

TWELVE WAYS TO

Make Yourself Proud

Follow your passion. If you love what you do, you won't view your job as work. You'll wake up each morning excited to face a new day.

Give it a try. The next time someone says, "The odds are against you," remember: If you don't try, you automatically forfeit the opportunity to succeed.

Know your strengths. Don't let your ego fool you into believing that you're a know-it-all. Just because you're an expert in one area doesn't make you an expert in everything.

Focus your efforts. Trying to be excellent at everything leads to mediocrity.

Leave your comfort zone. Set stretch goals that challenge you to do your best.

Compete with yourself. Forget about competing with others. It only breeds animosity. Instead, compete with yourself and find new ways to better yourself.

Learn from the best. Identify role models from whom you can learn. Ask for feedback on ways to raise your game.

Practice, **practice**, **practice**. Excellence comes from practice. Period.

Give yourself a report card. Learn from your efforts. After every activity, ask yourself, "What can I do to perform better next time?"

Don't quit. If you're not proud of what you do, you're not done.

Don't let success go to your head. Celebrate success, but don't let it change you as a person. Humility is a sign of strength, not weakness.

Define happiness for yourself. Success in life begins and ends with purpose. People who live a life of purpose have core beliefs and values that influence their decisions, shape their day-to-day actions, and determine their short- and long-term objectives.

