

How a Hobby Can Help You Embrace Failure as a Learning Opportunity

Failure is often seen as a setback, but it can be a powerful catalyst for growth and learning. This article explores how everyday hobbies can transform our perspective on failure, turning it into a valuable opportunity for personal development. Drawing on insights from experts in various fields, we'll discover how activities like card collecting, cooking, and fitness can teach us to embrace challenges and learn from our mistakes.

- Card Collecting Teaches Patience
- Cooking Failures Spark Innovation
- Gym Journey Transforms Fear into Progress

Card Collecting Teaches Patience

I have several hobbies, most of which revolve around physical exercise or watching, playing, and coaching sports. For example, I enjoy running. Failure is often associated with running when I aim to achieve a particular time or distance. As I age, accomplishing these goals becomes increasingly difficult.

That said, my favorite hobby has always been card collecting, specifically set building. I love manually completing football or baseball card sets. In the hobby, we refer to this as hand-collation. While I could simply purchase a complete set produced by the manufacturer or assembled by another hobbyist or dealer, I prefer the "chase," where failure and frustration are common. Additionally, I have a goal of completing a set for a certain price, which requires diligence and perseverance.

Here is an example of what I mean: 1992 Bowman Baseball. It is a 705-card set that many collectors regard as one of the greatest sets ever. In 1992, I bought several packs of 1992 Bowman Baseball at my local Walmart. At that time, I owned about 100 cards from the overall collection.

As the years passed, I would occasionally buy a few cards from that set. By around 2000, I had collected about 150 cards in the set. For several years, I didn't actively pursue card collecting. However, in 2010, I reignited my interest and worked diligently to locate the remaining cards in the set. I turned to eBay, Craigslist, local card shops, and dealers at shows. Eventually, by about 2020, I had accumulated around 550 cards in the set.

But it hasn't been easy. Many times, I've been outbid for lots or partial sets from online sellers. I set a price and don't go above it. I want to complete the set for the price I have in mind. It has been over

30 years since I first started building this set. Hopefully, I'll complete it within the next 5 to 10 years!

What have I learned? Patience makes the pursuit much more worthwhile.



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