DIY DEGREE™

THE SELF-EDUCATOR'S STARTER KIT

Learn Anything.
Without Student Loans.
Without Waiting for Permission.

INCLUDED

- ✓ The DIY Degree Method
- ✓ Your First Commonplace Book
- ✓ AI Prompts for Better Learning
- ✓ Build a 12-Week Learning Plan
- ✓ Curated Free Resources

FREE

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What's Inside

Welcome 03
The DIY Degree Philosophy 04
The DIY Degree Framework 05
Your Learning Roadmap 07
Build Your Commonplace Book 08
The Best Questions to Ask 10
AI Is Your Personal Tutor 11
Great Places to Learn for Free 12
Your First 12-Week Plan 13
Recommended DIY Degree Workbooks 14
Congratulations 15

Welcome

Most people think learning ends after school.

The truth is, the people who grow the fastest never stop learning — they just stop waiting for someone else to teach them.

DIY Degree™ was created for people who want practical knowledge without expensive tuition, rigid schedules, or years spent chasing credentials they may never use.

Whether your goal is to start a business, publish a book, understand investing, learn copyright, master AI, or simply become a more capable person — you don't need permission.

You need a system.

That's what this toolkit is.

The DIY Degree Philosophy

Traditional education asks:
“What class should I take?”

DIY Degree asks:
“What problem do I want to solve?”

Traditional education rewards memorization.

DIY Degree rewards curiosity.

Traditional education gives you assignments.

DIY Degree teaches you how to build your own.

Knowledge is everywhere.
Learning is a skill.

This toolkit teaches that skill.

The DIY Degree Framework

Learn

↓

Question

↓

Research

↓

Organize

↓

Practice

↓

Reflect

↓

Repeat

One week at a time.
One skill at a time.
One life-changing habit at a time.

“Knowledge is everywhere. Learning is a skill.”

— DIY DEGREE™

Your Learning Roadmap

WHAT DO I WANT TO LEARN?

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

HOW WILL MY LIFE IMPROVE?

HOW MUCH TIME EACH WEEK?

☐ 15 min ☐ 30 min ☐ 1 hour ☐ 2+ hours

WHAT DOES SUCCESS LOOK LIKE?

PART ONE OF TWO

Build Your Commonplace Book

For centuries, thinkers kept a commonplace book — a personal notebook of ideas, quotes, and lessons worth remembering. This is page one of yours.

YOUR TOPIC — WHAT ARE YOU EXPLORING TODAY?

YOUR OBJECTIVE — BY THE END, I SHOULD BE able TO:

QUESTIONS TO ASK

— What do I already believe about this — and where did that belief come from?

— What's one mistake or misconception I want to avoid?

— What would “good” look like for me here?

SUGGESTED SEARCH — TRY “[YOUR TOPIC] BEGINNER MISTAKES”

PART TWO OF TWO

Build Your Commonplace Book

AI PROMPT

“Explain [your topic] like I'm smart but new to it. Give me 3 things beginners get wrong.”

THE ONE TAKEAWAY THAT STUCK:

FIND ONE REAL EXAMPLE — WHAT DID THEY DO DIFFERENTLY?

WHAT I'M KEEPING

The one line, quote, or insight from today worth remembering — forever.

☐ NEXT ACTION — ONE SMALL THING I'LL DO THIS WEEK

The Best Questions to Ask

Instead of asking:

“What should I memorize?”

Ask:

- **Why?**
- **How?**
- **Compared to what?**
- **What mistakes do beginners make?**
- **What do experts disagree about?**
- **What would happen if I ignored this advice?**
- **Can I explain this to someone else?**

These questions accelerate learning more than simply collecting facts.

AI Is Your Personal Tutor

Copy and paste these prompts into your favorite AI assistant.

“Explain this topic like I'm smart but completely new.”

“Teach me using analogies.”

“Give me the 20% that explains 80%.”

“Quiz me.”

“Challenge my assumptions.”

“Give me three real-world examples.”

“Pretend you're my professor.”

“Pretend you're mentoring me.”

“Explain what experts argue about.”

“What books should I read next?”

Great Places to Learn for Free

- ✓ YouTube
- ✓ Harvard Online
- ✓ Government websites
- ✓ Public libraries
- ✓ Books
- ✓ MIT OpenCourseWare
- ✓ Google
- ✓ Podcasts
- ✓ Academic journals
- ✓ AI assistants

Learning has never been more accessible.

Your First 12-Week Plan

One row per week. Fill in your focus as you go — you don't need to plan all twelve today.

WK	THIS WEEK'S FOCUS	HOURS	DONE
1			☐
2			☐
3			☐
4			☐
5			☐
6			☐
7			☐
8			☐
9			☐
10			☐
11			☐
12			☐

Recommended DIY Degree™ Workbooks

Ready to go deeper? Each workbook is built like a self-paced college course.

- The Psychology of Money
- Starting and Running a Small Business
- Copyright & Trademark Fundamentals
- Finish What You Start
- The Pause & The Power (Menopause)
- A Speaker's Journey to TEDx
- Kickstart Your Idea (Crowdfunding)
- Cryptocurrency
- Creative Writing
- Publishing
- International Travel
- Home Maintenance
- Gardening & Canning
- Public Speaking

...and many more, at thediydegree.com

Congratulations.

Today you did something most people never do.

You intentionally learned.

That single habit has changed more lives than talent, luck, or intelligence ever will.

Don't stop now.
Keep building. Keep questioning. Keep becoming.

Your education belongs to you.

Welcome to DIY Degree™.

DIY DEGREE™

The workbook series for self-made minds.

thediydegree.com

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