

Edwin Land Quotes

*Science, Thinking, Important, Believe, Creativity, Years, World, Cameras,
Waiting, Research, Business, Past, Dream, Mistake, Way, Problem, Creative,
Photography, Art, Long*

It's not that we need new ideas, but we need to stop having old ideas.

~Edwin Land

An essential aspect of creativity is not being afraid to fail.

~Edwin Land

[A Polaroid camera] places before you a thing that is more of the thing than the thing was.

~Edwin Land

Don't undertake a project unless it is manifestly important and nearly impossible.

~Edwin Land

Marketing is what you do when your product is no good.

~Edwin Land

Anything worth doing is worth doing to excess.

~Edwin Land

We live in a world changing so rapidly that what we mean frequently by common sense is doing the thing that would have been right last year.

~Edwin Land

Someone is going to make your product obsolete. Make sure it's you.

~Edwin Land

Creativity is the sudden cessation of stupidity.

~Edwin Land

A mistake is an event, the full benefit of which has not yet been turned to your advantage.

~Edwin Land

Any problem can be solved as long as it is stated properly.

~Edwin Land

Politeness is the poison of collaboration.

~Edwin Land

You must expect failure after failure after failure before you succeed.

~Edwin Land

Science is a method to keep yourself from kidding yourself.

~Edwin Land

We can be dramatic, even theatrical; we can be persuasive; but the message we are telling must be true.

~Edwin Land

There's a rule they don't teach you at the Harvard Business School. It is, if anything is worth doing, it's worth doing to excess.

~Edwin Land

There is no such thing as group originality, group creativity or group perspicacity.

~Edwin Land

This is the most exciting part of being human. It is using our brains in the highest way. Otherwise we are just healthy animals

~Edwin Land

An invention that is quickly accepted will turn out to be a rather trivial alteration of something that has already existed.

~Edwin Land

The world is like a fertile field that's waiting to be harvested. The seeds have been planted, and what I do is go out and help plant more seeds

and harvest them.

~Edwin Land

A premature attempt to explain something that thrills you will destroy your perceptivity rather than increase it, because your tendency will be to explain away rather than seek out.

~Edwin Land

Any problem can be solved using the materials in the room.

~Edwin Land

Work only on problems that are manifestly important and seem to be nearly impossible to solve. That way you will have a natural market for your product and no competition.

~Edwin Land

I have long aspired to make our company a noble prototype of industry, penetrating in science, reliable in engineering, creative in aesthetics and wholesomely prosperous in economics.

~Edwin Land

The most important thing about power is to make sure you don't have to use it.

~Edwin Land

The bottom line is in heaven!

~Edwin Land

Intense concentration for hour after hour can bring out resources in people that they didn't know they had.

~Edwin Land

The test of an invention is the power of an inventor to push it through in the face of staunch-not opposition, but indifference-in society.

~Edwin Land

...from this day forward until the day you are buried, do two things each day. First, master a difficult old insight, and second, add some new piece of knowledge to the world each day.

~Edwin Land

The world belongs to the articulate.

~Edwin Land

All you have learned from history is old ways of making mistakes. There is nothing that history can tell you about what we must do tomorrow. Only what we must not do.

~Edwin Land

Colour is always a consequence, never a cause.

~Edwin Land

I submit to you that when in each man the dream of personal greatness dies, democracy loses the real source of its future strength.

~Edwin Land

The present is the past biting into the future.

~Edwin Land

Don't do anything that someone else can do.

~Edwin Land

If you are able to state a problem - any problem - and if it is important enough, then the problem can be solved.

~Edwin Land

Do not do anything that anyone else can do readily.

~Edwin Land

One of the best ways to keep a great secret is to shout it.

~Edwin Land

We took nothing from anybody. We gave a great deal to the world. The only thing keeping us alive is our brilliance. The only thing that keeps our brilliance alive is our patents.

~Edwin Land

Profundity and originality are attributes of single, if not singular, minds.

~Edwin Land

Who can object to a monopoly when any new company, if it is built around a scientific nucleus, can create a new monopoly of its own by creating a wholly new field?

~Edwin Land

The first thing you do is teach the person to feel that the vision is very important and nearly impossible. That draws out the drive in the winner.

~Edwin Land

The future may require not so much having a new idea as stopping having an old idea.

~Edwin Land

A significant invention must be startling, unexpected. It must come to a world that is not prepared for it.

~Edwin Land

True creativity is characterized by a succession of acts each dependent on the one before and suggesting the one after.

~Edwin Land

A mistake is a future benefit, the full value of which is yet to be realized.

~Edwin Land

Industry is best at the intersection of science and art.

~Edwin Land

The second great product of industry should be the rewarding life for every person

~Edwin Land

Look, if the picture you get instantly is as beautiful as the picture you get by waiting seven days, then it is absolute madness to say that there is virtue in waiting.

~Edwin Land

It only takes a day to change someone from an anti-intellectual to an intellectual by persuading him that he might be one!

~Edwin Land

There's no scientist I know who wouldn't rather be a charlatan. And when circumstances allow you to be both, why it's great fun!

~Edwin Land

In a few wretched buildings, we created a whole new industry with international significance.

~Edwin Land

I believe each incoming freshman [in college] must be started at once on his own research project if we are to preserve his secret dream of greatness and make it come true.

~Edwin Land

You think that the only thing that counts is the bottom line! What a presumptuous thing to say. The bottom line is in heaven.

~Edwin Land

Why do I want to believe what I believe?... Science, to put it somewhat vulgarly, is a technique to keep yourself from kidding yourself.

~Edwin Land

I don't mind conducting the orchestra if I can play the violin.

~Edwin Land

You cannot separate the composition from the life of the moment. It is all one thing, to be decided in a split second while you're living through it.

~Edwin Land

Our society is changing so rapidly that none of us can know what it is or where it is going.

~Edwin Land

I believe quite simply that the small company of the future will be as much a research organization as it is a manufacturing company.

~Edwin Land

We have to keep in practice like musicians. Besides, there are still potentialities to be realized in color film. To us, it's just like bringing up a child. You don't stop after you've had it.

~Edwin Land

It is a curious property of research activity that after the problem has been solved the solution seems obvious.

~Edwin Land

We took on things which people might think would take a year or two. They weren't particularly hard. What was hard was believing they weren't hard.

~Edwin Land

Famous in our circles is the story of the visiting English banker who in 1948 upon seeing our model 95 camera commented, 'Very interesting, but why would one want a picture in a minute?'

~Edwin Land

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