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# Quotes about Creativity

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The thing that makes a creative person is to be creative and that is all there is to it.

- Albee, Edward

Whatever creativity is, it is in part a solution to a problem.

- Aldiss, Brian

Had I been present at the creation of the world I would have proposed some improvements.

- Alfonso X

The creative person wants to be a know -it -all. He wants to know about all kinds of things: ancient history, nineteenth -century mathematics, current manufacturing techniques, flower arranging, and hog futures. Because he never knows when these ideas might come together to form a new idea. It may happen six minutes later or six months, or six years down the road. But he has faith that it will happen.

- Ally, Carl

No one has ever written, painted, sculpted, modeled, built, or invented except literally to get out of hell.

- Artaud, Antonin

The lash may force men to physical labor, it cannot force them to spiritual creativity.

- Asch, Sholem

All works of art are commissioned in the sense that no artist can create one by a simple act of will but must wait until what he believes to be a good idea for a work comes to him.

- Auden, W. H.

Much ingenuity with a little money is vastly more profitable and amusing than much money without ingenuity.

- Bennett, Arnold

I must create a system or be enslaved by another man's; I will not reason and compare: my business is to create.

- Blake, William

Creativity involves breaking out of established patterns in order to look at things in a different way.

- Bono, Edward De

Make visible what, without you, might perhaps never have been seen.

- Bresson, Robert

The good ideas are all hammered out in agony by individuals, not spewed out by groups.

- Browder, Charles

The human mind cannot create anything. It produces nothing until after having been fertilized by experience and meditation; its acquisitions are the gems of its production.

- Buffon, Georges-Louis Leclerc

It is better to create than to learn! Creating is the essence of life.

- Caesar, Julius

A hunch is creativity trying to tell you something.

- Capra, Frank

Creativity is inventing, experimenting, growing, taking risks, breaking rules, making mistakes, and having fun.

- Cook, Mary Lou

First, I do not sit down at my desk to put into verse something that is already clear in my mind. If it were clear in my mind, I should have no incentive or need to write about it. We do not write in order to be understood; we write in order to understand.

- Day-Lewis, Robert Cecil

The whole difference between construction and creation is this; that a thing constructed

can only be loved after it is constructed; but a thing created is loved before it exists.

- Dickens, Charles

It's like driving a car at night. You never see further than your headlights, but you can make the whole trip that way.

- Doctorow, E. L.

Creativity is essentially a lonely art. An even lonelier struggle. To some a blessing. To others a curse. It is in reality the ability to reach inside yourself and drag forth from your very soul an idea.

- Dorfsman, Lou

There is in us a lyric germ or nucleus which deserves respect; it bids a man to ponder or create; and in this dim corner of himself he can take refuge and find consolations which the society of his fellow creatures does not provide.

- Douglas, Norman

All in all, the creative act is not performed by the artist alone; the spectator brings the work in contact with the external world by deciphering and interpreting its inner qualifications and thus adds his contribution to the creative act. This becomes even more obvious when posterity gives its final verdict and sometimes rehabilitates forgotten artists.

- Duchamp, Marcel

The secret to creativity is knowing how to hide your sources.

- Einstein, Albert

The legs are the wheels of creativity.

- Einstein, Albert

That which builds is better than that which is built.

- Emerson, Ralph Waldo

Creative minds have always been known to survive any kind of bad training.

- Freud, Anna

Creativity requires the courage to let go of certainties.

- Fromm, Erich

Most people die before they are fully born. Creativeness means to be born before one dies.

- Fromm, Erich

We live at a time when man believes himself fabulously capable of creation, but he does not know what to create.

- Gasset, Jose Ortega Y

We try not to have ideas, preferring accidents. To create, you must empty yourself of

every artistic thought.

- George, Gilbert

Because of their courage, their lack of fear, they (creative people) are willing to make silly mistakes. The truly creative person is one who can think crazy; such a person knows full well that many of his great ideas will prove to be worthless. The creative person is flexible -- he is able to change as the situation changes, to break habits, to face indecision and changes in conditions without undue stress. He is not threatened by the unexpected as rigid, inflexible people are.

