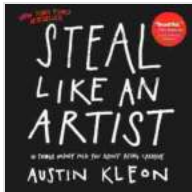


# 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative

By Austin Kleon



## Steal Like an Artist: 10 Things Nobody Told You About Being Creative (Austin Kleon) by Austin Kleon

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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I've been a creative professional for over a decade now, and I've learned a lot about the creative process along the way. But there are some things that nobody told me when I was starting out. Things that I wish I had known, because they would have saved me a lot of time and heartache.

So, in the spirit of helping others avoid the same pitfalls, here are 10 things nobody told me about being creative:

### 1. It's not always easy.

In fact, it's often hard. There will be times when you feel stuck, frustrated, and like you're never going to get anything done. But it's important to remember that these feelings are normal. Everyone experiences them. The key is to keep going, even when it's difficult.

## **2. You need to be disciplined.**

Creativity isn't just about inspiration and magic. It's also about hard work and discipline. If you want to be creative, you need to make time for it every day. Even if you don't feel like it. Just show up and do the work. The more you practice, the easier it will become.

## **3. You need to be open to criticism.**

No matter how good you are, there will always be people who don't like your work. That's okay. Don't take it personally. Instead, try to learn from the criticism. See what you can do to improve your work. And remember, not everyone is going to understand or appreciate your work. That's okay too.

## **4. You need to be persistent.**

There will be times when you want to give up. But don't. Keep going. The more persistent you are, the more likely you are to succeed. Don't give up on your dreams. Keep working at it, and eventually you will achieve your goals.

## **5. You need to be confident.**

In yourself and your work. If you don't believe in yourself, nobody else will. So fake it until you make it. Act confident, even if you don't feel it. And eventually, you will start to believe in yourself.

## **6. You need to be patient.**

Success doesn't happen overnight. It takes time and hard work. So don't get discouraged if you don't see results immediately. Just keep working at it, and eventually you will achieve your goals.

## **7. You need to be humble.**

No matter how successful you become, never forget where you came from. Be grateful for the opportunities you've been given. And always be willing to help others who are just starting out.

## **8. You need to be kind to yourself.**

Creativity is a tough business. There will be times when you feel like you're not good enough. But don't be too hard on yourself. Everyone makes mistakes. Just learn from your mistakes and keep moving forward.

## **9. You need to have fun.**

Creativity should be enjoyable. If you're not having fun, you're doing something wrong. So find ways to make your creative work more enjoyable. And don't be afraid to experiment. Try new things. And see what happens.

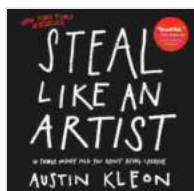
## **10. You need to keep going.**

No matter what. Even when it's hard. Even when you don't feel like it. Just keep going. The more you create, the better you will become. And the more likely you are to achieve your goals.

So there you have it. 10 things nobody told me about being creative. I hope this advice helps you on your own creative journey. And remember, the

most important thing is to just keep creating.

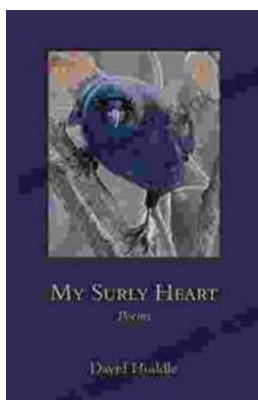
*Austin Kleon is the author of the New York Times bestsellers Steal Like an Artist and Show Your Work! He is also a popular speaker and blogger. You can follow him on Twitter @austinkleon.*



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