian, he decided to visit him and ask his advice. Upon finding the sage, the young man explained his dilemma and asked the elderly pundit for an answer to his question, ‘What is the secret of Success?’ The wise old Indian didn’t say anything; he merely took the young man down to the river and into the water. There he shoved the young man’s head under the water and held him down. Soon it was obvious the young man was greatly distressed, thrashing his arms above the water and trying to escape the old man’s powerful grip. This went on for some time; then the old Indian finally released his subject, whereupon the young man shot to the surface, gasping for air. After he had caught his breath and calmed down, the young man, in shock asked, ‘What the heck did you do that for?’ The wise old Indian then said, “My son, it is simple. When you want success as much as you wanted that breath of air, then you shall have it!” The secret is desire—single, focused desire.

—Tony Jeary and John
Davis

I’ve learned that life is tough, but I’m tougher.

—Andy Rooney

A chicken doesn’t stop scratching just because worms are scarce.

—Axiom

If you quit once, it becomes a habit. Never quit!

—Michael Jordan

Concert pianists studied and practiced an average of 17 years before they reached recognition as virtuosos, while the Olympic swimmer needs an average of ten years of instruction and competition to reach world-class status. In the very early years, most of these talented individuals spent about an hour a day on their talent field. By adolescence it was about 25 hours a week, and thereafter it was 30 to 40 hours a week.

—Benjamin S. Bloom

Got a 2.4 GPA my first semester in college. Thought maybe I wasn’t cut out for engineering. Today I’ve landed two spacecraft on Mars, and designing one for the moon. STEM is hard for everyone. Grades ultimately aren’t what matters. Curiosity and persistence matter.

—Ben Cichy

If you do not have persistence, then no amount of education, talent or genius can make up for it.

—Stephen Richards

There are no secrets to success: don't waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence.

—Colin Powell

Like a wild animal, the soul is tough, resilient, resourceful, savvy, and self-sufficient: it knows how to survive in hard places. I learned about these qualities during my bouts with depression. In that deadly darkness, the faculties I had always depended on collapsed. My intellect was useless; my emotions were dead; my will was impotent; my ego was shattered. But from time to time, deep in the thickets of my inner wilderness, I could sense the presence of something that knew how to stay alive even when the rest of me wanted to die. That something was my tough and tenacious soul.

—Parker J. Palmer

Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day-in and day-out.

—Robert Collier

Every mountain top is within reach if you just keep climbing.

—Barry Finlay

I will is more important than *IQ*.

—Marva Collins

If You Have A Lemon, Make A Lemonade. That is what a great educator does. But the fool does the exact opposite. If he finds that life has handed him a lemon, he gives up and says: 'I'm beaten. It is fate. I haven't got a chance.' Then he proceeds to rail against the world and indulge in an orgy of self pity. But when the wise man is handed a lemon, he says: 'What lesson can I learn from this misfortune? How can I improve my situation? How can I turn this lemon into a lemonade?'

—Dale Carnegie

She (Eileen Canney) was just 13 years old that day, and a good softball pitcher. When that late-inning ground ball bounced toward the mound, she fielded it handily, then overthrew first base. The batter just kept running, running all the way home.

'I basically lost the game for our team....It hit me so hard. I let everyone down.' She would grow up to...play softball professionally in the United States and Japan and win three gold medals with the USA National team....She talks...about...recognizing that...perfection is 'not reality.'

—Skip Myslenski

The will is more important than the skill when it comes to scaling a wall.
—Robert Schuller

The Queen's Gambit has been viewed by 62 million people. The producer, Allan Scott, is on *BBC News* talking about how it took 30 years, with 9 rewrites, and every studio he showed it to said that no one would be interested in chess. PLEASE PERSEVERE WITH THAT THING YOU'RE MAKING.

—Internet Meme

An average person with average talent, ambition and education can outstrip the most brilliant genius in our society, if that person has clear, focused goals.

