Imposter Syndrome

Ever feel like a fake?

That you're not sure you're good enough to be a data scientist?

That so far you've only gotten by on luck, not talent?

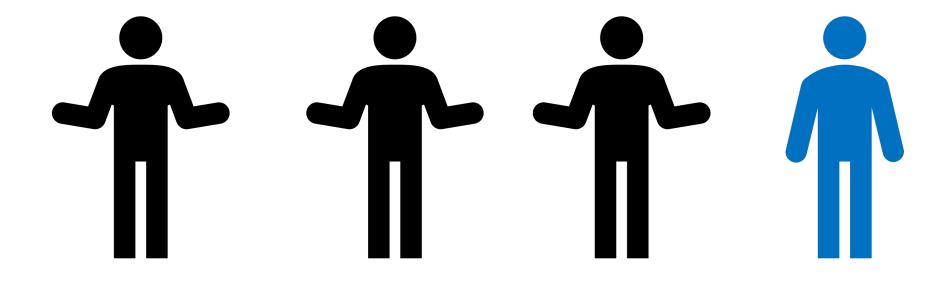
Afraid you have to do it all alone, and you can't?

Think you're a smart cookie, but now aren't sure, since you have to work at things for the first time?

Believe that your success so far is no big deal?

You're Not Alone!

70% of Americans feel this way too!



Even Very Successful People Feel this Way!

- Maya Angelou (author)
- Howard Schultz (Starbucks exec)
- Tina Fey (producer)
- David Bowie (musician)
- Serena Williams (tennis)
- Tom Hanks (actor)
- Sonia Sotomayor (supreme court justice)

I've felt this way!

Recognized by some large agencies...

NY Times

Harvard Business Review

American Psychological Association

What to do about it?

Talk it out!

We're already talking now!

Discuss with your mentor or instructor

Check in with other students

Use your support network of family / friends

Celebrate yourself!

You may be different – look at that as a plus!

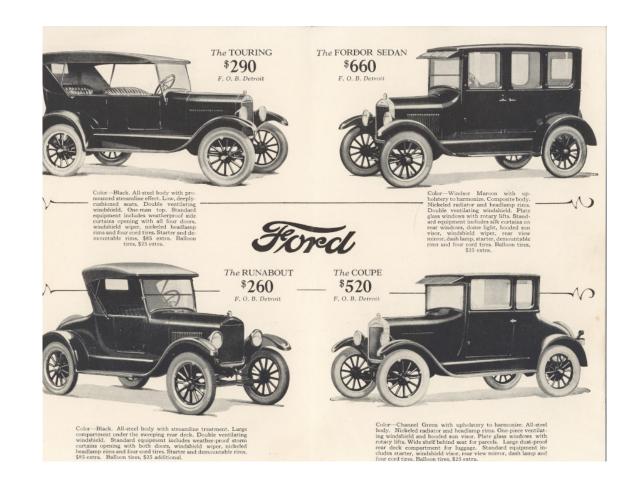
Be patient with yourself

Treat yourself with love and kindness

Revel in your Failure

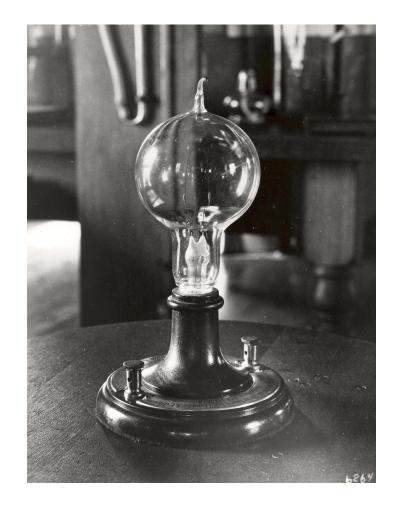
"Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."

-Henry Ford



Revel in your Failure

• Thomas Edison made 1,000 lightbulbs before it worked!



"There are no problems, Bob, just challenges and opportunities..."



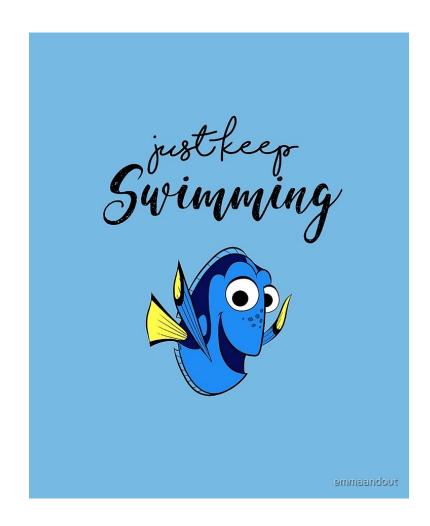
Rage Against the Should Machine

- Fight back statements like:
- "I should know the answer"
- " I should not need to ask for help"
- "I should be moving faster than this"
- "I should understand this the first time"

Fake it 'til you Make it!

You will make it

Just keep on chuggin'!



Questions? Comments?