The Little Lies We Tell Ourselves About Time Management

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Cris Sgrott, CPO[®], CPO-CD[®]

- 1. Certified Professional Organizer specializing in Chronic Disorganization
- I have worked with clients for the last 12 years
- 3. Organizing Maniacs specializes in working with clients with Brain Based Challenges
- 4. We have helped hundreds of clients with time management





Agenda

- 1. Why have better Time Management?
- 2. What's your why?
- 3. 8 Lies of Time Management & Strategies
- 4. Q&A





Mini Poll Who is self employed?

Who is an employee?

Who is lucky not to be either? Stay at home or retired





Why do we want to have better Time Management?



Why?

- Get more done
- Spend more time with our families
- Who are we trying to be?
- Connect to your Why



Time Management

"Until we can manage time, we can manage nothing else."

- Peter F. Drucker





It is not really about time

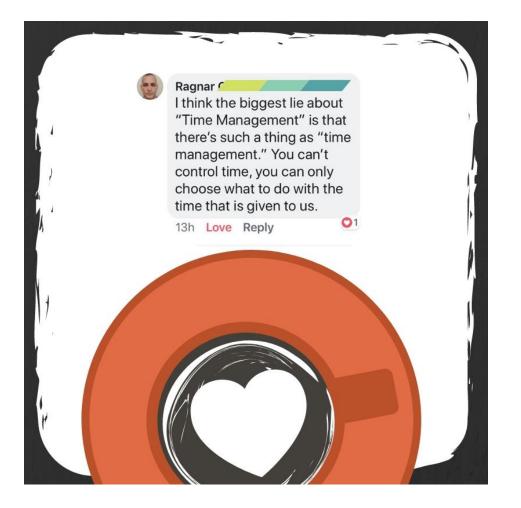
- Impulsivity
- Forgetfulness
- Capturing
- Anxiety
- Shame



Lie #1

We have control!







Definition

time management

noun

 Time management is defined as effectively using the minutes, hours and days available to you in order to best accomplish your goals in the most effective way.

An example of time management is when you carefully outline your schedule in order to get everything done.



Definition

task management

noun

 Task management is the process of managing a task through its life cycle. It involves planning, testing, tracking, and reporting.

An example of task management is a to-do list.



Strategy

You need a tool to manage your time!

- Planner
- Notebook
- Accountability
- Sticky notes





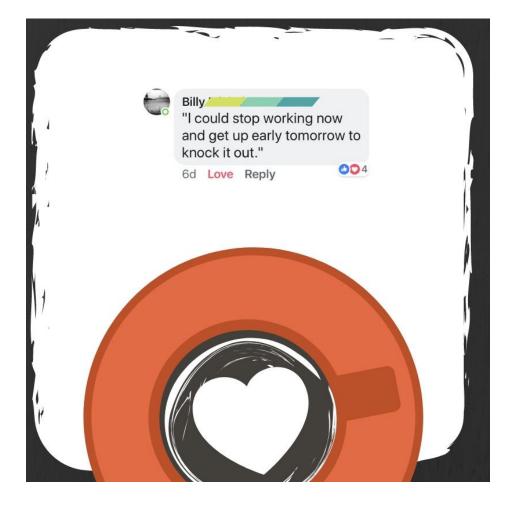


Lie #2

I will do it tomorrow!

(Procrastination is robbing your productivity)







Definition

procrastination

noun

 Procrastination is the process of putting off doing something until the last minute.

An example of procrastination is not working on a project at all until the day before it is due.



Your Dictionary

Strategy

What project are you working on?

