

Herbert Simon

Quotes

*Design, Decision, People, Thinking, Computer, Death, Inspiring, Use, Problem,
Learning, Beautiful, Men, World, Simple, Kind, Science, Action, Technology,
Two, Intellectual*

A wealth of information creates a poverty of attention.

~Herbert Simon

One finds limits by pushing them.

~Herbert Simon

Learning results from what the student does and thinks, and only from what the student does and thinks. The teacher can advance learning only by influencing the student to learn.

~Herbert Simon

Solving a problem simply means representing it so as to make the solution transparent.

~Herbert Simon

Enlightenments, like accidents, happen only to prepared minds.

~Herbert Simon

The proper study of mankind is the science of design.

~Herbert Simon

Learning is any change in a system that produces a more or less permanent change in its capacity for adapting to its environment.

~Herbert Simon

The engineer, and more generally the designer, is concerned with how things ought to be - how they ought to be in order to attain goals, and to function.

~Herbert Simon

Human beings know a lot of things, some of which are true, and apply them. When we like the results, we call it wisdom.

~Herbert Simon

Innovation has a lot to do with your ability to recognise surprising and unusual phenomena.

~Herbert Simon

Everyone designs who devises courses of action aimed at changing existing situations into preferred ones.

~Herbert Simon

A complex decision is like a great river, drawing from its many tributaries the innumerable premises of which it is constituted.

~Herbert Simon

Think of the design process as involving first the generation of alternatives and then the testing of these alternatives against a whole array of requirements and restraints.

~Herbert Simon

Mathematics is a language. We want scientists to be able to read it, speak it, and write it. But we are not training them to be grammarians.

~Herbert Simon

Engineering, medicine, business, architecture and painting are concerned not with the necessary but with the contingent - not with how things are but with how they might be - in short, with design.

~Herbert Simon

By 1985, machines will be capable of doing any work Man can do.

~Herbert Simon

No one has characterized market mechanisms better than Friedrich von Hayek

~Herbert Simon

The social sciences, I thought, needed the same kind of rigor and the same mathematical underpinnings that had made the 'hard' sciences so brilliantly successful.

~Herbert Simon

The world is vast, beautiful, and fascinating, even awe-inspiring - but impersonal. It demands nothing of me, and allows me to demand nothing of it.

~Herbert Simon

All correct reasoning is a grand system of tautologies, but only God can make direct use of that fact

~Herbert Simon

The intelligent altruists, though less altruistic than unintelligent altruists, will be fitter than both unintelligent altruists and selfish individuals.

~Herbert Simon

Human beings, viewed as behaving systems, are quite simple. The apparent complexity of our behavior over time is largely a reflection of the complexity of the environment in which we find ourselves.

~Herbert Simon

Creativity is no less challenging or exciting when the mystery is stripped from the creative process. The most beautiful flowers grow under careful cultivation from common soil.

~Herbert Simon

Maybe we ought to have a world in which things are divided between people kind of fairly.

~Herbert Simon

Forget about Nobel prizes; they aren't really very important.

~Herbert Simon

In the computer field, the moment of truth is a running program; all else is prophecy.

~Herbert Simon

One of the first rules of science is if somebody delivers a secret weapon to you, you better use it

~Herbert Simon

I don't care how big and fast computers are, they're not as big and fast as the world.

~Herbert Simon

Technology may create a condition, but the questions are what do we do about ourselves. We better understand ourselves pretty clearly and we better find ways to like ourselves

~Herbert Simon

Anything that gives us new knowledge gives us an opportunity to be more rational.

~Herbert Simon

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