

URL: <https://stvp.stanford.edu/clips/knowledge-brings-success>

“There’s no better way to learn about the world and solve problems than starting a company,” says Ryan Petersen, CEO and founder of Flexport. However, don’t discount the skills and expertise you gain when you go work for another company. Focus on learning as your first goal; when you’ve developed the skills you need to be successful, you can launch your own business.



Transcript

- And so that would be my biggest piece of advice for those of you who are in this entrepreneurial mindset.. It's awesome, there's no better way to learn about the world and solve problems than in solving and starting a company.. That in an entrepreneurship, you will learn about every aspect of the human experience in starting a company.. It's not the best way to make money, frankly.. Like go try and get a job at Google.. You'll make more money.. But we're on a risk adjusted basis.. But you probably won't learn as much because if you're an entrepreneur, you are every day having to learn something new.. You've got to learn about leadership and persuasion and sales and accounting and finance and marketing and technology, and all, it's like the amount of things that you're gonna learn in entrepreneurship far outweigh any other field, at least in my experience.. And so I would focus on that, it's like how can I learn the most? That's true for any job, even if you wanna start a company, you might not be ready yet because I couldn't have done this if I didn't know about how hard it was to import stuff..

And I couldn't have deduced that without going out there and getting a job and doing things and learning about the world.. So even if you want to start a company and you're not yet there, that's cool.. Go and focus on how do you learn the maximum amount of stuff so that you, 'cause you never know where you're gonna find out, and then let yourself get pissed off when you learn something that's just like wrong...