

Mission Statement

Personal Mission Statement Definition:

- Your mission statement should _____ you!
- You should _____ it often and it will help guide you in your _____.

Now that you've taken time to walk through *The Great Discovery*, you've got a good jump-start on developing a mission statement. Below I've listed methods to help you get started writing your own mission statement.

Method #1: The Quote Collection: Collect one to five of your very favorite quotes onto one sheet of paper. The sum of these quotes then becomes your mission statement.

Method #2: The Brain Dump: Speed write about your goals for fifteen minutes. Don't worry about what's coming out. Don't edit what you're writing and don't stop writing. Get all of your ideas down on paper. The result is that in just thirty minutes, you'll have a rough draft of your mission statement. Then you can revise it, add to it, clarify it, or do whatever else you need to make it inspire you.

Method #3: Acronym: Take your name and create an acronym with words that describe you. Or take a word that means a lot to you and create an acronym out of it.

Method #4: Lyrics: Collect lyrics that speak to you and help express what is important to you in life.

Method #5: Poem or List: Create a poem or list that describes what you would like to achieve in your life.

Method #6: The Big Lazy: If you're really lazy, use the U.S. Army's slogan "Be All That You Can Be" as your personal mission statement. (Hey, I'm only joking.)

A big mistake teens make when writing a mission statement is that they spend so much time thinking about making it perfect they never get started. You are much better off writing an imperfect rough draft and then improving it later.

Another big mistake is that teens try to make their mission statements look like everyone else's. That doesn't work. Mission statements come in many forms –a poem, a song, a quote, a picture, many words, a single word, a collage of magazine pictures. There is no single right way to do it. You're not writing it for anyone else but you.