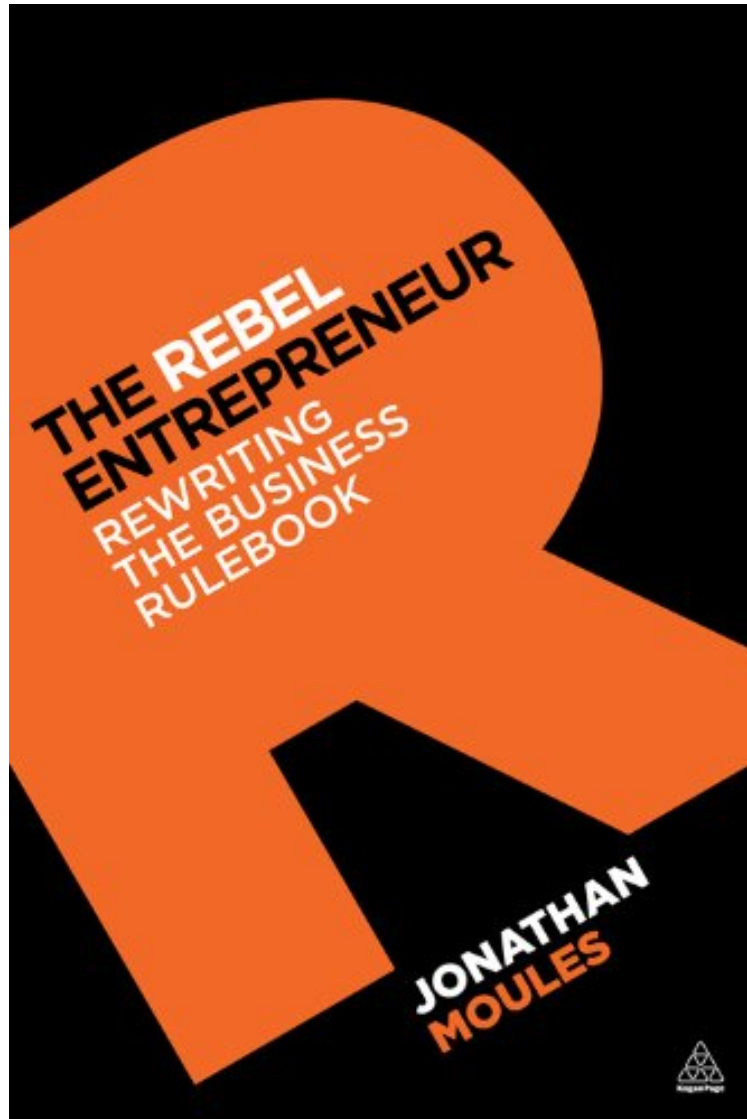


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The Rebel Entrepreneur: Rewriting the Business Rulebook

Jonathan Moules

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Jonathan Moules : The Rebel Entrepreneur: Rewriting the Business Rulebook before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Rebel Entrepreneur: Rewriting the Business Rulebook:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. How and why rebel entrepreneurs "create the real growth drivers of an economy"By Robert MorrisRebels are iconoclasts, mavericks, outliers, etc. By nature, their thinking and initiatives are unconventional, unorthodox, and quite often disruptive as they challenge what (in Leading Change) James O'Toole so aptly characterizes as "the ideology of comfort and the tyranny of custom." In business, the term "rebel entrepreneur" is a redundancy. In this book, Jonathan Moules focuses on a number of people who have demonstrated

that "acting in a way that does not follow the crowd can be a better way of managing your business if you really want to grow bigger and faster - what I call being a rebel entrepreneur." Moules suggests that rebel entrepreneurs tend NOT to seek bank loans for financing ("Funding is for fools: The case for bootstrapping.")

Innovate; rather, they imitate [Note: My own opinion is that great entrepreneurs do both.]

Be a hero Pay "the high cost of success"

Get hung up on the business plan

Downsize their way through difficult times

Waste their time selling [Note: My own opinion is that great entrepreneurs avoid wasting anything but are NOT risk averse.]

View setbacks as failures if valuable lessons are learned from them

Moules devotes a separate chapter to each of these eight. For example, Chapter 01: "Funding is for fools" ("The case for bootstrapping.") As he explains, "The topics I have chosen for this book reflect the breadth of issues an entrepreneur has to consider when building a company [or department, business unit, wholly-owned subsidiary, or division]. Each is a journey through tips I have picked up during six years of writing about entrepreneurship in the Financial Times." Consider these remarks by Jack Welch, shared during a GE annual meeting years ago when he explained the reasons why he admired entrepreneurial companies: "For one, they communicate better. Without the din and prattle of bureaucracy, people listen as well as talk; and since there are fewer of them they generally know and understand each other. Second, small companies move faster. They know the penalties for hesitation in the marketplace. Third, in small companies, with fewer layers and less camouflage, the leaders show up very clearly on the screen. Their performance and its impact are clear to everyone. And, finally, smaller companies waste less. They spend less time in endless reviews and approvals and politics and paper drills. They have fewer people; therefore they can only do the important things. Their people are free to direct their energy and attention toward the marketplace rather than fighting bureaucracy." There is much to be said for rejecting or re-writing the "business rule book" to which the subtitle of Moules's book refers if (HUGE "if") those rules are irrelevant to the needs, interests, values, resources, and strategic objectives of the given enterprise. However, even entrepreneurs (and especially, rebel entrepreneurs) will agree that several rules still have significant value. For example

