

Waiting by Zachary Kai

<https://zacharykai.net/notes/waiting>

Zachary Kai

Homepage • Notes

Things To Do While Waiting

Published: 19 Apr 2025 | Updated: 19 Apr 2025

So your flight's delayed. Or an event you were going to attend has been canceled. You're stuck waiting for an appointment far longer than you anticipated.

You've entered what I call *liminal time*. And this, dear reader, isn't a curse. It's an opportunity. As Austin Kleon wrote in *Steal Like An Artist*:

"Take time to be bored. One time I heard a coworker say, "When I get busy, I get stupid." Ain't that the truth. Creative people need time to just sit around and do nothing."

Inspired by recent events, here's a list of things you can do while occupying this phase of existence. Some require a willing companion, others you can do by yourself.

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"A poetic exploration of patience, presence, and the relationship with time."



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5 Things That Work for Me • Austin Kleon

<https://austinkleon.substack.com/p/5-things-that-work-for-me>

5 things that work for me

When I'm on deadline



AUSTIN KLEON

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"Austin Kleon shares five simple practices that help him stay creative and grounded."

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Expert Generalists

<https://martinfowler.com/articles/expert-generalist.html>

Expert Generalists

As computer systems get more sophisticated we've seen a growing trend to value deep specialists. But we've found that our most effective colleagues have a skill in spanning many specialties. We are thus starting to explicitly recognize this as a first-class skill of "Expert Generalist". We can identify the key characteristics of people with this skill - and thus recruit and promote based on it. We have started to design workshops to train this skill, which is one we think becomes more valuable with arrival of LLMs and similar AI tools into our profession.

19 June 2025



Unmesh Joshi

I am a software enthusiast who still feels a spark of joy every time my tests turn green. By day I run the unofficial Office of Developer Happiness—crafting code, diagrams, and deep dives that put



Gitanjali Venkatraman


I am a technologist and have done over a decade of software delivery with a focus on product definition. Software impacts people — and people develop different equations to software and tech



Martin Fowler

When I began in software in the 1980s I was dismissed as an "object guy" by database folks and as a "data modeler" by object folks. I've since been dismissed as a "patterns guy", "agile guy",

"Being an Expert Generalist should be treated as a first-class skill, one that can be assessed and taught."

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MIT Study: Using ChatGPT Won't Make You Dumb (Unless You Do It Wrong)

<https://www.thealgorithmicbridge.com/p/mit-study-using-chatgpt-wont-make>

MIT Study: Using ChatGPT Won't Make You Dumb (Unless You Do It Wrong)

A nuanced AI study, you've got to love it!



ALBERTO ROMERO
JUN 19, 2023



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MIT Study: Using ChatGPT
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"A nuanced AI study, you've got to love it!"




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AI coding trackers are here. Proceed with caution

<https://leaddev.com/reporting/ai-coding-tool-trackers-proceed-with-caution>



"Companies are finally starting to track AI usage within their engineering orgs. Should we be worried or remain cautiously optimistic?"

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9 Ways to Truly Differentiate Your Content in an AI World | WordStream

<https://www.wordstream.com/blog/how-to-differentiate-content>

Home — Blog — 9 Ways to Truly Differentiate Your Content in an AI World

9 Ways to Truly Differentiate Your Content in an AI World


Author: Rob Glover
Last Updated: June 9, 2025 | Content Marketing

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"Learn how to differentiate your content from marketing experts so everything you create stands out on crowded platforms."

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Asking What—When—Where—Why—Who—How... and Then Some... for the Toyota Practical Problem Solving – AllAboutLean.com

<https://www.allaboutlean.com/what-when-where-why-who-how/>



Asking What—When—Where—Why—Who—How... and Then Some... for the Toyota Practical Problem Solving

June 17, 2025 by Christoph Roser



The Toyota Practical Problem Solving is a very structured approach to solve problems. The underlying PDCA is broken down into multiple steps, where the "Plan" part especially is divided into Clarify the Problem, Break Down the Problem, Set a Target, and a Root-Cause Analysis. In this post I will look at the What—When—Where—Why—Who—How structure, also known as the 5W1H, that can help you when clarifying the problem. This structure was used in journalism starting

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Detailed explanation on work standards, Toyota standard work, and Leader standard work for practitioners:

"The Toyota Practical Problem Solving is a very structured approach to solve problems. The underlying PDCA is broken down into multiple steps, where the "Plan" part especially is divided into Clarify the Problem, Break Down the Problem, Set a Target, and a Root-Cause Analysis. In this post I will look at the What—When—Where—Why—Who—How structure, also known as the 5W1H, that can help you when clarifying the problem. This structure was used in journalism starting around 1913, but may originate from Greek antiquity. It is also a useful structure for problem solving."

