

1300 Look **BIG** with a 1300 Number
From \$5 / Month [MORE INFO](#)

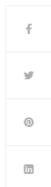
Home » The eternal student: Can you learn to be an entrepreneur?

BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY

The eternal student: Can you learn to be an entrepreneur?

ALAN MANLY - MAY 31, 2022

3 MIN READ



Is an **entrepreneurial mindset** something you're born with, or is it a skillset you can learn? Alan Manly OAM, CEO of Universal Business School Sydney, explains how to build up your own skills to become the entrepreneur you dream of being.

Throughout the past few COVID-dominated years, we've seen the fortunes of the wealthiest people in the world skyrocket to new heights.

One thing that all of these rich-listers have in common is that they are entrepreneurs who started from very little and fought their way to the very top in business.

While many aspire to reach the same level of success as these titans of business, the question remains as to whether entrepreneurialism can be taught or whether it is a skill set that you're born with?

I would suggest that yes you can learn how to be an entrepreneur, however, the real question is: who is the teacher? To become a real entrepreneur requires you to gain enough knowledge and skill, and to seek out education from multiple sources.

More importantly then, how do you go about it?

Who is the teacher?

Without a doubt, the most common trait of successful entrepreneurs is a curious mind.

Those true entrepreneurs with a curious mind continually look to learn as much as possible about business, about their customers, about their industry and about the value of their product or service.

Those with a curious mind look to learn from as many teachers as possible, or even groups of people, as well as their own experiences.

It's possible to obtain skills and knowledge through different means, including formal education, informal on-the-job learning, learning through doing (and likely failing at the first try) or any combination of the three.



Is education important to become an entrepreneur?

One of the biggest misconceptions in the world of entrepreneurship is that you need to be a young college dropout or school leaver who accidentally stumbles across a billion-dollar idea, to be a real

entrepreneur.

In fact, the reality is far less glamorous. A 2009 **Kauffman Foundation survey** of 549 American company founders determined that a staggering 95.1 per cent had a bachelor's degree and 47 per cent had more advanced degrees.

In Australia, two thirds (67.7 per cent) of local entrepreneurs have some form of tertiary qualification, according to QUT's **2019/20 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor**. Of these, 26.4 per cent have undergraduate degrees and 15.2 per cent have postgraduate qualifications, with the rest having VET accreditations.

Notably, the same study found that Australia ranked first out of fifty economies for intrapreneurship – where employees engage in entrepreneurial activities for their employer.

Be an eternal student

While it is certainly possible to learn how to become an entrepreneur, the reality is that there is no one path or one teacher that will get you there.

The lessons learned on your journey will vary from student to student, given that none of us have lived the same experiences and gained the same knowledge.

The same can be said of formal education as well. While studying business is a natural path for many would-be entrepreneurs, and more popular than ever with as many as 19 per cent of bachelor degrees issued in the US in 2017-18 for business, there are also other options. Many entrepreneurs come from a technical background and study things such as engineering or biomedical sciences.

However, just as importantly, you can learn by surrounding yourself with people who are better than you and have the type of success in business that you desire.

To be an entrepreneur means that you will need to be an eternal student and continue to learn from multiple avenues including people, groups and through your own trials and tribulations.

If you're embarking on a journey as an entrepreneur, read, research, listen, watch, meet, discuss, and most importantly – do whatever you can to continue to gain knowledge.

Join the soloist movement. Whether you are new to Flying Solo or looking to grow your business, our **membership options** will help you attract more leads, grow your network and sharpen your business skills. **Sign up to our newsletter** to get the latest news and advice straight to your inbox.

Now read this:



An entrepreneurial mindset is your best skill – here's 6 ways to develop yours

So, you want to be an entrepreneur? It's all in your mindset and fortunately, it's a skill you can develop says Alan Manly, OAM, CEO of Universal Business School Sydney. He reveals the six key steps to developing a strong entrepreneurial mindset that will see you reaching your goals. With the world having changed dramatically ... [Continue reading](#)

FS Flying Solo



PREVIOUS ARTICLE

To niche or not to niche? And how to find yours to boost your customer base

NEXT ARTICLE

The key to setting yourself up to thrive as a working mum

VIA

BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY

TAGS

BUSINESS ADVICE CAREER ADVICE ENTREPRENEUR TIPS ENTREPRENEURSHIP MINDSET AND SUCCESS



Alan Manly

Alan Manly is the founder of Group Colleges Australia and author of the book, 'The Unlikely Entrepreneur'. To find out more visit www.alanmanly.com.au



