

Waiting for the perfect opportunity? It may be now!

July 2014 Newsletter



Is there something exciting — but a little scary — you’d like to try? Maybe you’re ready to go after a promotion, ask someone special out to dinner or move to a new area? Are you waiting for “the stars to align” before you go for it?

That may be a mistake. Sometimes the best time to take an important step is right now. Rather than wait, sometimes you need to create the right time to act.

When is the time right?

If you want to try a new idea or take a chance, how can you tell if you should do it now or wait? Here are some helpful questions to ask yourself:

1. Are there good reasons to wait? (Can you list them?)
2. What needs to happen so I’ll feel I’m ready? (Be specific.)
3. What do I gain by waiting? What may I lose? (Try making a list for each.)
4. Is waiting something I do as a habit?
5. Am I waiting or just delaying?

Once you answer these questions, you’ll have a better idea of whether you’re “stuck” or whether there are good reasons to keep the brakes on.

Here are some sound reasons to wait

We’ve all made decisions we regret. It’s part of life. Sometimes it makes you fearful about future decisions.

But there can also be good reasons to hold back. These could include times when:

- You need more information to move ahead with confidence
- You’ve been on the edge of making this change before but something has held you back — and that obstacle still exists now
- You haven’t fully considered the results of your decision and how you’ll deal with both the positive and negative possibilities
- You’re feeling undue pressure from other people

Time to act?

It may never be the “perfect” time, but here are some clues it could be as good a time as ever:

- You’ve finished your research and feel certain about what you’re planning to do
- You’ve thought through the possible outcomes and you’re ready to handle whatever happens
- You’ve already tried other options and they didn’t work
- Your gut says “Go for it”

Seize — or create — the opportunity

Once you’ve done your homework and you have a good reason, awareness and understanding of your big step, it may be time to count to ten and take the plunge.