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Being an “Intrapreneur” as a software engineer

<https://newsletter.pragmaticengineer.com/p/being-an-intrapreneur-as-a-software>

Being an “Intrapreneur” as a software engineer

Building skills useful as entrepreneurs, while also shipping more, and helping your career inside a tech company



GERGELY OROSZ AND CHAITALI NARLA

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Question: “I’m a software engineer at a larger company. How can I build the right skills to thrive in my current role, while also setting myself up for success in today’s tech market?”

We’re not in a great job market, these days: Big Tech is becoming more cutthroat, with cuts and stricter performance reviews, while job openings are at their lowest for several years. With recruitment tight, setting yourself up for career success *in* your current job makes sense. In such a context, there’s a useful skill to help with this in

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"Building skills useful entrepreneurs, while also shipping more, and helping your career inside a tech company. A guest post by Chaitali Narla."



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3 brilliant critical thinking tools used by Daniel Dennett

<https://bigthink.com/the-learning-curve/3-brilliant-critical-thinking-tools-used-by-daniel-dennett/>

THE LEARNING CURVE — OCTOBER 28, 2024

3 brilliant critical thinking tools used by Daniel Dennett

The late philosopher suggested adding a couple of “Occam’s heuristics” to your critical thinking toolbox.




NurPhoto / Getty Images / Big Think

KEY TAKEAWAYS

● An important question to ask yourself is, “What if I’m wrong?” ● “Occam’s razor” helps you shave the unnecessary junk from your ideas, while “Occam’s broom” helps you see relevant facts others may be sweeping under the rug. ● While Dennett recommends these tools, he adds that engaging with others is vital for uncovering the best explanations for how things truly work.

Kevin Dickinson

“The late philosopher suggested adding a couple of “Occam’s heuristics” to your critical thinking toolbox.”

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blog - kade@localhost:~\$

<https://kadekillary.work/blog/#2025-06-16-snorting-the-agi-with-claude-code>

snorting the agi with claude code

2025-06-16

I was planning to write a nice overview on using `claude code` for both myself and my teammates. However, the more I experimented with it, the more intrigued I became. So, this is not an introductory article about claude code - Anthropic `already released` an excellent version of that. Instead:

| *We will be doing Serious Science™*


What does that mean, exactly? Well, some of this is valuable, but other parts are a bit more...experimental, let's say.

| *"Sometimes science is more art than science, Morty. A lot of people don't get that." - Rick Sanchez*

Additionally, I wouldn't say this is the most budget friendly project. I'm using Claude Max which is \$250 a month. I'll let you decide on how much money you feel comfortable lighting on fire.

Nevertheless, let's not waste any more time...

"blog - kade killary"

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Why Claude Code feels like magic?

<https://omarabid.com/claude-magic>

Why Claude Code feels like magic?

@omarabid | Tuesday, June 17, 2025

"It takes these very simple-minded instructions - 'Go fetch a number, add it to this number, put the result there, perceive if it's greater than this other number' - but executes them at a rate of, let's say, 1,000,000 per second. At 1,000,000 per second, the results appear to be magic. — Steve Jobs"

Claude Code feels like magic because it is iterative. The solution to any problem is random. You just have to iterate through the whole possible space until you find one that works.


Here, let me illustrate:

```
intelligence = heuristic * attempt
```

If your attempts are purely random, you need roughly the size of the search space to find a solution. A heuristic cuts that down significantly. That is essentially what an LLM is.

Claude Code uses the same models provided through the API or the web.

"It takes these very simple-minded instructions - 'Go fetch a number, add it to this number, put the result there, perceive if it's greater than this other number' - but executes them at a rate of, let's say, 1,000,000 per second. At 1,000,000 per second, the results appear to be magic. — Steve Jobs"

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