—Brian Tracy

It's up to you to educate yourself.
It's up to you to learn speaking skills and people skills.
It's up to you to try (and usually fail, but to try again) all sorts of ventures.
The rest is a combination of hard work, being at the right place ...at the right time...with the right thing...oh yes...and more (never ending) hard work.

—Gene Simmons

People think I'm disciplined. It is not discipline. It is devotion. There is a great difference.

—Luciano Pavarotti

Good things come to those who Believe.
Better things come to those who are Patient, and
The best things come to those who Don't Give up.

—Internet Meme

To make a resolution and act accordingly is to live with hope. There may be difficulties and hardships, but not disappointment or despair if you follow the path steadily. Do not hurry. This is a fundamental rule. If you hurry and collapse or tumble down, nothing is achieved. DO not rest in your efforts; this is another fundamental rule. Without stopping, without haste, carefully taking a step at a time forward will surely get you there.

—Shinichi Suzuki

What separates artists from ex-artists is that those who challenge their fears, continue; those who don't, quit. Each step in the artmaking process puts that issue to the test.

—David Bayles

Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit.

--Conrad Hilton

Spent 7 years in Special ed., graduating with 1.8 GPA. A teacher said I wasn't going to college. Now I'm a *VCU* grad & best-selling author.

—Ronnie Sidney, II

Let your strongest muscle be the will.

—James Lendall Basford

What distinguishes the genius from the also-ran is not necessarily how many times she succeeds but how many times she starts over.

—Eric Weiner

The life you want is on the other side of the things you don't want to do.

—Internet Meme

In the short term, you are as good as your intensity. In the long term, you are only as good as your consistency.

—Shane Parrish

I no longer listen to what people say. I watch what they do. Behavior does not lie.

—Winston Churchill

In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer.

—Albert Camus

Great things happen to those who don't stop believing, trying, learning, and being grateful.

—Roy T. Bennett

Learn to take rejection as motivation to prove people wrong. Be unstoppable. Refuse to give up, no matter what. It's the best skill you can ever learn.

—Charlotte Eriksson

I feel an endless need to learn, to improve, to evolve, not only to please the coach and the fans, but also to feel satisfied with myself. It is my conviction that there are no limits to learning, and that it can never stop, no matter what our age.

—Cristiano Ronaldo

Making your mark on the world is hard. If it were easy, everybody would do it. But it's not. It takes patience, it takes commitment, and it comes with plenty of failure along the way. The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.

—Barack Obama

Success depends less on intellectual endowment than on perseverance and drive.

—Nicholas D. Kristof

Achievers know how to keep working at the job. They divide it into manageable parts, taking breaks at predetermined points, checking off progress on a chart, and thinking how good they'll feel when they achieve their goal.

—Eric W. Johnson

Whenever I get discouraged and want to quit something, I remember the words of my then 3 year-old after she puked carrots all over the living room floor: 'I'm gonna need more carrots.'

—Jessica Valenti

At times the world may seem an unfriendly and sinister place, but believe that there is much more good in it than bad. All you have to do is look hard enough and what might seem to be a series of unfortunate events may in fact be the first steps of a journey.

—Lemony Snicket

Cry if needed. Slow down if needed. Reevaluate if needed. Take a break if needed. Talk to someone if needed.

But you'll never see the reward if you quit. Keep going, and never give up on yourself.

—Internet Meme

Failure after long perseverance is much grander than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure.

—George Eliot

Courage does not always roar. Sometimes, it is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow.'

--Mary Anne Radmacher

Success is a function of persistence and doggedness and the willingness to work hard for twenty-two minutes to make sense of something that most people would give up on after thirty seconds.

—Malcolm Gladwell

The closer psychologists look at the careers of the gifted, the smaller the role innate talent seems to play and the bigger role preparation seems to play.

—Malcolm Gladwell

People always told me that my natural ability and good eyesight were the reasons for my success as a hitter. They never talk about practice, practice, practice!

