

How to Know If You Are Wired to Be an Entrepreneur



John Scroggins, May 2025

Entrepreneurship is an exhilarating yet challenging journey, offering freedom, creativity, and the opportunity to make a lasting impact. However, not everyone is naturally inclined toward this path. Being an entrepreneur requires a specific mindset, unique skills, and a certain level of resilience. While these traits can be developed, there are inherent characteristics that can indicate whether you're naturally wired to be an entrepreneur.

So, how do you know if you have the right traits for entrepreneurship? In this article, we'll explore the signs that suggest you might be born to run your own business, the mindset that drives successful entrepreneurs, and the qualities that can predict entrepreneurial success.

1. You Embrace Risk

Entrepreneurs are risk-takers. The journey to success often involves navigating uncharted waters and facing uncertainty. If you're someone who doesn't shy away from challenges and enjoys taking calculated risks, it's a good indication that you may be wired to be an entrepreneur.

Entrepreneurs are not reckless with their decisions, but they do recognize that risk is part of the game. Whether it's investing money in a new idea or making a bold business move, entrepreneurs are willing to take chances that others might avoid. If you're comfortable with the idea of failing and see it as a learning opportunity rather than a setback, you have a crucial entrepreneurial trait.

2. You Have a Growth Mindset

Entrepreneurship is all about constant learning and growth. A growth mindset means you believe that abilities and intelligence can be developed through hard work, dedication, and feedback. If you're someone who sees challenges as opportunities for growth and enjoys learning from failure, you might be more inclined to entrepreneurship.

A fixed mindset, on the other hand, tends to focus on innate talent and tends to shy away from challenges. If you're naturally open to evolving your skills and regularly seek new knowledge, whether through books, courses, or personal experiences, you have the mindset needed to thrive as an entrepreneur.

3. You're Self-Motivated and Independent

The road to entrepreneurship is often a lonely one. Many entrepreneurs start their businesses by themselves, which requires a high level of self-discipline and motivation. If you find that you can motivate yourself without needing others to push you or hold you accountable, you're likely wired for entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurs tend to be self-starters who can focus on long-term goals despite the short-term distractions. They don't wait for others to tell them what to do – they make decisions and take action on their own. If you enjoy setting your own schedule, determining your own goals, and driving your progress, you're on the right track.

4. You Are Resilient and Persistent

The entrepreneurial journey is full of ups and downs. Rejections, failures, and setbacks are inevitable, and how you respond to them often determines whether you succeed. If you bounce back quickly from failure, learn from mistakes, and stay persistent in the face of adversity, you're likely suited for entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurs know that success doesn't happen overnight. They maintain their persistence even when things get tough. Whether it's a failed business venture or a challenging market, an entrepreneur's resilience allows them to press forward, adapt, and find new solutions. If you're someone who doesn't easily give up, you're displaying a key entrepreneurial trait.

5. You're Comfortable with Ambiguity

In entrepreneurship, there's no clear roadmap to success. Many aspects of running a business, especially in the early stages, are shrouded in uncertainty. If you're comfortable with ambiguity, you may be naturally suited for entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurs are comfortable navigating the unknown. They don't have all the answers, and they understand that ambiguity is part of the creative process. If you have a strong ability to make decisions even when the outcome isn't clear, or if you thrive when faced with uncertainty, you're likely to excel in entrepreneurial ventures.

6. You're Passionate About Ideas and Problem-Solving

A defining trait of many entrepreneurs is their passion for solving problems and creating something new. If you're someone who regularly thinks of new ideas, spots inefficiencies, and is passionate about improving things, it's a strong indicator that you might be wired for entrepreneurship.

Entrepreneurs have an innate desire to bring their visions to life. They see possibilities in areas where others see roadblocks. Whether it's in the form of a new product, service, or even a new way of doing things, entrepreneurs are passionate about solving problems in unique ways. If you find yourself brainstorming solutions or constantly thinking about ways to innovate, entrepreneurship may be your calling.

7. You're Comfortable with Financial Management

One of the most challenging aspects of entrepreneurship is managing finances. Entrepreneurs must handle cash flow, understand profit margins, and plan for future expenses, all while balancing risk. If you have a strong sense of financial literacy and enjoy managing money, you might have an entrepreneurial mindset.

