

Richard Hamming

Quotes

*Science, Thinking, Believe, People, Doors, Learning, Scientist, Important,
Problem, Numbers, Hard Work, Men, Teacher, Greatness, Feet, Computer,
Two, Math, Mind, Engineering*

The purpose of computing is insight, not numbers.

~Richard Hamming

Given two people with exactly the same ability, the one person who manages day in and day out to get in one more hour of thinking will be tremendously more productive over a lifetime.

~Richard Hamming

There are wavelengths that people cannot see, there are sounds that people cannot hear, and maybe computers have thoughts that people cannot think.

~Richard Hamming

If you don't work on important problems, it's not likely that you'll do important work.

~Richard Hamming

Newton said, "If I have seen further than others, it is because I've stood on the shoulders of giants." These days we stand on each other's feet!

~Richard Hamming

The most dangerous thought you can have as a creative person is to think you know what you're doing.

~Richard Hamming

Typing is no substitute for thinking.

~Richard Hamming

Mathematics is not merely an idle art form, it is an essential part of our society.

~Richard Hamming

True greatness is when your name is like ampere, watt, and fourier-when it's spelled with a lower case letter.

~Richard Hamming

You can tell other people all the alibis you want. I don't mind. But to yourself try to be honest.

~Richard Hamming

Mathematics is an interesting intellectual sport but it should not be allowed to stand in the way of obtaining sensible information about physical processes.

~Richard Hamming

It is better to do the right problem the wrong way than the wrong problem the right way.

~Richard Hamming

What you learn from others you can use to follow. What you learn for yourself you can use to lead.

~Richard Hamming

The real problem is what can man and machine do together and not in competition.

~Richard Hamming

One of the characteristics of successful scientists is having courage.

~Richard Hamming

Beware of finding what you're looking for. A favorite aphorism he often used.

~Richard Hamming

In mathematics we do not appeal to authority, but rather you are responsible for what you believe.

~Richard Hamming

He who works with the door open gets all kinds of interruptions, but he also occasionally gets clues as to what the world is and what might be important.

~Richard Hamming

What are the important problems of your field?

~Richard Hamming

Mathematicians stand on each others' shoulders and computer scientists stand on each others' toes.

~Richard Hamming

Good teachers deserve apples; great teachers deserve chocolate. A favorite quotation, written in calligraphy on his office door.

~Richard Hamming

Computer scientists stand on each other's feet.

~Richard Hamming

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