



The beauty of mistakes

Are you skeptical about the title of this article? Do you feel that mistakes are unacceptable? Then read on.

Mistakes are feedback on how we are doing. Winners make far more mistakes than losers. That is why they are winners. They are getting more feedback as they continue to try more possibilities. The only trouble with losers is that they regard a mistake as such a big event while failing to recognize the positive side to making mistakes.



We learn far more from our losses than we do from our victories. When we lose, we contemplate, we analyze, we regroup, and we plan a new strategy. When we win, we simply celebrate, and learn very little. This is another reason to welcome our errors.

The beauty of mistakes is simply explained by the legendary Thomas Edison. When a gentleman inquired of the inventor how it felt to have failed so many times in his efforts to produce an electric light bulb, Edison replied that he had not failed at all, but rather he had successfully found thousands of ways how not to make a light bulb! That kind of healthy attitude toward mistakes enabled Edison to make a contribution to the world which rivals that of almost anyone in history. Mistakes should be our best friend. We should welcome frustration and turn it into enthusiasm. It's impossible to fail. If you try something and it doesn't work, just try it in another way or try something else, and learn from what you just did. There's always a way, if you are committed.

Mistakes are an essential ingredient in the learning process and are often blessings in disguise. Christopher Columbus went looking for the quicker route to India and found America! Laminated glass, where a slice of plastic is sandwiched between two sheets of glass, was first produced by accident. Its shatterproof qualities have since saved thousand of lives.

In summary we should remember that mistakes are not really mistakes. We should expect to make some errors in judgment as well, and welcome them as part of the learning process. The shame is never in having failed – the shame is only in not having tried! After all, it's not what we *can* do in life but what we *will* do! But remember: **stay focused!**