Entrepreneurs must be good at budgeting, forecasting, and planning. Even if your business isn't profitable right away, understanding how to allocate resources wisely and adjust when necessary is crucial. If you're naturally inclined toward making financial decisions or managing a budget, you're likely wired to handle the financial demands of entrepreneurship.

8. You Have a Vision for the Future

Successful entrepreneurs are forward-thinkers. They have a vision for what they want to create and the drive to bring that vision to life. If you have a clear picture of what you want your future to look like, including your business or your impact on the world, you're likely an entrepreneur at heart.

Being able to see beyond the present and envision a future is a key trait that sets entrepreneurs apart. It enables them to stay focused on their goals, even when day-to-day challenges arise. If you have a vision that drives you

and you're willing to take steps toward that vision despite the difficulties, you might be naturally wired for entrepreneurship.

9. You Have a High Tolerance for Failure

Failure is inevitable in entrepreneurship. A successful entrepreneur understands that failure is simply a stepping stone to success. They don't take failure personally, but instead, see it as an opportunity for growth.

If you can fail and keep going, learn from your mistakes, and not let them define you, you're displaying the kind of resilience needed in entrepreneurship. A high tolerance for failure means you can keep pushing forward and adapt when necessary. You understand that failure doesn't mean the end of your journey; it's just a part of the process.

10. You're Obsessed with Making an Impact

At the core of entrepreneurship is the desire to make a difference. Whether it's creating a product that solves a problem, starting a service that improves lives, or innovating in a field, entrepreneurs are motivated by the impact they can make.

If you're someone who constantly thinks about how you can change the world, contribute to society, or leave a legacy, this is a sign of an entrepreneurial mindset. Entrepreneurs aren't just in it for the money; they're in it to create something meaningful.

Conclusion

There is no one-size-fits-all answer when it comes to entrepreneurship. However, the traits outlined above can help you determine if you are wired to be an entrepreneur. It's important to remember that these traits can be developed over time. While some may come naturally, others can be cultivated through experience, learning, and reflection.

If you identify with many of these traits, entrepreneurship may be a fulfilling and exciting journey for you. If you don't, don't be discouraged – entrepreneurship is a skill that can be learned, and there are many paths to success. Whether you're just starting out or already running a business, the entrepreneurial spirit is something that can always be nurtured.

Quotable:

"Success is walking from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm." Winston Churchill.

"Genius is 1% inspiration, and 99% perspiration." Thomas Edison

ASK YOUR MENTOR

1. How did you know you were cut out to be an entrepreneur? What was your journey?
2. What's a "day in the life of you" as an entrepreneur when you first started? Now?
3. What's been the most rewarding part of being an entrepreneur? The most difficult part?
4. If you could be anything except an entrepreneur, what would you be?
5. What do you know now about entrepreneurship that you wish you would have known when you started?
6. What have you learned about God through your entrepreneurship journey?
7. To what degree do you view your entrepreneurial bent and skills as a stewardship entrustment from God? What might it look like to move the needle even a little more in that direction?

Reflect & Respond/Self-Rate- MENTEE

Rate the degree to which you exhibit these traits. 5 = to a high degree
(Better yet, have someone who knows you very well rate you.)

	1	2	3	4	5
You Embrace Risk					
You Have a Growth Mindset					
You're Self-Motivated and Independent					
You Are Resilient and Persistent					
You're Comfortable with Ambiguity					
You're Passionate About Ideas and Problem-Solving					
You're Comfortable with Financial Management					
You Have a Vision for the Future					
You Have a High Tolerance for Failure					
You're Obsessed with Making an Impact					

Go Do

1. Ask God, "What have you purposed for me to do? How have you wired me?"
2. Use personality assessments like Myers-Briggs and Strengths Finder 2.0 to help capture some of your attributes.

Sources & Resources

- Article: <https://online.hbs.edu/blog/post/what-does-it-take-to-be-an-entrepreneur>
- Video: 10 Qualities of a Successful Entrepreneur | 2023 | CAREER GUIDE, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slkIVUUKFFc>