

A decorative, ornate frame with intricate scrollwork and floral patterns, containing the text "THE PATH OF AWESOMENESS SERIES".

THE PATH OF AWESOMENESS SERIES

IS YOUR JOB KEEPING
YOU FROM YOUR ART?
OR
HOW TO WORK AND CREATE
BEAUTY AT THE SAME TIME

A decorative scroll with a 3D effect, appearing to be unrolled, containing the author's name "E.E. Dumas".

E.E. Dumas

The “Path of Awesomeness” Manifesto

I believe everyone has the potential to be more awesome. There is no upper limit to awesomeness, and so there is no reason we should stop striving to be more awesome.

The “Path of Awesomeness” series has been written to show you the many different ways you can take steps toward boosting your ever-expanding awesomeness.

I hope you find the series helpful as you discover and develop the awesome person you are and will be.

Sincerely Enthused,
Your Friendly Author



You've had a busy day:

Unfortunately, many of us know the drill. Work a long day, come home exhausted, pass the time in unmeaningful ways, then wake up the next day to do it all again.

To those of you with satisfying jobs, and those who both work long hours and create wonderful works of art, this zine isn't for you. Go teach others your enthusiasm, because we all could use a little more.

To those of you who struggle just a little in doing good work outside of a day or night-job, then hopefully this zine will help you take a step forward in Awesomeness.

How to use this zine:

What you'll be seeing in the next few pages is a long list of things to try. A big way to become awesome is to try new things, and so I present you with a varied list on things I've tried that have helped me find the effort to do art when I'm not at work.

Don't feel as though you need to try them all, and take your time. All that I ask is that you do what's awesome for you, and consider all the potential awesomeness you could incorporate into your life.

Also, towards the end, you'll find several blank lines. Please write your own suggestions, and see if they make a difference. I'm sure you'll learn greatly from this.

Try it and see!

- Do one project a week: Dedicate any free time you have to just one project, advancing it as far as you can.

- Work before work: Instead of staying up late after your day job, get up early before hand.

- Make a list of when you have open free time, and how much time you have. Then you'll get a feeling for what you can get done in that amount of time.

- Finish a small project, savor the feeling of accomplishment, and move on to the next activity.

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- See if rewards motivate you (near ones, for little steps forward, and also distant ones, for completing the project). Don't be afraid to dangle the carrot.

- Sometimes the trouble is not in thinking the work will be fun, but your inaccurate prediction of how fun it will be. The only way to test this situation is to actually start working, and then check in while you're working and analyze if it's fun or not.

- Craft/art parties are great!

- Relaxation has it's time and place, and can be great as a reward after work, or as a way to heal yourself from busy day.

Intermission: if any of these tips don't work for you, stop! Cross them out, or better yet put a slash through the box next to them. If they're awesome, put a star there!

- ☐ Guilt is totally harmful to getting things done. Think back on the projects you've done out of guilt and the ones you've done out of joy, and see which turned out better. Knocking guilt out of the equation can help make more beautiful art.

- ☐ A properly sized dinner will fuel you through a long evening of work. Too big and you'll feel tired, too small and you won't feel satiated.

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- Get yourself pumped about a planned evening of productiveness, and think about it all day while you're busy with less fun tasks.
- Try keeping it a secret, instead of holding yourself accountable to your friends, don't tell anyone what you're doing, and instead surprise them with a wickedly awesome success.

Now is the best time to discover your drive, because once you have this knowledge you'll remember it for the rest of your life. Just imagine how awesome your productive and meaningful near-future will be!

Write Your Own Experiments!



Acknowledgments and Thanks

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The IPRC, Wieden+Kennedy, and all my friends have created an atmosphere of Awesomeness, one that fosters infinite success. Thank you one and all.

Have You Enjoyed This?

If so, try these other titles in the Path of Awesomeness series:

- How to Spread the Joy
- How to Not Fear Your Computer
- Unemployment for Fun and Profit

Interested in Enthusiasm? How about aeronautics or natural perfumery? Dare I mention moustache wax?

Experience more at: eedumas.com

Thank you
for reading!

E E Dumas
Publications