

The
**Career
Compass**

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I initially created this worksheet in 2020—just before the great pandemic—when I was feeling fed up with the conversation about PURPOSE.

(Little did I know we would soon collectively be fixated on toilet paper.)

It seemed like people everywhere were searching high and low for the answer to "*What's my purpose?*," never trusting that it was something they could decide on for themselves.

It was as if they were waiting for God himself to part the heavens and tell them, Here is your purpose. It is divined, specifically for you.

In reality, your purpose isn't fixed. It's something you feel.

You know how psychologists emphasize the importance of *meaning* to a life well-lived? (As opposed to the sugar high stuff that is simple happiness.)

The same applies to your career—it will never be perfect.

Perfect is a moving target, and we're optimizing within constraints.

This worksheet is for you if you are:

- Looking for more in your career, but at a loss for ideas;
- Building faith in the idea that making money can be fun;
- Ready for an experience of success that is so much more fulfilling than simply having salary requirements met...

The questions within are your compass; you create the map.

I'd be honored to help you with that. [Book a free strategy session](#) with me to inquire about private coaching and support in career pivoting.

Rachel

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Before we begin, let's agree:

- **Purpose is not a fixed star.** It evolves with time and experience, as you do. Don't put it in a death grip.
- **The possibilities are infinite.** Someone made \$ off the "Yo!" app. Innovation constantly opens new avenues for income.
- **You can express your purpose in small ways.** You don't have to quit your job or start a business to begin.
- **Patience is a virtue.** Your mind will demand to know *what if* and *but how...?* as you answer these questions. Let your ideas percolate.
- **You'll step away from the screen.** The answers to life's questions are more easily found on a walk than at your keyboard.

1. Dreams

How do you want your life to feel?

2. Values

Where do you love to invest your energy?

3. Skills

What value do you have to offer?

4. Experience

What starting block are you launching from?

1. Dreams

Let's be a little selfish and start with what would make you happy. How do you want your purpose-led life to *feel*? Design backwards from there.

- What do you need to be happy in terms of lifestyle?
- Where do you want to live?
- What are your earnings goals? How much are your overhead expenses?
- What material benefits matter most to you?
- How much time do you want to spend outside?
- How much or how little do you want to work with others? In person, or online? Managing a team, or working solo?

2. Values

Next, let's focus on who you are and what you love. Anything that interests you is valuable information—the point is to enjoy your work.

- What are your favourite rabbit holes? When do you lose all track of time?
- What books, podcasts or other media do you love? How about Instagram, Reddit, Twitch?
- How do you spend your disposable income?
- Are there any thought leaders you carry around in the back of your mind?
- What experiences satisfy your soul? What can you extract from them to share with others?
- How do you most like to interact with other people?
- How important to you is it that you have an impact? What kind of service feels good to you?

3. Skills

I guarantee you have more to offer than what's on your resume. Your point of view alone is valuable. Consider your personality an asset.

- What have you learned well enough that you could teach it to others?
- Is there anything you've trained or invested a lot in?
- What do people praise you for?
- If you gave a TED talk, what would you title it?
- When do you most often enter flow? On which tasks do you procrastinate the least?
- What kind of person are you? Be really honest: what are your best qualities?
- What do you think your best friend would answer with?
- List four accomplishments you're proud of, in any area of life.

4. Experience

There's strength in starting with what you know. Your current context can help you decide how and where to market yourself.

- What industry are you in? What's your career track record been?
- What have been your pain points working in this space? What problems can you solve knowing what you know so well?
- Broadly speaking, what cultural problems or issues do you care about changing, and why?
- What kind of communities do you belong to?
- What groups do you resonate with on the basis of identity, upbringing or values? How can your skills benefit them?

As for "how"...

- Seek out patterns across your answers. You're aiming to find a sweet spot.
- Pay attention to the people you envy. Let them be your template.
- Check Starter Story for inspiration. Everything is possible.
- When you have an idea, don't delay. Pick one bite-sized action you can take action to test it out today.