There is no business without customers

Waste (of anything) is evil

"Potential" means "you ain't done it yet" (Darrell Royal)

"Vision without execution is hallucination." (Thomas Edison)

"There is surely nothing quite so useless as doing with great efficiency what should not be done at all." (Peter Drucker)

"Take great care of your people, they will take great care of your customers, and your customers will then take great care of your investors." (Herb Kelleher)

There are no head-snapping revelations in this book, nor does Moules make any such claim. Rather, citing dozens of real-world examples to illustrate key points, he offers a wealth of information, insights, and counsel that have substantial practical value. For whom did he write this book? Probably not for rebel entrepreneurs but surely for those who aspire to "build a better company" or "have a go at chasing that idea that [they] have nurtured for an enterprise." I also recommend this book to those who are preparing for a business career or have only recently embarked on one as well as to middle managers in large organizations. Although they may never launch a new company, they can certainly apply what they learn from Jonathan Moules to drive the growth of their careers.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must have for any person, not just a business owner!

By Michael J This was an incredibly great and useful book. The tips and advice in it are amazing and things that when you read them, you say, "Wow, that makes total sense!" Even if you are not an entrepreneur, it can help you with jobs like sales, account reps, telemarketers, and just about anyone who wants a new outlook on business. If you are starting your own company or even already in business, you have to read this book. Just a great book and a must read.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An inspiring read about entrepreneurship

By G. Gordon Tyler has vast experience as a business journalist which qualifies him to write this book. The pages are jammed with inspirational stories about entrepreneurs who have made it. It is an uplifting read full of useful advice on the do's and don't's. Would especially recommend the book to anyone who is starting or running a growing business.

Everyone wants to start their own business and there are many of books telling you how to go about it. The only trouble is that many of them are simply wrong. The Rebel Entrepreneur by Financial Times journalist Jonathan Moules explains why, in many cases, the received wisdom on entrepreneurship just isn't the best way of doing things. Full of examples of successful entrepreneurs, who've made the grade by doing things differently, this book will show you:- Why you don't need to stick to a business plan;- There's nothing wrong with learning from the ideas of others ; - Why, if things get tough, you should put your prices up;- How cutting costs can kill your business. The Rebel Entrepreneur is the alternative guide to starting your own business and succeeding that no entrepreneur can afford to be without.

"If you are thinking of starting a business, if you are already working in a fledging enterprise or if you just need clear, uncluttered, practical advice and guidance on how to operate and improve things, this outstanding book should be your close companion. It is a book for these troubled times and beyond. Buying the book could be one of the best entrepreneurial investments you will ever make. Rebel and prosper." --Retail Confidential Book

[Offers a wealth of information, insights, and counsel that have substantial practical value...[I recommend] this book to those who are preparing for a business career or have only recently embarked on one as well as to middle managers in large

organizations." --Robert Morris, Top 50
[I]nterweaves intriguing stories, validated advice, and statistical evidence in an easy-to-read narrative style to make its points...The reader will learn not only why entrepreneurs succeed, but also how they fail totally or fail to achieve full potential...[a] valuable resource for those wanting to know about starting a business venture based on unconventional wisdom." --Alex Hapka, New York Journal of Books
[O]ffers new readers a glimpse into an alternative way to go about their business, and likely one with a higher chance for success." --800 CEO
[C]ontains nuggets of advice and practical information that most people building a business would be grateful to hear." --Financial Times
[P]acked with examples of successful entrepreneurs who have done things differently and offers many contradictions to standard business tradition... [A] powerful guide highly recommended for any business collection." --The Bookwatch
Jonathan Moules draws on the wins and losses of dozens of entrepreneurs to summarize their collective wisdom through illustrative cases from the past decade or so. He explains why failure can be a meaningful step on the road to success. [A] thoughtful, succinct and practical presentation. getAbstract suggests it especially to budding entrepreneurs." --getAbstract
Entrepreneurs, aspiring entrepreneurs, startups and business owners
About the Author
Jonathan Moules is the Enterprise Editor for The Financial Times, where he has profiled hundreds of companies and their owners. He has written extensively on successful entrepreneurs. Moules spent 5 years in the FT's New York office, where he held numerous positions, including technology, media and telecoms news editor. He wrote specifically about the US mobile phone industry and new media businesses, and he covered the dotcom bubble and its aftermath.