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Quotes by Ford, Henry

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Henry Ford (July 30, 1863 – April 7, 1947) was the founder of the Ford Motor Company and the Henry Ford Company (which later became Cadillac). He was one of the first to apply assembly line manufacturing to the mass production of affordable automobiles. This achievement not only revolutionized industrial production in the United States and the rest of the world, but also had such tremendous influence over modern culture that many social theorists identify this phase of economic and social history as "Fordism." Some credit him with contributing to the creation of a middle class in American society.

Life is a series of experiences, each one of which makes us bigger, even though sometimes it is hard to realize this. For the world was built to develop character, and we must learn that the setbacks and grieves which we endure help us in our marching onward.

- Ford, Henry

Chop your own wood, and it will warm you twice.

- Ford, Henry

Enthusiasm is the yeast that makes your hopes shine to the stars. Enthusiasm is the sparkle in your eyes, the swing in your gait. The grip of your hand, the irresistible surge of

will and energy to execute your ideas.

- Ford, Henry

The best we can do is size up the chances, calculate the risks involved, estimate our ability to deal with them, and then make our plans with confidence.

- Ford, Henry

Exercise is bunk. If you are healthy you don't need it. If you are sick you shouldn't take it.

- Ford, Henry

If you take all the experience and judgment of men over fifty out of the world, there wouldn't be enough left to run it.

- Ford, Henry

Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently.

- Ford, Henry

Don't find fault, find a remedy.

- Ford, Henry

One of the greatest discoveries a man makes, one of his great surprises, is to find he can do what he was afraid he couldn't do.

- Ford, Henry

There are two fools in this world. One is the millionaire who thinks that by hoarding money he can somehow accumulate real power, and the other is the penniless reformer who thinks that if only he can take the money from one class and give it to another, all the world's ills will be cured.

- Ford, Henry

My best friend is the one who brings out the best in me.

- Ford, Henry

The man who will use his skill and constructive imagination to see how much he can give for a dollar, instead of how little he can give for a dollar, is bound to succeed.

- Ford, Henry

I believe God is managing affairs and that He doesn't need any advice from me. With God in charge, I believe everything will work out for the best in the end. So what is there to worry about.

- Ford, Henry

History is more or less bunk.

- Ford, Henry

An idealist is a person who helps other people to be prosperous.

- Ford, Henry

Time and money spent in helping men to do more for themselves is far better than mere giving.

- Ford, Henry

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. The greatest thing in life is to keep your mind young.

- Ford, Henry

Whether you think you can or whether you think you can't, you're right!

- Ford, Henry

The question Who ought to be boss? is like as Who ought to be the tenor in the quartet? Obviously, the man who can sing tenor.

- Ford, Henry

It is all one to me if a man comes from Sing Sing Prison or Harvard. We hire a man, not his history.

- Ford, Henry

Even a mistake may turn out to be the one thing necessary to a worthwhile achievement.

- Ford, Henry

The highest use of capital is not to make more money, but to make money do to more for the betterment of life.

- Ford, Henry

Money is like an arm or leg -- use it or lose it.

- Ford, Henry

I am looking for a lot of men who have an infinite capacity to not know what can't be done.

- Ford, Henry

I cannot discover that anyone knows enough to say definitely what is and what is not possible.

- Ford, Henry

There is no such thing as no chance.

- Ford, Henry

There is no man living who isn't capable of doing more than he thinks he can do.

- Ford, Henry

What's right about America is that although we have a mess of problems, we have great capacity, intellect and resources -- to do something about them.

- Ford, Henry

There are no big problems, there are just a lot of little problems.

- Ford, Henry

Most people spend more time and energy going around problems than in trying to solve them.

- Ford, Henry

When I can't handle events, I let them handle themselves.

- Ford, Henry

There is one rule for the industrialist and that is: Make the best quality of goods possible at the lowest cost possible, paying the highest wages possible.

- Ford, Henry

If you think of standardization as the best that you know today, but which is to be improved tomorrow; you get somewhere.

- Ford, Henry

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.

- Ford, Henry

You will find men who want to be carried on the shoulders of others, who think that the world owes them a living. They don't seem to see that we must all lift together and pull together.

- Ford, Henry

Competition is the keen cutting edge of business, always shaving away at costs.

- Ford, Henry

Many people think that by hoarding money they are gaining safety for themselves. If money is your ONLY hope for independence, you will never have it. The only real security that a person can have in this world is a reserve of knowledge, experience, and ability. Without these qualities, money is practically useless.

- Ford, Henry

A business absolutely devoted to service will have only one worry about profits. They will be embarrassingly large.

- Ford, Henry

Nothing is particularly hard if you divide it into small jobs.

- Ford, Henry

Speculation is only a word covering the making of money out of the manipulation of prices, instead of supplying goods and services.

- Ford, Henry

He can who thinks he can, and he can't who thinks he can't. This is an inexorable, indisputable law.

- Ford, Henry

A bore is a person who opens his mouth and puts his feet in it.

- Ford, Henry

Business is never so healthy as when, like a chicken, it must do a certain amount of scratching around for what it gets.

- Ford, Henry

A business that makes nothing but money is a poor kind of business.

- Ford, Henry

It is not the employer who pays wages -- he only handles the money. It is the product who pays the wages.

- Ford, Henry

I do not believe a man can ever leave his business. He ought to think of it by day and dream of it by night.

- Ford, Henry

It doesn't matter to me if a man is from Harvard or Sing Sing. We hire the man, not his history.

- Ford, Henry

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.

- Ford, Henry

It has been my observation that most people get ahead during the time that others waste.

- Ford, Henry

The high wage begins down in the shop. If it is not created there it cannot get into pay envelopes. There will never be a system invented which will do away with the necessity for work.

- Ford, Henry

Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is the probable reason so few engage in it.

- Ford, Henry

The object of living is work, experience, and happiness. There is joy in work. All that money can do is buy us someone else's work in exchange for our own. There is no happiness except in the realization that we have accomplished something.

- Ford, Henry

Never complain. Never explain.

- Ford, Henry



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