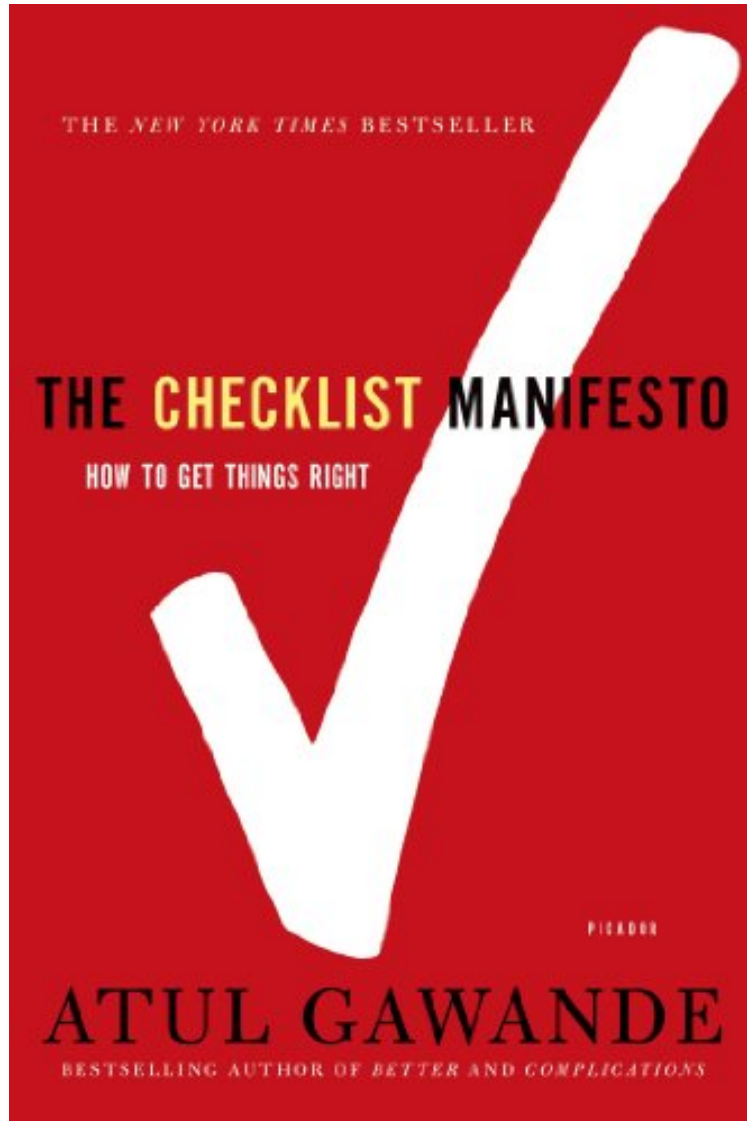


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The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right

Atul Gawande

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Atul Gawande : The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding.By Satisfied CustomerBought this for my DD's BF, a med school student. I've also read another book by this author and find his writing extraordinarily honest and real. I love how he challenges all of us - whether a doctor or not - to THINK about how medicine is delivered and what it is like to be the one standing between the patient and health or life or death.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This is one of the best books I have readBy colleen cartwrightThis is one of the best books I have read. I have recommended it to many people. It is a simple, yet powerful, tool to use for decision-making in any complex

situation - even though it was written to improve patient safety in surgical procedures. I recently had a complex dental procedure and at the end, because of the obvious co-operation and respect between the dentist and the dental-nurse - including the nursing feeling confident to check that the dentist had removed an additional insert - I told them that they "passed" the test of meeting the requirements of The Checklist Manifesto, and I explained the principles outlined in the book. They wrote down the name of the book and author and said that they would get a copy. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great mind tells how things need to be done to be done well. By Graham Allardice A really insightful and fascinating discourse on how decision-making has been and continues to be made on a logical and progressive manner. As a retired architect, Atul's explanation of how the role of the master-builder has had to change dramatically as buildings became larger and taller and so require systematic co-ordination of many sub-sectional specialists. His knowledge as a surgeon makes his explanation of the ideal way medical specialists need to interact when performing operations is totally credible. Thank you, Atul. Encouraged by this book I am almost finished reading his book, Being Mortal.

