



21 Questions for Extraordinary Goal-Setting

GREAT Goals are:

- * **Outcome focused.** Once your WHY is understood (AND it's a good & enthusiastic WHY) you're 90% there!
- * **In line with your values.** The more a goal aligns with your inner or core values – the EASIER it will be to achieve.
- * **Stated in the positive.** “I want healthy fingernails” rather than “I want to stop biting my nails”

They are also SMART:

Specific (so you know exactly what you are trying to achieve) **M**easurable (so you know when you have achieved it!) **A**ction-oriented (so you can DO something about it!) **R**ealistic (so it IS achievable) and **T**ime-Bound (has a deadline)

Answer these questions to create goals that INSPIRE and you will set yourself up to win.

Focusing on the Outcome:

1. What is it that you REALLY want here? Dig deep...
2. What is the SPECIFIC OUTCOME that you are looking for?
3. What is the PAIN for you of NOT achieving your goal?

Aligning with your Values:

4. Is this goal in line with your life vision/overall life-plan? If you don't know, what is your gut-feel?
5. Is this goal in line with your values? Ask yourself what's REALLY important to you in life - will this goal help you achieve more of that?
6. Are the goals something YOU truly want, or are they something you think you SHOULD have or SHOULD be doing? If it's a SHOULD, it may be someone else's dream. If it's something you HAVE to do, but don't really want to, is there a way to make it more meaningful to you?
7. When you think about your goal does it give you a sense of deep contentment or “rightness”, happiness and/or excitement? These are good signs that it's a healthy goal.
8. If you could achieve the goal RIGHT NOW – would you take it? Would it be what you wanted, or would you still wish for something more/different?

9. How does this goal fit into your life/lifestyle? Think about the time and effort it will take, the commitments you already have and who else might be impacted?

Identifying Obstacles:

10. Can YOU start & maintain this goal/outcome? Do you have complete control over achieving it? If not, who do you need to involve?

11. How will making this change affect other aspects of your life? What else might you need to deal with?

12. What's good about the CURRENT SITUATION? i.e. What's the "secondary gain" for staying right where you are? How can you keep those good aspects while STILL making this change?

13. What might you have to give up/stop doing to achieve this goal? Essentially, what's the price of making this change – and are you willing to pay it?

14. If there was something important around achieving this goal (to help you succeed, or that could get in the way) that you haven't mentioned yet, what would it be?

15. WHO WILL YOU HAVE TO BE to achieve this goal? In other words, what kind of person has what you are looking for?

Goal Sizing: Give yourself a range of success!

16. Is the goal the right size to be working on? Is it too big? Break it down into smaller goals. Is it too small? Fit it into a larger goal or make your vision bigger.

17. What would be the MINIMUM/Super-Easy level of goal to achieve?

18. What would be your TARGET level of goal to achieve?

19. What would be your EXTRAORDINARY level of goal to achieve?

Resources – get moving:

20. What RESOURCES do you already have to help you achieve your goal? (things, people, contacts, personal qualities, skills, info, finance etc). Create a list!

21. What RESOURCES do you NEED to help you achieve your goal? Create a list!

Lastly, make sure you have written something that is Specific, Measurable, Action-Oriented, Realistic, and Time-Bound. **By (this date) I will have (number of dollars) in my savings account** is specific, has a deadline, is measured by the number of dollars, is realistic if the number you choose is realistic (but don't be afraid to stretch!) and you will need to outline specific actions to make it happen.

AND REMEMBER – GOALS are there to INSPIRE YOU not to beat yourself up with... If you aren't winning, let's look back at these questions together!

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