Share This



COMMENTS



More from Flying Solo

Sponsored Financial Content



Five smart ways to maximise your tax return this year
26 May



This ASX Lithium Play Ballooned 900% (Here's Why ...)
Money Morning



Three daily habits that will significantly increase your happiness
10 May







Aussies could get a health cover from less than as \$25/w. Here's how
Health Insurance Comparison



How traditional businesses can take advantage of Web3
25 May





The Simple Guide to Buying, Selling and Storing Gold in Australia
Daily Reckoning


 <p>Breaking your self-limiting mindset – the real secret to business... 25 May</p>	 <p>How to buy NFTs on eToro eToro</p>
 <p>How to choose the best PR to represent your small business 15 May</p>	 <p>The Investors' Guide to Preparing for the Next ASX Bear Market Fat Tail Investment Research</p>


oianomi

Trending

- 

What a sudden life pivot taught me about putting my own happiness first
[Wellbeing](#)
- 

The key to setting yourself up to thrive as a working mum
[Work life balance](#)
- 

To niche or not to niche? And how to find yours to boost your customer base
[Market research](#)
- 

The eternal student: Can you learn to be an entrepreneur?
[Business psychology](#)

1300

Get Noticed

with a **1300** Number


From **\$5**/Month

[MORE INFO](#)

Listen

FLYING SOLO
GOING IT ALONE IN BUSINESS

Flying Solo
Everything you ever wanted to know about eCommerce from the author of *Selling Online for*



wh00shk00

📄 🍏 🌐 🗨️ 📄 📄 🔊

🎧 Everything you ever wanted to know about eCommerce from the author of <i>Selling Online for</i>	34:30
🎧 Choosing business bravery: Don't let self-limiting beliefs hold you back	19:59
🎧 What to do when life throws you a curveball: turning challenges into opportunity	29:46
🎧 How to build resilience and maximise your potential in business and life	35:41
🎧 How to be more agile in business and life: mindset tips from an expert	33:55
🎧 Get back to doing what you love: Avoiding burnout and regaining passion and purpose	20:53
🎧 How to do business beyond borders	31:33
🎧 How to disrupt your competition, delight your customers and deliver on your promises	27:02

SUBSCRIBE TO
Flying Solo

The very best of Flying Solo straight to your inbox.

Submit →

We'll sometimes send messages from our partners. You can opt-out anytime.

1300

Get Noticed

with a

1300 Number

From **\$5**/Month

[MORE INFO](#)

Latest News



WELLBEING

What a sudden life pivot taught me about putting my own happiness first

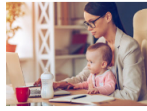
Margie Ireland - June 2, 2022



GROWTH

eCommerce is for every business: Why you should bring your biz online

Suze English - June 1, 2022



WORK LIFE BALANCE

The key to setting yourself up to thrive as a working mum

Dr Ali Young - June 1, 2022



BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY

The eternal student: Can you learn to be an entrepreneur?

Alan Manly - May 31, 2022



MARKET RESEARCH

To niche or not to niche? And how to find yours to boost your customer base

Kabrina McCarter - May 30, 2022



FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Five smart ways to maximise your tax return this year

Helen Baker - May 27, 2022



TECHNOLOGY

How traditional businesses can take advantage of Web3

Adam Stewart - May 26, 2022



BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY

Breaking your self-limiting mindset – the real secret to business bravery

Suze English - May 25, 2022

Here's why you need to upgrade your Flying Solo membership pronto!

- ✔ Share your business journey in an exclusive member profile
- ✔ Get free lifetime access to our Going It Alone digital course
- ✔ Participate in members-only events and experiences
- ✔ Boost your business' visibility with a Directory listing

\$149.95 + GST

Billed annually

[Learn More](#)

[Join Now](#)



Andrew Saska

Caska IP Patent Attorneys

"Flying Solo opened up so many doors for us - I honestly don't know where I'd be without it"



FLYINGSOLO
MICRO BUSINESS COMMUNITY



Copyright 2022 Pinstripe Media - Digital Publishing and Video Production Agency Sydney
[ABOUT US](#) | [CONTACT](#) | [ADVERTISE](#) | [PRIVACY POLICY](#)