

How to Be Strategic

1. Adjective
2. Verb
3. Adjective
4. Adjective
5. Noun - Plural
6. Adjective
7. Adjective
8. Noun
9. Adjective
10. Noun
11. Adverb
12. Adjective
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15. Noun
16. Noun
17. Proper Noun
18. Noun
19. Adjective
20. Adjective
21. Adjective
22. Verb
23. Noun

24. Noun
25. Noun
26. Verb
27. Adjective
28. Noun - Plural
29. Verb
30. Verb
31. Verb
32. Adjective
33. Verb - Non 3Rd Person Singular Present
34. Noun
35. Adjective
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37. Noun
38. Noun
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Picture this: You start the year with _____ Adjective _____ visions of everything you will do and how amazing it will be. You'll do great work, be a good person and you know, generally rock everything. Your business and spirit will _____ Verb _____, and you'll become the most _____ Adjective _____ and most _____ Adjective _____ person you know (naturally).

All good so far. You have _____ Noun - Plural _____ of _____ Adjective _____ strategy, awe-inspiring creativity and a productivity level that has never been seen before. Ever.

And then the picture starts to blur. It fades a little, becomes _____ Adjective _____ around the edges and instead of sharp vivid _____ Noun _____, it turns into the dreaded nightmare for creative, _____ Adjective _____ entrepreneur types -- grayness.

What happened? Life happened, _____ Noun _____ reality kicked in. Your to-do list piles up -- emails, phone calls, deadlines, meetings. Creativity dries up, strategy becomes a pipe dream. And _____ Adverb _____ your "oh hell" meter begins to rise faster than the mercury on a summer day. Oh well, you say to yourself, it was a nice vision. Maybe next year.

Not so fast. Stay with me here because it is possible to get great work done -- to be _____ Adjective _____,

_____ Adjective _____

and still be _____ Adjective _____. You just need a _____ Noun ____ -- some reminders to keep you on track and maybe a little _____ Noun _____ that you can actually do it.

Try these ideas. _____ Proper Noun _____ with them. See what works for you.

1. Fuel your _____ Noun _____. People fall into creativity categories. There are those that have _____ Adjective _____ stuff just oozing out of them, no effort required, there are some who can get their _____ Adjective _____ juices flowing with a little effort and focus and then there are people who think that creativity is not part of their DNA, so they don't even bother. But the reality is, we're all _____ Adjective _____ -- it's not reserved for the few. Everyday, you need to _____ Verb _____ the _____ Noun _____. Look for your _____ Noun _____, and create a daily habit to let it out. It can show up anywhere: How you develop your _____ Noun _____ strategy, how you dress or cook a meal and even how you run a board meeting or get investor cash for your new venture. Start looking and you'll see it everywhere. _____ Verb _____ the flame. Make it _____ Adjective _____ and non-negotiable.

2. Get clear on your strategic _____ Noun - Plural _____. As much as we like to think we can, we can't do everything (I know, it bugs me too). We have to _____ Verb _____, and to do that, we need to be strategic. You've heard it before, but how many times do you actually follow through? What are the three to five major projects that you have to _____ Verb _____ for the next six to 12 months? We know we need to be strategic and _____ Verb _____ on the long term, yet we don't have clarity of what that actually means. Get _____ Adjective _____. Don't just _____ Verb - Non _____

about it. Write it down, put it in your iCal or day planner, stick it on your _____ Noun board, tell your people.

Declare it, and make it _____ Adjective. You'll free up significant energy and fuel your creativity just by doing this. And remember, start your day here. These are the things that matter. Do them first.

3. Get more efficient on your day-to-day. Let's get real. You need _____ Adjective habits and rituals so you can spend your energy on your creativity and strategic stuff, not just managing your day-to-day. This isn't rocket science, but it can be hard to put into _____ Noun because let's face it, many of us aren't wired this way. So here's the deal. Don't check your _____ Noun in bed before you get up (guilty). Do first things first. That means your three strategic _____ Noun - Plural get a looked at before anything else and so does your creative habit that you are going to craft to make sure you have those juices flowing daily. Stop filling time and procrastinating, just start. Have _____ Noun - Plural so you are making progress. _____ Determiner your workload and clear out the crap (you know what it is). Finally, protect your energy.

That _____ Adverb of how you want your _____ Noun and _____ Verb to look -- your creative aspirations and strategic imperatives? All possible.

Make a plan. Make it matter. Go, make it happen.

