

Career Headlines



Fear of Failure

"It is fine to celebrate success, but it is more important to pay attention to the lessons of failure." Bill Gates

"Failure is the only opportunity to begin again, only this time more wisely" Henry Ford

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that didn't work." Thomas Edison

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure." Colin Powell

"Only those who dare to fail greatly ever achieve greatly." Robert F. Kennedy

Fear of failure in the workplace is one of the main reasons people don't become successful. Some are so scared of failure that they don't bother to try. The following people kept trying:

1919 Walt Disney is fired from his newspaper job for lack of imagination.

1980 Bill Clinton loses reelection as governor of Arkansas.

1960s Steven Spielberg is refused by the University of California film school.

1981 Billionaire Michael Bloomberg is fired from an investment job.

1962 The Beatles are rejected by Decca Records.

1985 Steve Jobs is fired by Apple.

1977 Oprah Winfrey is fired from her news job because her stories are too emotional.

1996 J. K. Rowling is turned down 12 times for her Harry Potter book.



How can you overcome fear of failure?

1. Accept your mistakes and move on. Stop beating yourself up and stop giving up.
2. Think about using a different strategy. What should you do differently?
3. Ask for help. It can make you appear smarter.

Action: Name one thing you are afraid to try? What if you tried and failed? How could you motivate yourself to try again?

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Career Solutions Publishing 1189 Lancaster Avenue Suite 205 Berwyn, Pennsylvania 19312 United States
csp@careersolutionspublishing.com (610) 993-8292 FAX (610) 993-8249