- Identify task clearly
- Make it specific
- Eliminate a step
- Keep it simple



Strategies

- Individual needs to be involved
- Break down tasks 5 times more than normal
- Keep it simple



tomorrow



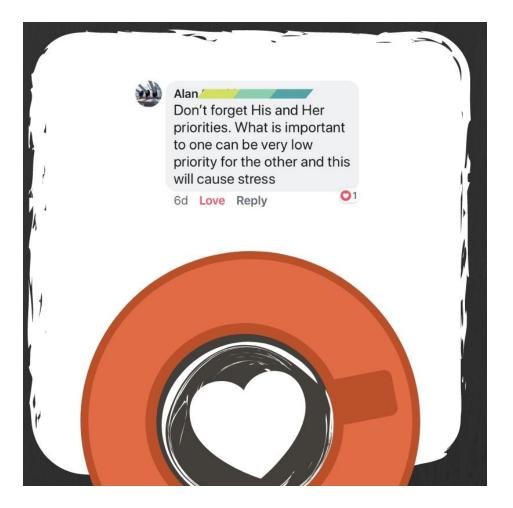
a mystical land where 99% of all human productivity, motivation and achievement is stored



Lie #3

Competing Goals!







Definition

goal

noun

 The definition of a goal is something you aspire to do or wish to do or a goal can refer to scoring a point in certain sporting events.

An example of a goal is making a decision that you want to start using a planner daily.



Your Dictionary

Strategy

Communication is key

- Weekly meeting
- Shared calendar
- Eliminate what is not essential
- Stop brainstorming







Lie #4

Over Scheduling!







Definition

over scheduling

noun

 The definition of over scheduling is adding too much to your calendar. More than you can or wish to do. Over scheduling can refer to having no free time.

An example of over scheduling is having a daily planner with no space to add anything else to it.



Cris' Definition

Strategy

Leave space to transition

- Time to settle into the task
- Plan 30-60 minutes between meetings/events
- An hour task will take longer
- Longer chunks of time







Lie #5

Under Scheduling!



Definition

under scheduling

noun

 The definition of under scheduling is having nothing added to your calendar. All of your plans are held in your head and it looks like all you have is free time.

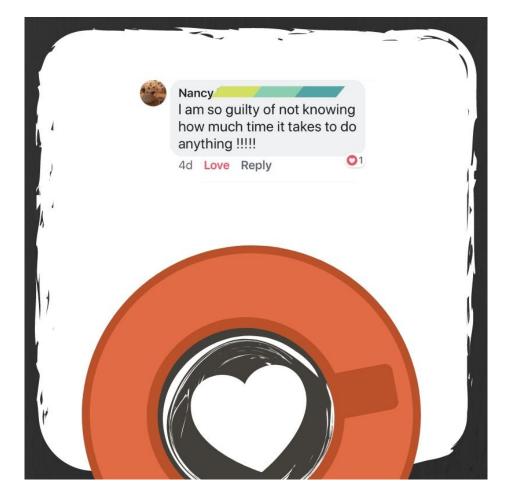
An example of under scheduling is looking at your schedule and saying yes to attend a wedding, 2 birthday parties and all on the same day.

Cris' Definition

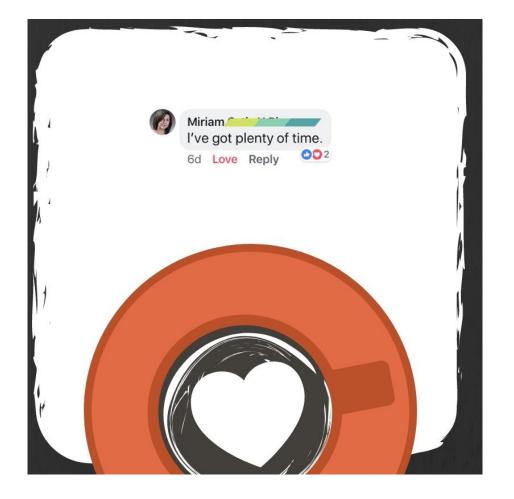




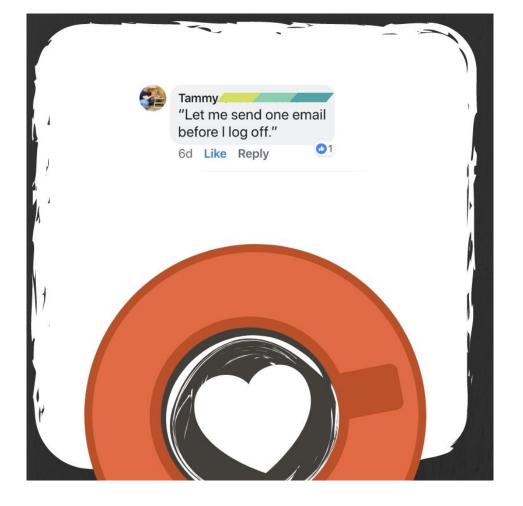














How are you using the spaces in your calendar?