—Ted Williams

The man who moves a mountain begins by carrying away small stones.

—Confucius

That which you persist in doing becomes easy to do—not that the nature of the thing has changed, but your power and ability to do has increased.

—H. J. Gramt

Every worthwhile accomplishment has a price tag in terms of hard work, patience, faith, and endurance.

—Ted Engstrom

Success is achieved by ordinary people with Extraordinary Determination.

—Zig Ziglar

Four little words sum up what has lifted most successful individuals above the crowd: *a little bit more*. They did all that was expected of them and *a little bit more*.

--A. Lou Vickery

I hated every minute of training, but I said, 'Don't quit. Suffer now and live the rest of your life as a champion.'

—Muhammad Ali

Dreams can come true, but there is a secret. They're realized through the magic of persistence, determination, commitment, passion, practice, focus and hard work. They happen a step at a time, manifested over years, not weeks.

—Elbert Hubbard

The word impossible is not in my dictionary. Never measure the height of the mountain, until you have reached the top. Then you will see how low it was.

—Dag Hammarskjold

Children always take the line of most persistence.

—Marcelene Cox

Obstacles don't have to stop you. If you run into a wall, don't turn around and give up. Figure out how to climb it, go through it, or work around it.

—Michael Jordan

People who really want to make a difference in the world usually do it, in one way or another. And I've noticed something about people who make a the difference in the world: they hold the unshakable conviction that individuals are extremely important. That every life matters. They get excited over one smile. They are willing to feed one stomach, educate one mind, and treat one wound. They aren't determined to revolutionize the world all at once; they are satisfied with small changes. Over time, though, the small changes add up. Sometimes they even transform cities and nations, and yes, the world.

—Beth Clark

The most important and hardest thing for any writer to learn is the discipline of sitting down and writing even when you have to spend three days writing bad stuff before the fourth day, when you write something better. If you've been away from what you've been working on for even a day and a half, you have to put in those three days of bad rating to get to the fourth, or you lose the thread, you lose the rhythm. When you are a young writer, those three days are so unpleasant that you tend to think, 'I'll go away until the mood strikes me.' Well, you're out of the mood because you're not sitting there, because you haven't had that period of trying to push through till the fourth day when the rhythm comes.

—Joan Didion

We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.

—Chuck Swindoll

History has demonstrated that the most notable winners usually encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed. They finally won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats. Disappointments acted as a challenge. Don't let difficulties discourage you.

—B.C. Forbes

Some people dream of worthy accomplishments, while others stay awake and do them.

--Alan R. Zimmerman

The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.

—Vince Lombardi

The next time you face a challenge, remember that the cost of success is far cheaper than the price of failure.

—Tsem Tulku

Success has a price tag on it, and the tag reads COURAGE, DETERMINATION, DISCIPLINE, RISK-TAKING, PERSEVERANCE and CONSISTENCY—doing the RIGHT THINGS for the RIGHT REASONS and not just when we feel like it.

—James Meston

Don't let what you can't do stop you from doing what you can do.

—John Wooden

Champions aren't made in gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them—a desire, a dream, a vision. They have to have last-minute stamina, they have to be a little faster, they have to have the skill and the will. But the will must be stronger than the skill.

—Muhammad Ali

People of mediocre ability sometimes achieve outstanding success because they don't know when to quit.

—George Allen

I have to write about a hundred songs to get one good one....You've got to keep slugging. The problem with most people is that they quit too early.

—John Mellencamp

You take the best team and the worst team and line them up and you would find very little physical difference. You would find an emotional difference. The winning team has a dedication. It will have at its core a group of veteran players who set the standards. They will not accept defeat.

—Merlin Olsen

The habit of persistence is the habit of victory.

—Herbert Kaufman

My doctors told me I would never walk again. My mother told me I would. I believed my mother.

