Twitter Thread by George Mack





THREAD: 15 of the most useful razors and rules I've found.

Rules of thumb that simplify decisions.

Bezos' Razors:

- If unsure what action to take, let your 80-year-old self make it.
- If unsure who to work with, pick the person that has the best chances of breaking you out of a 3rd world prison.

Skinner's Law:

- If procrastinating on an item, you only have 2 options:
- 1. Make the pain of not doing it greater than the pain of doing it.
- 2. Make the pleasure of doing it greater than the pleasure of not doing it.

Luck Razor:

• If stuck with 2 equal options, pick the one that feels like it will produce the most luck later down the line.

I used this razor to go for drinks with a stranger rather than watch Netflix.

In hindsight, it was the highest ROI decision I've ever made.

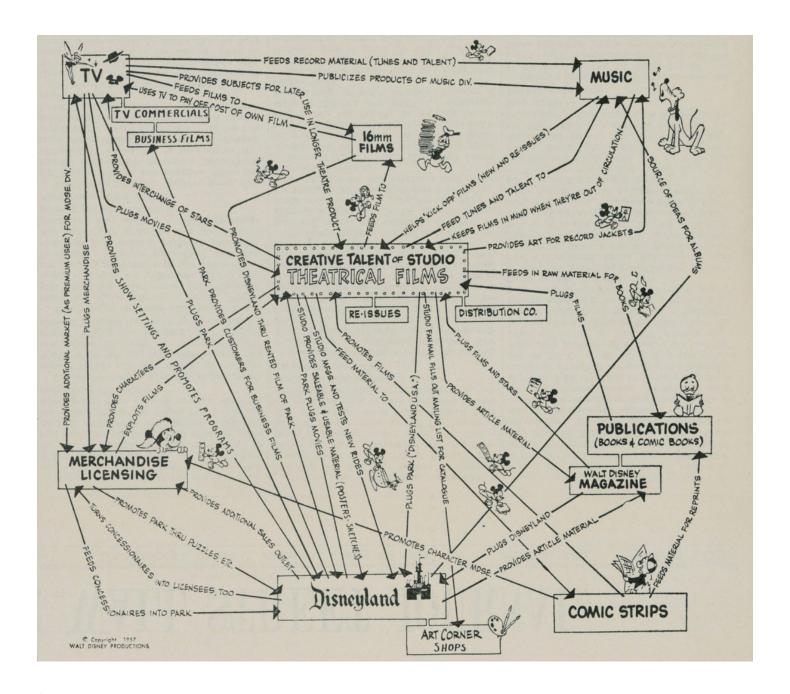
Bragging Razor:

- If someone brags about their success or happiness, assume it's half what they claim.
- If someone downplays their success or happiness, assume it's double what they claim.

The map is not the terrain.

| Hofstadter's Law: |
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| • It always takes longer than you expect, even when you take into account Hofstadter's Law. |
| Every project costs 2x as much and takes 3x as long - even when you factor this into your projections. |
| Elon's Law: |
| • If you have a project, combat Hofstader's Law by setting a ridiculously ambitious deadline. |
| Even if it takes 3x longer than the deadline, you're ahead of everyone else. |
| Elon Musk missing his super human deadlines is a feature rather than a bug. |
| Naval's Razors: |
| • If you have 2 choices to make and it's 50/50, take the path that's more painful in the short term. |
| • If a task is worth less than your ambitious hourly rate - outsource it, automate it or delete it. |
| H/T - @naval |
| Munger's Law: |
| • Never allow yourself to have an opinion on a subject unless you can state the opposing argument better than the opposition can. |
| Steelman Arguments > Strawman Arguments |
| Hitchen's Razor: |
| What can be asserted without evidence can be dismissed without evidence. |
| Newton's Flaming Laser Sword: |
| • If something can be settled by experiment or observation, then it is not worthy of debate. |
| UFC 1 >>> Decade long debates on the best martial arts |
| Joe Rogan's Razors: |
| • If unsure what action to take - ask what the hero in the movie would do. |
| • If you're intensely passionate about something and nobody around you is interested in it - assume the scale of the internet might help you find them. |

| Taleb's Surgeon: |
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| • If presented with two seemingly equal candidates for a role, pick the one with the least amount of charisma. |
| The uncharismatic one has got there despite their lack of charisma. |
| The charismatic one has got there with the aid of their charisma. |
| Discomfort Razor: |
| The more uncomfortable the activity, the more likely it will lead to growth. |
| The more comfortable the activity, the more likely it will lead to stagnation. |
| 1000 uncomfortable hours > 10,000 comfortable hours |
| Checkhov's Gun: |
| When telling a story, if it's non-essential - don't include it. |
| "If you say in the 1st chapter that there is a rifle hanging on the wall, in the 2nd or 3rd chapter it absolutely must go off. If it's not going to be fired, it shouldn't be hanging there." |
| Occam's Razor: |
| Simple assumptions are more likely to be correct than complex assumptions. |
| Avoid Occam's Duct Tape: |
| Someone who approaches a problem with a ridiculously large number of assumptions. |
| Walt Disney's Rule: |
| If struggling to think clearly about a subject, draw it out. |
| Here's Walt Disney's drawing he made in 1957 of the Media Empire he wanted to build. |
| It's iconic. |
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Schwarzeneggers' Rule:

• Never need to monetize your artistic pursuits. You won't have to sacrifice your inner joy and vision for a payday.

Arnold made millions from property and D2C bodybuilding guides so he never had to say yes to acting gigs he didn't like.

I occasionally send out a newsletter of new ideas I'm exploring.

100% high signal. 0% spam.

Check it out ■ https://t.co/gZLFoqxVV0