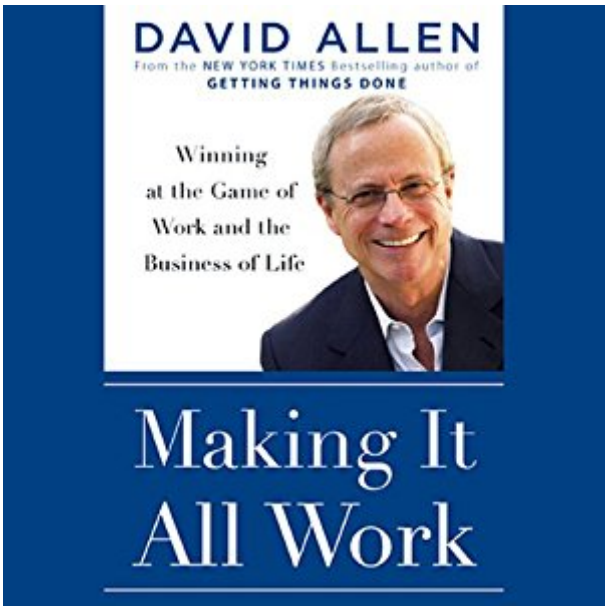
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Making It All Work



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Synopsis

The companion to the blockbuster bestseller, Getting Things Done. Since its publication in 2001, Getting Things Done has become, as Time magazine put it, "the defining self-help business book" of the decade. Having inspired millions of readers around the world, it clearly spoke to an urgent need in an increasingly time-pressured society. Now, in the highly anticipated sequel Making It All Work, Allen unlocks the full power of his methods across the entire span of life and work. While Getting Things Done functioned as an essential tool kit, Making It All Work is an invaluable road map, providing both bearings to help you determine where you are in life and directions on how to get to where you want to go. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

My first attempt reading Making It All Work failed. I got bored, distracted and frustrated. Eventually I got in the flow, but not completely. There are two reasons for my difficulty with this book. First, this book demands a lot of the reader. Second, the assumption is that the reader is using GTD, and not just partially. Count me in the partially camp but wanting to get back to GTD.This book is meant to sustain those using the GTD system. The philosophy of GTD goes beyond mere filing. We’re meant to always access to the things we have pending. We need to review these things and think about them deeply in order to make the higher level decisions. It’s possible to go years not making the higher level decisions simply because we’re reacting to events so much of the time. The reason we use GTD is to enable us to make the big decisions that align our values and what we really want

with our daily lives.For me, GTD the way Allen explains it in Making It All Work seems forever out of reach. The moment an area is well-organized, new information and complexity floods in. It’s as if the reward for doing things right is to get more things to do right. This may seem heretical and is certainly not meant that way. I recommend this book for those at least somewhat practiced with GTD.

This book really ads on to the concepts of the GTD Method. I ordered this book, getting things done, and making it work all at the same time, and I found that each one was unique and added to the concept of the GTD method. very pleased with purchase and would buy again! :)

The original Getting Things Done is a great book with almost universal appeal. Making It All Work covers similar ground with an extra level of thinking about the relationship between some of the big picture questions and more immediate task oriented concerns. There’s a lot of good stuff here,Maybe it was due to familIarity, but I find some of the language a bit repetitive -- like he’s more concerned about the brand than the concept. The annoying tendency to capitalize Trademarkable Terms (tm) like "Horizons of Focus" is a big driver of my response in this regard. Still, though, it was a worthwhile read for me.

I’ve been a fan of the GTD process since readingÃ Â Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free ProductivityÃ Â several years ago. After several attempts implementing and tweaking my own system, I’ve always had several questions about how granular the items in David’s (and other people’s) systems are. How many actions might someone typically have on their "Next Actions" list? (David says most have over 150). How many projects does someone typically have? How many of those are active vs. "someday/maybe"? Do you need a way to link your Next Actions to the associated projects? What kind of format should I use to capture the 20,000 ft level (areas of focus)? These types of questions and other guidance is provided in this book.While I did find the book useful, it does rehash a lot of the first book while at the same time not explaining the original concepts clearly enough for the book to stand on its own. I would recommend it as a companion to the original book, but I would not suggest that you start here.I haven’t read Ready For Anything, so I can’t comment on how that fits into the GTD "universe".

Sadly, really bad. This recorded book is unabridged, so I can’t even give Allen the benefit of supposing that his written version was better. What is especially disappointing about this book is

that Allen’s first book, "Getting Things Done" was excellent, and I’ve often recommended it to people as the best personal efficiency/organizing book I’ve ever read. That book is EXCELLENT. Unfortunately, this book is an irritating waste of time. About 3/4 of its content just refers to, and rehashes, what a great system Allen’s first book, Getting Things Done, described, and how people have loved and implemented that system. Based on the comparative quality of both books, it is hard to believe Allen wrote both of them. The first was filled with useful information, and the second was a self-congratulatory valentine that contained almost no information. I generally abstain from reviewing bad things, as I don’t like to waste more time on a bad product, or trash people’s ratings. But people need to be warned. This book is so bad, it’s insulting. Again, Allen’s original book, Getting Things Done, is terrific. Read (or re-read) that book instead of wasting any time and money on this one.

If you’ve allready read the gtd book, like I had, there’s not much new information here. Same methods, same tools, just slightly different approach to view it. More about state of mind (visionary/micromanager), less on how to use a labeler.

I have been practicing GTD for a while. I have fallen off the wagon and got back on it several times. The problem was always that I had more things to do than it is possible to do. I applied main principles of David’s first book on GTD but prioritization was always a stumbling point.Making It All Work allowed me to look at my work load from a different perspective. After reading the book in one weekend, I realized, how to prioritize in my weekly review, how to be ready to drop tasks when something unexpected comes up that needs urgent attention.This book is about practical application of GTD principles and teaches you how not to be overwhelmed with your tasks.

Good book expanding on GTD, but he could have saved most of the anecdotes and written this in about 1/3 of the length. The overall method is helpful though, and having a system to integrate everything so you can process it all really can change your life (as cheesy as it sounds). Sign me up for the cliff notes.

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