—Wilma Rudolph,
Three-Time Gold
Medalist About an
Illness as a Child

Life is constantly testing us for our level of commitment, and life's greatest rewards are reserved for those who demonstrate a never-ending commitment to act until they achieve. This level of resolve can move mountains, but it must be constant and consistent. As simplistic as this may sound, it is still the common denominator separating those who live their dreams from those who live in regret.

—Anthony Robbins

The power to hold on in spite of everything, the power to endure—this is the winner's quality. Persistence is the ability to face defeat again and again without giving up—to push on in the face of great difficulty, knowing that victory can be yours. Persistence means taking pains to overcome every obstacle, and to do what's necessary to reach your goals.

—Unknown

In ninth grade my dream was to beat my brother Larry at a game of one-on-one. He'd beat me every time and I'd get mad. In tenth grade my dream was to make the varsity team, but I didn't and I had to play junior varsity all year. When I look back on these experiences, I know they must've built determination in me.

—Michael Jordan

It's not where you start or even what happens to you along the way that's important. What is important is that you persevere and never give up on yourself.

—Zig Ziglar

I can't believe that there are any heights that can't be scaled by a man who knows the secret of making his dreams come true. This special secret, it seems to me, can be summarized in four C's. They are curiosity, confidence, courage and constancy and the greatest of these is confidence. When you believe in a thing, believe in it all the way.

--Walt Disney

Brick walls are there for a reason. They are not there to keep us out. The brick walls are there to give us a chance to show how badly we want something. The brick walls are there to stop people who don't want it badly enough.

—Randy Pausch

Adversity causes some men to break and others to break records.

—William Ward

The man who can drive himself further once the effort gets painful is the man who will win.

—Roger Bannister

Beyond talent lie all the usual words: discipline, love, luck—but, most of all, endurance.

—James Arthur Baldwin

When someone says it can't be done, it only means they can't do it.

—Unknown

If you look deep into the soul of a strong, independent woman, you may find a broken little girl who had to learn how to get back up and not depend on anyone.

—Internet Meme

Your opponent, in the end, is never really the player on the other side of the net, or the swimmer in the next lane, or the team on the other side of the field, or even the bar you must high-jump. Your opponent is yourself, your negative internal voices, your level of determination.

—Grace Lichtenstein

Unhurt people are not much good in the world.

—Enid Starkey

I suppose the pleasure of country life lies really in the eternally renewed evidences of the determination to live.

—Vita Sackville-West

People with good intentions never give up!

—Jane Smiley

Any road is bound to arrive somewhere if you follow it far enough.

—Patricia Winntworth

Even the ‘worst blizzard of the century’ accumulates one flake at a time.

—Mary Kay Blakely

I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but is my chief duty to accomplish humble tasks as though they were great and noble. The world is moved along, not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of tiny pushes of each honest worker.

—Helen Keller

When obstacles arise, you change your direction to reach your goal; you do not change your decision to get there.

—Zig Ziglar

To keep a lamp burning we have to keep putting oil in it.

—Mother Teresa

People seldom see the halting and painful steps by which the most insignificant success is achieved.

—Anne Sullivan

Successful writers are not the ones who write the best sentences. They are the ones who keep writing.

—Bonnie Friedman

Kinda cool to think someone somewhere is having the best day of their life today. Someone’s hearing I love you for the first time today. Someone’s gonna get the job of their dreams today. Someone received some kinda good news today. Tomorrow it could be ur best day so keep going.

—Internet Meme

Do not confuse dreams with wishes. There is a difference. Dreams are where you visualize yourself being successful at what’s important to you to accomplish. Dreams build convictions because you work hard to pay the price to make sure that they come true. Wishes are hoping good things will happen to you, but there’s no fire in your gut that causes you to put everything forth to overcome all the obstacles. So you have to dream more and never, ever, ever blame somebody else if it doesn’t happen.

—Dolly Parton

To tend, unfailingly, unflinchingly, towards a goal, is the secret of success.

—Anna Pavlova

As long as you feel pain, you're still alive. As long as you make mistakes, you're still human. And as long as you keep trying, there's still hope.