- Goble, Frank

A creation of importance can only be produced when its author isolates himself, it is a child of solitude.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

To create something you must be something.

- Goethe, Johann Wolfgang Von

From things that have happened and from things as they exist and from all things that you know and all those you cannot know, you make something through your invention that is not a representation but a whole new thing truer than anything true and alive, and you make it alive, and if you make it well enough, you give it immortality. That is why you write and for no other reason that you know of. But what about all the reasons that no one knows?

- Hemingway, Ernest

It seems safe to say that significant discovery, really creative thinking, does not occur with regard to problems about which the thinker is lukewarm.

- Henle, Mary

Is not the tremendous strength in men of the impulse to creative work in every field precisely due to their feeling of playing a relatively small part in the creation of living beings, which constantly impels them to an overcompensation in achievement?

- Horney, Karen

Our senses are indeed our doors and windows on this world, in a very real sense the key to the unlocking of meaning and the wellspring of creativity.

- Houston, Jean

Creativity comes from awakening and directing men's higher natures, which originate in the primal depths of the uni- verse and are appointed by Heaven.

- I Ching

Genius is initiative on fire.

- Jackson, George Holbrook

A truly creative person rids him or herself of all self-imposed limitations.

- Jampolsky, Gerald G.

Creative powers can just as easily turn out to be destructive. It rests solely with the moral personality whether they apply themselves to good things or to bad. And if this is lacking, no teacher can supply it or take its place.

- Jung, Carl

The power in which we must have faith if we would be well, is the creative and curative power which exists in every living thing.

- Kellogg, John

Americans worship creativity the way they worship physical beauty -- as a way of enjoying elitism without guilt: God did it.

- King, Florence

Everything vanishes around me, and works are born as if out of the void. Ripe, graphic fruits fall off. My hand has become the obedient instrument of a remote will.

- Klee, Paul

Creativity, as has been said, consists largely of rearranging what we know in order to find out what we do not know. Hence, to think creatively, we must be able to look afresh at what we normally take for granted.

- Kneller, George

Creative activity could be described as a type of learning process where teacher and pupil are located in the same individual.

- Koestler, Arthur

True creativity often starts where language ends.

- Koestler, Arthur

Creativity is a highfalutin word for the work I have to do between now and Tuesday.

- Kroc, Ray

Creativity is the sudden cessation of stupidity.

- Land, Edwin H.

The essential part of creativity is not being afraid to fail.

- Land, Edwin H.

Man, the living creature, the creating individual, is always more important than any established style or system.

- Lee, Bruce

Creativity can solve almost any problem. The creative act, the defeat of habit by originality, overcomes everything.

- Lois, George

It seems that the creative faculty and the critical faculty cannot exist together in their highest perfection.

- Maugham, W. Somerset

The creative urge is the demon that will not accept anything second rate.

- Mille, Agnes De

Creation is a drug I can't do without.

- Mille, Cecil B. De

All the lies and evasions by which man has nourished himself -- civilization, in a word is the fruits of the creative artist. It is the creative nature of man which has refused to let him lapse back into that unconscious unity with life which characterizes the animal world from which he made his escape.

- Miller, Henry

There is the happiness which comes from creative effort. The joy of dreaming, creating, building, whether in painting a picture, writing an epic, singing a song, composing a symphony, devising new invention, creating a vast industry.

- Miller, Henry

The desire to create continually is vulgar and betrays jealousy, envy, ambition. If one is something one really does not need to make anything --and one nonetheless does very much. There exists above the productive man a yet higher species.

- Nietzsche, Friedrich

Thoughts give birth to a creative force that is neither elemental nor sidereal. Thoughts create a new heaven, a new firmament, a new source of energy, from which new arts flow. When a man undertakes to create something, he establishes a new heaven.

- Paracelsus, Philipus A.

Out of nothing can come, and nothing can become nothing.

- Persius

The chief enemy of creativity is good taste.

- Picasso, Pablo

I do not seek, I find.

