

# Why to Not Not Start a Startup

some ideas by Paul Graham

# Why don't more people start startups?

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Fact: The great majority of programmers still go straight from college to cubicle, and stay there.

Reasons: laziness? fear? default job?

many more...

Why don't more people start startups?

### **1. Too young**

Try this: do you have the kid flake reflex?

### **2. Too inexperienced**

You get experience only by doing something.

### **3. Not determined enough**

You probably underestimate yourself.

### **4. Not smart enough**

"If you're smart enough to worry that you might not be smart enough to start a startup, you probably are."

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**5. Know nothing about business**

"You don't need to know anything about business."

**6. No cofounder**

Beware: this is a real problem.

**7. No idea**

Ideas are going to change anyway.

**8. No room for more startups**

There is always room for creativity.

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## **9. Family to support**

This one is real.

## **10. Independently wealthy**

Then you might be bored...

## **11. Not ready for commitment**

"If you start a startup that succeeds, it's going to consume at least three or four years. (If it fails, you'll be done a lot quicker.)"

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## **12. Need for structure**

This seems to be a nice way of saying you need someone to tell you what to do...

## **13. Fear of uncertainty**

"If you go to work for Microsoft, you can predict fairly accurately what the next few years will be like." ;-)

## **14. Don't realize what you're avoiding**

"If their startup fails, they'll have to get a job, and they know how much jobs suck."

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**15. Parents want you to be a doctor**

It's not a rational wish.

**16. A job is the default**

"Defaults are enormously powerful, precisely because they operate without any conscious choice."

# Incubators

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<http://ycombinator.com/>

<http://www.starcube.cz/>

<http://www.eclub.cvutmedialab.cz/>

<http://www.techhub.com/>

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