—Susan Gale

OPTIMIST: Someone who figures out that taking a step backward after taking a step forward is not a disaster, it's a cha-cha.

—Robert Brault

Can't clean up the whole room?

Clean a corner of it.

Can't do all the dishes? Do a dish.

Can't get in the shower?

Wash your face.

Always look for the thing you CAN do, with the energy and focus you DO have.

Little wins pave the way for bigger wins. 1% beats 0%.

—Dr. Glenn Doyle

You keep putting one foot in front of the other, and then one day you look back and you've climbed a mountain.

—Tom Hiddleston

My student-athlete experience...taught me so many life lessons, including discipline, teamwork, leadership, perseverance, performance under pressure and much more.

—Chinazo Opia
Cunningham

If you have the character to hang in there when it's tough, you will develop or acquire every other characteristic necessary to WIN in the game of life.

—Zig Ziglar

The major difference between the big shot and the little shot is this: the big shot is just a little shot who kept on shooting.

—Zig Ziglar

Lacrosse taught me to be a fierce competitor—and that's certainly informed my daily outlook. I try to channel a relentless, champion mindset in everything I do.

—Kristen Kjellman
Marshall

Strength grows in the moments when you think you can't go on but you keep going anyway.

—Internet Meme

There is no elevator to success, you have to take the stairs.

—Zig Ziglar

Sometimes the strength within you is not a big fiery flame for all to see, it's just a tiny spark that whispers softly 'you got this, keep going.'

—Internet Meme

I don't know how my story will end, but nowhere in my text will it ever read 'I gave up'

—<http://www.picturequotes.com/>

Much about success is just the result of simply the ability to follow up, follow through, and finish what we started.

—Zig Ziglar

Researchers have discovered that people exhibiting the rare trait of patience make more progress toward their goals and are more satisfied when they achieve them (particularly if those goals are difficult) compared with less patient people. The key to making your patience a successful...virtue in support of your long game is to rely on one important factor: discipline. I've seen too many people get discouraged, give up, and fail because they disregarded the means to get to the top of the mountain. They gave up because of an obsession with achieving the goal. Goals are important, no doubt. What gets you to those goals, however, is both patience and discipline. This is what will help you persevere as you develop a pattern of repeated habits and actions that you take daily, over and over again, to reach your highest goals. Patience and discipline are what will ultimately lead to your success. In the end, true success comes from focusing on those steady, small, and consistent day-to-day actions that pave the way to long-term results. Your best weapons...are patience and discipline.

—Marcel Schwantes

Most people who fail in their dream fail not from lack of ability but from lack of commitment.

—Zig Ziglar

If you aren't willing to work for it, don't complain about not having it.

—Internet Meme

A frog decided to reach the top of a tree. All frogs shouted, 'It's impossible, It's impossible...' Still the frog reached the top...How? because...He was DEAF...and He thought...everyone was encouraging him to reach the top...Be deaf to negative thoughts...if your aim is to reach your goal.

—*laugingcolours.com*

Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations.

—Zig Ziglar

You measure the size of the accomplishment by the obstacles you have to overcome to reach your goals.

—Booker T. Washington

What a mistake to suppose that the passions are strongest in youth. The passions are not stronger, but the control over them is weaker. They are more easily excited; they are more violent and apparent, but they have less energy, less durability, less intense and concentrated power than in mature life.

—Zig Ziglar

Concentrate all your thoughts upon the work in hand. The sun's rays do not burn until brought to a focus.

—Alexander Graham
Bell

The most difficult thing is the decision to act; the rest is merely tenacity.

—Amelia Earhart

Each mistake teaches you something new about yourself. There is no failure, remember, except in no longer trying. It is the courage to continue that counts.

—Chris Bradford

Don't give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong.

—Ella Fitzgerald

All you need is the plan, the road map, and the courage to press on to your destination.

