

IDENTIFY YOUR BEST REMOTE TASKS

For most of us, the pandemic can be regarded as over and the immediate effects of it, such as lockdowns and being forced to work from home, have subsided. Things are more or less back to normal.

Or are they? And do we want them to?

MORE REMOTE WORK NOW AS WELL?

In a recent study, researchers Aczel, Kovacs, van der Lippe, and Szaszi asked 704 other researchers who all worked from home during the pandemic how they experienced this time and how they believe they will be working in the future. A total of two-thirds of the participants said they would like to work more from home after the pandemic than before. Even more, 70%, believed that working more from home will make them as effective or even more effective than if they continued to work as they did before the pandemic. This means that for many, working remotely has been a great hybrid solution (despite the Zoom fatigue I and many others have experienced off and on).



A CHANCE FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT

I am hearing many clients say that employers have allowed, if not encouraged, remote working more than they used to. Some are even reducing office space and planning for employees to work remotely one or two days a week in the future. If you are one of those who have continued to work remotely more than you did before the pandemic - and you share the experience of the study I mentioned - this offers opportunities to optimize your working methods even more so that your working days and weeks continue to become more the way you want them.

DO THIS

Take a few moments now to think about which of the tasks you have done from home these past years that you would still prefer to do remotely. Perhaps they are tasks that:

- Require your full concentration for a longer period of time to complete
- you are not dependent on your colleagues to carry out
- it is devastating if you are interrupted while doing

Make a list of these tasks. Also, while you are at it, estimate how much time each week you need to accomplish them so that you get an idea of how much it would not only be possible but perhaps even valuable, for you to work from home.

MAKING THE MOST OF BOTH WORLDS

If now that you have a fresh and solid experience of working remotely, you make it clear to yourself what has worked particularly well in your work, you will take extra advantage of a situation that at first glance does not seem particularly advantageous. You are now even more prepared for the “new normal” many businesses and workers have found themselves in, and will be able to perform even better than before. Obtaining this personal experience did come at quite a cost to many, but at least now you really and truly understand what working remotely entails, and know how to make the most of both worlds.

WHAT'S YOUR CURRENT SETUP?

What tasks have worked well from home and would you like to continue working remotely in the future? What have you liked about this year's changes and new ways of working? Write to me and tell me. I'm curious to hear what your experience has been like and what combination of working at the office and from home you have settled into now. You will, as usual, reach me by emailing david@stiernholm.com.

Thanks for joining me today and see you next week.



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