- No planning at all
- Fire fighting
- Not thinking about tasks ahead of time
- Prep time a task will take
- Bank of tasks to work on



ME: Sorry I can't go out tonight. I'm busy.

ALSO ME: *takes quiz to see what kind of pizza I am.





Lie #6

Bargaining!



Definition

reward

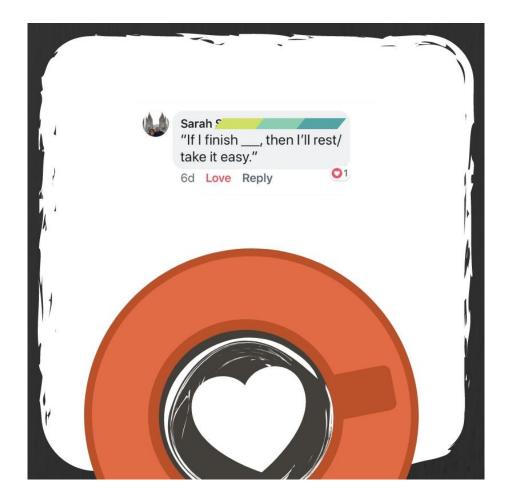
noun

1. The definition of a reward is something given to a person

for the accomplishment of something

An example of reward is getting a manicure and pedicure after finishing the powerpoint presentation for this session.







What motivates you?

- Give yourself small rewards
- Stickers make everyone happy!
- Indulge!
- Attach meaning and value to it







Lie #7

Overwhelmed, I can't do it!



Definition

overwhelm

verb (used with object)

1. to overcome completely in mind or feeling

An example of feeling overwhelmed is having too many commitments and a very long list of things to get accomplished











What is overwhelming you?

- Write a list of what's overwhelming
- Are you rebelling?
- Are you saying yes to too many things?



Lie #8

I need a To-Do List!



Definition

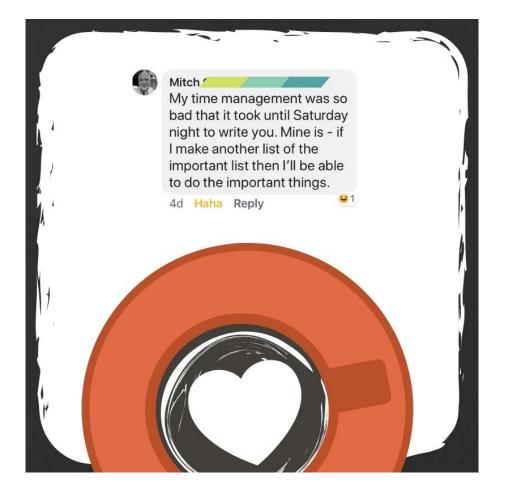
to-do list

action

 A compiled list of all the items normally living in our heads of things that need to get accomplished

An example of to-do list is a compiled list of items one needs from the grocery store











Writing things down is good!

- Brain dump regularly
- Use to plan (1-5 items a day)
- Use to schedule (When & How)
- Keep it real
- Parking lot list



James Clear

Action Vs. Motion

- Motion Research
- Action Making it happen



To-Do List

 Never do anything that has more than 3 steps as an action item







Lies

- 1. We have control
- 2. I will do it tomorrow
- 3. Competing goals
- 4. Over Scheduling
- 5. Under Scheduling
- 6. Bargaining
- 7. Too Overwhelm
- 8. To do lists Failed



Takeaway

Which lie do you identify as a problem for you?





When asked ... how do you feel about failure? I never failed, I just found 10k ways the light bulb didn't work.

- Thomas Edison



Questions?



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