

# Merlin Mann

## Quotes

*People, Thinking, Creative, Moving, Writing, Attention, Heart, Needs, Couple, Iphone, Interesting, Opinion, Stopping, Success, Stupid, Numbers, Distraction, Tornadoes, Good Luck, Focus*

Joining a Facebook group about creative productivity is like buying a chair about jogging.

~Merlin Mann

Where you allow your attention to go ultimately says more about you as a human being than anything that you put in your mission statement.

~Merlin Mann

Priorities Are Like Arms; If You Think You Have More Than A Couple, You're Either Lying Or Crazy.

~Merlin Mann

Everything takes more time than you thought, everything costs more money than you thought, and almost everything turns out not quite as cool as you expected.

~Merlin Mann

Workflow is understanding your job, understanding your tools, and then not thinking about it any more.

~Merlin Mann

Never let the guy with the broom decide how many elephants can be in the parade.

~Merlin Mann

People with tiny glasses and costly shoes can always find a couple of hours to explain how you did it all wrong.

~Merlin Mann

Feeling creative produces great work in approximately the same way that "feeling like a doctor" makes you a gifted thoracic surgeon.

~Merlin Mann

People will always despise you if you end up doing less stupid BS than

they choose to suffer.

~Merlin Mann

Thinking can really be the enemy of action, and thinking can be the enemy of reality.

~Merlin Mann

I'm a project manager, not a magician. Magicians have way cooler hats.

~Merlin Mann

You got to be careful to not get too comfortable with incremental improvement. I think sometimes you just got to jump off a ledge.

~Merlin Mann

Don't just play with your phone: go out and produce something.

~Merlin Mann

It's just that it's mind-boggling to me how many people I encounter every day who are struggling to subsist on a diet of bad advice about fake solutions to nonexistent problems.

~Merlin Mann

Come back, paragraphs. America needs you.

~Merlin Mann

Distractions have never prevented a Writing Writer Who Writes from writing; distractions are an excuse proffered by Non-Writing Non-Writers Who are Not-Writing for why they are not writing.

~Merlin Mann

A lot of the best work I've ever done started out as something completely different because I gave myself permission to have space around my time and expectations.

~Merlin Mann

Creative work only seems like a magic trick to people who don't understand that it's ultimately still work.

~Merlin Mann

Stop. I'm not going to take any more input until I've made something with what I got.

~Merlin Mann

Personally, it's changed my game - it's how I think now. Can't imagine writing more than a paragraph in anything that doesn't do MMD.

~Merlin Mann

Like tornadoes and cold sores, good work happens with total disregard to whether I'm 'into it.'

~Merlin Mann

If you want to make a chili, you're going to break some cows.

~Merlin Mann

When you die, no one's going to remember what iPhone you had.

~Merlin Mann

People either make things or they don't. Inspiration is a poster.

~Merlin Mann

A priority is observed, not manufactured or assigned. Otherwise, it's necessarily not a priority.

~Merlin Mann

Although your time and attention are finite, the demands on your time and attention are infinite.

~Merlin Mann

All self-help is Buddhism with a service mark

~Merlin Mann

If you need to appear on an internet list to know whether you're someone's friend, you may have problems a computer can't solve.

~Merlin Mann

Everything you agree to do is other things you can't do

~Merlin Mann

Thing is: the internet's made of IP addresses, opinions, and assholes. It's what's there. That's the basic equipment.

~Merlin Mann

Typing in all lowercase is popular among young people, SMS users, and anyone who feels literacy has become too time-consuming.

~Merlin Mann

By my reckoning, I only need about 200 more takeout coffee cups to complete my bitterly ironic mosaic of Al Gore.

~Merlin Mann

Being consistent is way less interesting than being yourself. And if you're not interesting? Good luck with your Big Consistency Project.

~Merlin Mann

Creative work, summarized: In the time you set aside each day to work your ass off, ignore anything that makes you consider stopping.

~Merlin Mann

Make the time to be scared of more interesting things.

~Merlin Mann

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