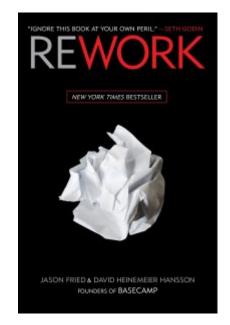
ReWork by Jason Fried & David Heinemeier Hansson – Book Summary

Ready to learn the most important takeaways from ReWork in less than two minutes? Keep reading!



Why This Book Matters:

A refreshing alternative to traditional top-heavy business approaches, *ReWork* shows how a less-is-more outlook will enable you to launch a successful company in less time with less money.

Key Takeaways:

- 1. Build a business on something you care about and can be proud of
 - Identify a need you have and then formulate the solution based on your firsthand experience with that need.
 - 2. Example: The author created Basecamp, a highly successful project management product, on a shoestring budget because he and his team were

lacking a good solution.

- 2. Launch your company as soon as you've got the core of the business worked out and wing the rest of the details
 - Launching your business as soon as possible allows you to get rolling towards a profit while working on the remaining details as you go.
 - 2. Example: Start selling hot dogs as soon as the cart and dogs are ready. All the other details can be worked out as you proceed.
- 3. Filter out what you "need to have" for your business from what you'd "like to have"
 - You don't actually need so much of what you think you might need such as a business plan, investors, or your own dedicated office space.
 - 2. Example: Basecamp began on a shoestring budget using shared office space.
- To stand out in the market, pick a fight with a competitor
 - 1. Become the anti-example to your competitor to give you instant positioning and get people talking.
 - 2. Example: Dunkin' Donuts markets itself as the Anti-Starbucks: simple instead of complicated and down to earth instead of stuck-up.
- 5. Do one thing amazingly well and make it unique
 - Companies that focus on one product or service with perfection find more success than companies that are going in too many different directions.
 - 2. Example: Vinnie's Sub Shop in Chicago is so devoted to freshness that they stop selling sandwiches in the afternoon when the bread is no longer as fresh as they want it.
- 6. Bigger isn't always better, but don't forget you are aiming for profitability
 - A smaller business footprint means more obscurity, and thus flexibility for experimentation and real interaction with your customer base.
 - 2. Example: Broadway shows usually are tested in

other cities where they are off the media radar before going to New York.

- 7. Don't copy big business marketing; go small and direct
 - Smaller means being more personal, direct, and honest with your customer base, which strengthens the relationship between your product and your customers.
 - Example: Instead of striving to be featured in a big newspaper, find a small publication that addresses a particular niche.
- 8. Create a culture of open communication and trust
 - The most successful teams are trusted to make their own decisions, voice their opinions, work to produce and not to fulfill certain hours, and do not over plan.
 - 2. Example: Let employees manage themselves and focus on what matters, and encourage their thoughts about improving the company.

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