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Ricardo Semler

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THE SEVEN-DAY WEEKEND



CHANGING THE WAY WORK WORKS

RICARDO SEMLER

AUTHOR OF MAVERICK,
A NATIONAL BESTSELLER

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Ricardo Semler : The Seven-Day Weekend: Changing the Way Work Works before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Seven-Day Weekend: Changing the Way Work Works:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The power of asking whyBy juliafriedlHighly recommended for anyone looking to accomplish more with less. Several great principles to increase employee engagement are contained within. I have difficulty readily agreeing with all of Mr. Semler's assertions, however a couple of tips on generating a culture of trust, mindfulness, and personal responsibility have been quite valuable in business as well as life.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring but not a guidebookBy curtismchaleAn inspiring read all about giving your employees more trust. They are adults so treat them like adults. Stop monitoring them all the time. Focus on the results they provide for the business and that's it.You'll leave this book with many great ideas to try in your business, but it's not a guidebook on how to implement them all next week. You'll have to do some trial and error to

get that. 35 of 36 people found the following review helpful. Good! Thought provoking. Less than Maverick though. By Bas Vodde. Seven-Day weekend is the second (English) book by Richardo Semler, the CEO of Semco. Semco is a weird Brazilian company known for its modern HR practices. The history of Semco and Ricardo Semler was explained well in his first English book: Maverick. The author makes a point that the workweek has invaded the weekend via internet and email. Now it's time to abandon the standard week/weekend thinking and have weekend whenever we want and have week whenever we want. So we'll have a seven day workweek AND a seven day weekend. The book is a collection of stories and opinions by Richardo which are organized according to the days of the week. Every day a couple of stories, mostly about Semco but also about other activities in which Richardo was involved in. Some of the more interesting points and stories are, for example, where the author is questioning the need to always grow. In business it seems to be the purpose of the business to grow bigger. Richardo questions this purpose and asks why this is. Cannot companies stay small and then still be successful? Seven-day weekend is certainly worth reading. It's a small book it takes maybe a day to read it. It's well written, it keeps you awake and the stories are interesting. Though, I personally found it less interesting than Maverick (which I had read first). If you need to choose between the seven day weekend or Maverick, I'd go for Maverick. If, after Maverick, you still do not have enough of Semler, then the seven-day weekend is for you.

Ricardo Semler thinks that companies ought to put employee freedom and satisfaction ahead of corporate goals. Imagine a company where employees set their own hours; where there are no offices, no job titles, no business plans; where employees get to endorse or veto any new venture; where kids are encouraged to run the halls; and where the CEO lets other people make nearly all the decisions. This company—Semco—actually exists, and despite a seeming recipe for chaos, its revenues have grown from \$35 million to \$160 million in the last six years. It has virtually no staff turnover, and there are no signs that its growth will stop any time soon. How did Semco become wildly successful despite breaking many of the commonly accepted laws of business? In The Seven-Day Weekend, Ricardo Semler shows that for those willing to take a chance, there is a better way to run a workplace. He explains how the technology that was supposed to make life easier—laptops, cell phones, e-mail, pagers—has in fact stolen free time and destroyed the traditional nine-to-five workday. But this can be a good thing—if you have the freedom to get your job done on your own terms and to blend your work life and personal life with enthusiasm and creative energy. Smart bosses will eventually realize that you might be most productive if you work on Sunday afternoon, play golf on Monday morning, go to a movie on Tuesday afternoon, and watch your child play soccer on Thursday. This is a radical book that will challenge the business world to make the seven-day weekend a reality.