- Picasso, Pablo

Creativity represents a miraculous coming together of the uninhibited energy of the child with its apparent opposite and enemy-the sense of order imposed on the disciplined adult intelligence.

- Podhoretz, Norman

I understood that all the material of a literary work was in my past life, I understood that I had acquired it in the midst of frivolous amusements, in idleness, in tenderness and in pain, stored up by me without my divining its destination or even its survival, as the seed has in reserve all the ingredients which will nourish the plant.

- Proust, Marcel

An original is a creation motivated by desire. Any reproduction of an original motivated by necessity. It is marvelous that we are the only species that creates gratuitous forms. To create is divine, to reproduce is human.

- Ray, Man

Ideally a painter (and, generally, an artist) should not become conscious of his insights: without taking the detour through his reflective processes, and incomprehensibly to himself, all his progress should enter so swiftly into the work that he is unable to recognize them in the moment of transition. Alas, the artist who waits in ambush there, watching, detaining them, will find them transformed like the beautiful gold in the fairy tale which cannot remain gold because some small detail was not taken care of.

- Rilke, Rainer Maria

Whoever undertakes to create soon finds himself engaged in creating himself. Self-transformation and the transformation of others have constituted the radical interest of our century, whether in painting, psychiatry, or political action.

- Rosenberg, Harold

When all is said and done, monotony may after all be the best condition for creation.

- Sackville, Margaret

One of the greatest necessities in America is to discover creative solitude.

- Sandburg, Carl

The creative person, the person who moves from an irrational source of power, has to face the fact that this power antagonizes. Under all the superficial praise of the creative is the desire to kill. It is the old war between the mystic and the nonmystic, a war to the death.

- Sarton, May

It is wise to learn; it is God-like to create.

- Saxe, John

The person who can combine frames of reference and draw connections between ostensibly unrelated points of view is likely to be the one who makes the creative breakthrough.

- Shekerjian, Denise

Our current obsession with creativity is the result of our continued striving for immortality in an era when most people no longer believe in an after-life.

- Stassinopoulos, Arianna

I do my best work when I am in pain and turmoil.

- Sting

Creative power, is that receptive attitude of expectancy which makes a mold into which the plastic and as yet undifferentiated substance can flow and take the desired form.

- Troward, Thomas

Man was made at the end of the week's work when God was tired.

- Twain, Mark

The creative process involves getting input, making a recommendation, getting critical review, getting more input, improving the recommendation, getting more critical review... again and again and again.

- Unknown, Source

One measure of how creative you are is how you respond to changes in your circumstances and environment. How flexible are you? Consider how water adapts to its environment: evaporation, condensation, snowflake, melting, flowing, goes around rocks, fills containers, etc.

- Unknown, Source

I have asked a lot of my emotions --one hundred and twenty stories. The price was high, right up with Kipling, because there was one little drop of something, not blood, not a tear, not my seed, but me more intimately than these, in every story, it was the extra I had.

Now it has gone and I am just like you now.

- Unknown, Source

Serious people have few ideas. People with ideas are never serious.

- Valery, Paul

The things we fear most in organizations -- fluctuations, disturbances, imbalances -- are the primary sources of creativity.

- Wheatley, Margaret J.

Anyone can look for fashion in a boutique or history in a museum. The creative explorer looks for history in a hardware store and fashion in an airport.

- Wieder, Robert

It is almost as if you were frantically constructing another world while the world that you live in dissolves beneath your feet, and that your survival depends on completing this construction at least one second before the old habitation collapses.

- Williams, Tennessee

Some collaboration has to take place in the mind between the woman and the man before the art of creation can be accomplished. Some marriage of opposites has to be

consummated. The whole of the mind must lie wide open if we are to get the sense that  
the

- Woolf, Virginia

A line will take us hours maybe; Yet if it does not seem a moment's thought, our stitching  
and unstinting has been naught.

- Yeats, William Butler

I do believe it is possible to create, even without ever writing a word or painting a picture,  
by simply molding one's inner life. And that too is a deed.

- Hillesum, Etty

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If one finds the strength to deal with small things, one finds it to deal with the large ones  
as well.

- Hillesum, Etty





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