—Earl Nightingale

Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

—Albert Einstein

We need to take risks. We need to go broke. We need to prove them wrong, simply by not giving up.

—Awkwafina

Even the tiniest of flowers can have the toughest roots.

—Shannon Mullen

You're so hard on yourself. But remember, everybody has a chapter they don't read out loud. Take a moment. Sit back. Marvel at your life; at the mistakes that gave you wisdom, at the suffering that gave you strength. Despite everything, you still move forward, be proud of this. Continue to endure. Continue to persevere. And remember, no matter how dark it gets, the sun will rise again.

—<https://americasbestpics.com>

To generate a handful of masterworks, Mozart composed more than 600 pieces before his death at thirty-five, Beethoven produced 650 in his lifetime, and Bach wrote over a thousand.

—Adam M. Grant

Success doesn't measure a human being, effort does.

—Adam M. Grant

Grit is the combination of passion and perseverance.

—Adam M. Grant

I'd rather be defined by perseverance than by whether or not I passed an exam.

—Adam M. Grant

Researchers have even suggested that gritty mountaineers are more likely to die on expeditions, because they're determined to do whatever it takes to reach the summit.

—Adam M. Grant

I trained for four years to run for only nine seconds. There are people who, because they do not see results in two months, give up and quit. Sometimes failure is brought on by oneself.

—Usain Bolt

The difference between try and triumph is a little umph.

—Marvin Phillips

You don't get better on the days when you feel like going. You get better on the days when you don't want to go, but you go anyway. If you can overcome the negative energy coming from your tired body or unmotivated mind, you will grow and become better. It won't be the best workout you have, you won't accomplish as much as what you usually do when you actually feel good, but that doesn't matter. Growth is a long term game, and the crappy days are more important.

—Georges St. Pierre

A sense of history teaches students the all-important value of failure in science. It also highlights the persistence of the scientists who continued to push against the odds. Recent research suggests that by discussing the struggles and failures of scientists, teachers are able to motivate students. Indeed, the discussion of struggles, obstacles, failures and persistence can lead to significant academic improvement of students.

—Muhammad H. Zaman

The French Impressionist painter Renoir was severely disabled with rheumatoid arthritis for the last 30 years of his life. Yet he kept on painting.

—Priscilla Long

Giuseppe Paterno, a 93-year-old Italian man always wanted to go to college. He'd always love to read. But he came from a poor family and had to quit school in the eighth grade. He spent his career as a surveyor for the Italian railroad and got married and helped raise two children. Then, he got his high school diploma, and he wanted to go to college in philosophy and history. He applied to the *University of Palermo* and was accepted at age 93. Early on, he faltered: everyone was so much younger. He went to a dean to question this big move, and, crucially, this dean encouraged him. Before long, he felt perfectly comfortable, the other students accepted him and he them. He graduated at the top of his class at age 97 and planned to go on for a master's degree. Talk about courage.

—Priscilla Long

There is no secret, I worked really hard on my idea to get it as good as I could, and then knocked on door after door. Out of 1200 people, 900 said NO. I signed up 300 people, 85 actually did anything, 30 took it serious, and 11 made me a multi millionaire.

—Bill Gates

WINNERS are not people who never failed but people who never quit.

—Internet Meme

All [teachers] care about is the grade you get on the exam that they administer. So that's a very narrow understanding of success in this world. And people who succeed in spite of that do so because they have some belief in themselves. What school does not code for is ambition: How much do you care about what you care about?

—Neil deGrasse Tyson

Water is the softest thing, yet it can penetrate mountains and earth. This shows clearly the principle of softness overcoming hardness.

—Lao Tzu

When doubt or fear begins to take hold of your spirit, let determination cover your body like a quilt on a winter night.

—Angela Bassett

I started out as a professional dancer. That kind of discipline helps you in every area of life. Usually if people get tired, they're done. But dancers know that being tired, being in a little pain, that's just the process. So you just keep going, you go through it.

—Donna Mills



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