



Have you got what it takes to be your own boss?

For some people who want to own their own business this will be forever a dream. Others will be determined and nothing will stop them from turning that dream into reality. Running a business will not suit everyone and it can often be difficult to decide if it is right for you.

A confused man is standing in front of two doors. On the first door there is a framed picture of a man in a suit. On the second door there is a mirror. Are you wondering if starting a business is the right thing for you at this time?

Do you have a great business idea but worry whether you are the 'entrepreneurial type'?

The following questions will help you to decide whether now is the time for you to start your own business.

Try answering each of them with either **definitely, some of the time** or **not at all**.

1. Do you like taking risks?
2. Do you like having responsibility?
3. Do you enjoy making decisions and being in charge?
4. Are you good at sticking to deadlines?
5. Do you like working hard?
6. Are you flexible and adaptable to change?
7. Do you plan for the short term and the long term?
8. Do you like working on your own?
9. Do you like taking the initiative?
10. Do you enjoy rising to a challenge?

If you have answered positively to most or all of these questions you already have a lot of the core qualities needed for a life in business. You are willing to put in the hard work and take responsibility for making the decisions and striving to grow your business. It's important to remember that while there will be a lot of expectation and pressures on you to succeed.

If your answers were more mixed it would seem that while you have some entrepreneurial qualities which will lead you to love some aspects of running a business you will also find some aspects that you may struggle with.

You have a core basis of entrepreneurial qualities but may be lacking in confidence or have already identified the areas that you may need some support in. Remember that it's important to get help and advice to support you in starting up in business. You may even want to hire someone to deal with the aspects of the business you aren't so keen on.

If you were less than positive in your answers to the majority of these questions you may need to work a little harder on widening your skill set before you take the plunge into business. You seem unsure about taking on the responsibilities and hard work that starting up in business requires and you need to ask yourself if you can honestly handle the risks involved. This does not mean that you should not do it, but you may want to look into developing your skills first.

You may also want to consider having a business partner who can complement your skills set or having someone connected to the business that may be more comfortable with certain aspects.

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