The New York Times bestselling author of *Better* and *Complications* reveals the surprising power of the ordinary checklist. We live in a world of great and increasing complexity, where even the most expert professionals struggle to master the tasks they face. Longer training, ever more advanced technologies—neither seems to prevent grievous errors. But in a hopeful turn, acclaimed surgeon and writer Atul Gawande finds a remedy in the humblest and simplest of techniques: the checklist. First introduced decades ago by the U.S. Air Force, checklists have enabled pilots to fly aircraft of mind-boggling sophistication. Now innovative checklists are being adopted in hospitals around the world, helping doctors and nurses respond to everything from flu epidemics to avalanches. Even in the immensely complex world of surgery, a simple ninety-second variant has cut the rate of fatalities by more than a third. In riveting stories, Gawande takes us from Austria, where an emergency checklist saved a drowning victim who had spent half an hour underwater, to Michigan, where a cleanliness checklist in intensive care units virtually eliminated a type of deadly hospital infection. He explains how checklists actually work to prompt striking and immediate improvements. And he follows the checklist revolution into fields well beyond medicine, from disaster response to investment banking, skyscraper construction, and businesses of all kinds. An intellectual adventure in which lives are lost and saved and one simple idea makes a tremendous difference, *The Checklist Manifesto* is essential reading for anyone working to get things right.

.com Best Books of the Month, December 2009: With a title like *The Checklist Manifesto*, it would be natural to expect that Atul Gawande is bent on revolutionizing that most loved-hated activity of workers the world over: the to-do list. But it's not the list itself he wants to change; there are no programmatic steps or tables here to help you reshuffle daily tasks. What you'll find instead is a remarkably liberating and persuasive inquiry into what it takes to work successfully and with a personal sense of satisfaction. The first thing you'll realize is that it takes more than just one person to do a job well. This is a toppling revelation made all the more powerful by Gawande's skillful blend of anecdote and practical wisdom as he profiles his own experience as a surgeon and seeks out a wide range of other professions to show that a team is only as strong as its checklist--by his definition, a way of organizing that empowers people at all levels to put their best knowledge to use, communicate at crucial points, and get things done. Like no other book before it, *The Checklist Manifesto* is at once a restorative call to action and a welcome voice of reason. -- Anne Bartholomew Exclusive: Malcolm Gladwell's *The Checklist Manifesto* Malcolm Gladwell was named one of TIME magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2005. He is most recently the author of *What the Dog Saw* (a collection of his writing from *The New Yorker*) as well as the New York Times bestsellers *Outliers*, *The Tipping Point*, and *Blink*. Read his exclusive guest review of *The Checklist Manifesto*: Over the past decade, through his writing in *The New Yorker* magazine and his books *Complications* and *Better*, Atul Gawande has made a name for himself as a writer of exquisitely crafted meditations on the problems and challenges of modern medicine. His latest book, *The Checklist Manifesto*, begins on familiar ground, with his experiences as a surgeon. But before long it becomes clear that he is really interested in a problem that afflicts virtually every aspect of the modern world--and that is how professionals deal with the increasing complexity of their responsibilities. It has been years since I read a book so powerful and so thought-provoking. Gawande begins by making a distinction between errors of ignorance (mistakes we make because we don't know enough), and errors of ineptitude (mistakes we made because we don't make proper use of what we know). Failure in the modern world, he writes, is really about the second of these errors, and he walks us through a series of examples from medicine showing how the routine tasks of surgeons have now become so incredibly complicated that mistakes of one kind or another are virtually inevitable: it's just too easy for an otherwise competent doctor to miss a step, or forget to ask a key question or, in the stress and pressure of the moment, to fail to plan properly for every eventuality. Gawande then visits with pilots and the people who build skyscrapers and comes back with a solution. Experts need checklists--literally--written guides that walk them through the key steps in any complex procedure. In the last section of the book, Gawande shows how his research team has taken this idea, developed a safe surgery checklist, and applied it around the world, with staggering success. The danger, in a review

as short as this, is that it makes Gawande's book seem narrow in focus or prosaic in its conclusions. It is neither. Gawande is a gorgeous writer and storyteller, and the aims of this book are ambitious. Gawande thinks that the modern world requires us to revisit what we mean by expertise: that experts need help, and that progress depends on experts having the humility to concede that they need help. --Malcolm Gladwell From Publishers Weekly

That humblest of quality-control devices, the checklist, is the key to taming a high-tech economy, argues this stimulating manifesto. Harvard Medical School prof and New Yorker scribe Gawande (*Complications*) notes that the high-pressure complexities of modern professional occupations overwhelm even their best-trained practitioners; he argues that a disciplined adherence to essential procedures—by ticking them off a list—can prevent potentially fatal mistakes and corner cutting. He examines checklists in aviation, construction, and investing, but focuses on medicine, where checklists mandating simple measures like hand washing have dramatically reduced hospital-caused infections and other complications. Gawande gets slightly intoxicated over checklists, celebrating their most banal manifestations as promethean breakthroughs (First there was the recipe, the most basic checklist of all, he intones in a restaurant kitchen). He's at his best delivering his usual rich, insightful reportage on medical practice, where checklists have the subversive effect of puncturing the cult of physician infallibility and fostering communication and teamwork. (After writing a checklist for his specialty, surgery, he is chagrined when it catches his own disastrous lapses.) Gawande gives a vivid, punchy exposition of an intriguing idea: that by-the-book routine trumps individual prowess. (Jan.)

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