



# There's No Substitute for Hard Work

On a fundamental basis, an entry-level job provides valuable lessons. It teaches us to show up on time, follow directions, work hard, and get along with others. Here are 12 life lessons that hard work offers:

**Expectations.** Set the bar high. If you accept mediocrity, you'll be mediocre.

**Courage.** Put fear aside. Set stretch goals and leave your comfort zone.

**Discipline.** Stay focused. Remain strong when days are tough.

**Integrity.** Build trust. Keep your promises. Live with honor.

**Pride.** Make yourself proud. Always give 110%. It's the extra 10% that everyone remembers.

**Creativity.** Don't accept the status quo. Be a problem-solver. Make things better.

**Humility.** Accept wins with grace and learn from your losses.

**Determination.** Stare adversity in the eye and stay the course when confronted with overwhelming challenges.

**Flexibility.** Even the best-laid plans go awry. Be flexible and remain open to new opportunities.

**Teamwork.** Be a team player. Your colleagues' success is your success.

**Personal responsibility.** Accept responsibility for your actions. The buck stops with you.

**Make a difference.** You were hired to add value, not to be a placeholder.

