

How to Transition from Self-employment to Entrepreneurship

Category: Capabilities, People and Organisation Improvement, Strategy

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Expanding upon [Roselyn Onalaja](#)'s insightful perspective on the [transition from self-employment to entrepreneurship](#):

If your business cannot operate for a period of 3 months without you, you are self-employed.

This simple but powerful statement highlights a critical distinction between self-employment and entrepreneurship. Many individuals start their entrepreneurial journey as self-employed, where they are the sole driving force behind their business. However, true entrepreneurship involves creating a

business that can thrive independently of your constant presence.

The essence of entrepreneurship lies in building a business that is not reliant solely on your daily involvement. This characteristic demonstrates your ability to delegate responsibilities, trust your team, and have systems in place that ensure your business's ongoing success, even when you're not directly managing every aspect of it.

One of the characteristics of an entrepreneur is that they can stay away from their business for some weeks, and the business will still function well and generate income.



Transitioning from self-employment to entrepreneurship requires a shift in mindset. Start seeing yourself as a visionary leader who is building a scalable business.

The journey from self-employment to entrepreneurship is not just about changing your job title; it's about evolving your mindset. You must envision yourself as the captain of a ship, charting a course for growth and scalability. Instead of merely working in your business, you must work on your business, strategizing for long-term success.

“To build a scalable business, you need to develop a capable team. You need a supportive team to share the workload and bring diverse skills to the table. Surround yourself with individuals who align with your vision.”

Entrepreneurship is a team sport. You can't scale your business alone. Building a capable team is paramount. Seek individuals who not only possess the necessary skills but also share your passion and align with your business's vision and values. A supportive team will help shoulder the workload, provide fresh perspectives, and contribute to the growth of your enterprise.

“The next thing you need to do is to create a structure. A clear structure streamlines processes, minimizing inefficiencies.”

Structure is the backbone of a scalable business. It involves defining roles, responsibilities, and workflows. This clarity streamlines operations, reduces wasted time and resources, and ensures that tasks are completed efficiently and with high quality.

“When roles, responsibilities, and workflows are defined, tasks are completed more swiftly and with higher quality. Structure clarifies who does what. This reduces confusion, prevents overlaps, and ensures everyone knows their contributions, boosting teamwork and collaboration.”

A well-structured business minimizes confusion and prevents overlaps. It fosters a collaborative environment where every team member understands their role and how it contributes to the broader mission. This alignment enhances productivity, accountability, and overall team performance.

“A capable team with a strong business structure will allow your business to operate in your absence.”

Ultimately, the true mark of entrepreneurship is the ability to step away from your business confidently, knowing that it will continue to thrive. A capable team, supported by a robust structure, enables your business to function seamlessly in your absence. This freedom not only allows you to pursue other opportunities but also ensures the long-term sustainability and growth of your entrepreneurial venture.