

It's the dents that count

July 2015 Newsletter



“We’re all here to put a dent in the universe.”¹ That’s a quote from Apple co-founder Steve Jobs.

Most people would agree that Jobs did a lot more than create a dent. He helped change communication, technology and the world forever. Yet isn’t it interesting that his goal was just to make a dent?

Everyone can make a dent in the world

Dents are small. They’re not earthshaking, expensive or remarkable. You can make dents in countless ways during your daily routine. Here are just a few suggestions:

1. Hold the door for an elderly person or a mom with a stroller when you enter or leave a department store.
2. Invite the person behind you in the grocery line to go ahead of you.
3. Say a sincere “thank you” to your waiter or waitress in a restaurant.
4. Offer your seat to someone who needs it when you’re riding a bus or subway.
5. Remember to say “please” when you ask for something, even if you’re asking a total stranger.
6. Let the driver behind you take that great parking space you just found.
7. Teach someone to do something instead of doing it for them.
8. Let someone cut in front of you when you’re in heavy traffic.
9. Leave a gift card (\$5) on a bench in the park or mall. Put it in an envelope that says “Surprise! This is for whoever finds it!”

10. Pay the toll for the person in the car behind you on the highway.
11. When a friend needs to talk, just listen without judging or offering solutions.
12. Stop by a nursing home and leave a bouquet of flowers.
13. Compliment a stranger.
14. Put your change in the “penny pot” for the next customer.
15. Choose a few items from your closet that you haven’t worn in ages, bag them and put them into a clothing drop box.

Every small act counts

You may never know the difference your action makes. As businessman and philanthropist Warren Buffet said, **“Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone else planted a tree a long time ago.”²**

Any small gesture you make can have an impact today or later on. Think about it: Haven’t there been times someone has said or done something for you that really turned your day – or life – around?

Focus on those dents

It would be nice if we could all change the world. But if you can’t, that doesn’t mean you should stop trying to make a difference. Every small act of generosity and kindness can really make a change. And who knows who’ll be sitting in the shade of your tree someday?

^{1,2}www.brainyquotes.com