How to Remember Everything You Learn

Or, how to be a genius!
A true story...

One day at one of our live events, I walked by Master Coach, Willie Hooks, and overheard a student asking him a question about his formula for succeeding with his own investing.

I continued walking.

I turned back, and once again walked past the table where Coach Willie was sitting, and watched as he pulled out a pretty thick book from his briefcase. I saw him carefully open the bound book to a specific page, and begin explaining something to the student, pointing to colorful, strange images.

I kept walking.

Laughter exploded behind me, and I could hear my business partner, Gary Boomershine, on stage as he joked with our students. We were in the middle of the second day of a three day seminar in San Jose, California, with about 150 students, all taking copious notes. It would be my turn to speak again in about 90 minutes.

Meanwhile, I was walking back and forth in the rear of the room...

I watched as the student listened intently to Willie, whose fingers moved slowly from diagram to diagram, explaining something. The student's eyes moved back and forth across the page, first at colorful images, then at arrows and other pictures, all looking like gibberish to me. I was getting curious. What might Willie be explaining all that time that could possibly take so long? All using one, normal, letter-sized piece of paper. I kept expecting him to turn a page or two, but he never once did.

After about twenty minutes, the student stood with a big smile on his face, thanked Willie profusely and walked back to his seat, clearly delighted. He apparently got what he wanted, and most probably a lot more from that look I saw on his face.

I walked back to Willie's table and sank into an empty seat next to him. I grinned, pointed to the book he had just closed and asked, “What is that?” I now saw the book's title under the clear, plastic cover: 'Genius Mandalas™'

Willie chuckled, and replied, “That's what I call my brain trust. I use this to remember things I've learned, at least the important things I want to remember,” he said. “I call them Genius Mandalas™.”

“So this is like your notebook?” I asked.
“Well, not really. Each page represents a book, a complete concept, something that embodies some kind of work, knowledge or concept. Let me show you,” he said as he searched for a page close to the middle of the book.

“On this page is the formula for succeeding in anything you do. I was just explaining this to the student you saw me with a minute ago,” continued Willie. He pointed to several diagrams, sharing their meaning with me.

As he explained, the diagrams began to make a lot more sense than they did before. I felt like he had given me a key that unlocked treasured information. I could see how entire books and detailed concepts could be easily deciphered on one page.

Suddenly, a river of information appeared, all from that one page opened in front of me!

The best way to describe it is this: imagine there was a picture (a 'Mandala') that everyone could see. But unless you had the KEY to accurately interpret that picture, you’d be forced to guess at its meaning, or simply overlook it. To obtain the key, to decipher the picture’s meaning, you either had to be an authority on the subject, or have the owner of the picture – the Mandala – explain it to you.

It was brilliant!

Then it occurred to me. This book that Willie held had over 100 pages in it – the equivalent of a lifetime of knowledge squeezed into this one book!

“Wait a minute,” I said, “You're telling me that all this… information,” I swept my hand over the bound book, “is stuff you know?”

“George, this is only one of my books, and it represents a lifetime of knowledge in just certain fields,” he grinned back.

A new thought occurred to me. “All this knowledge, then, can be passed to someone else pretty quick, without having to go through all of those life’s experiences,” I gasped.

“You got it,” he laughed. “That's how I train my coaches.” Willie's responsibilities as a master coach include teaching his team to be more knowledgeable and effective coaches, some of the best in the world, and he's used his Genius Mandalas™ to train them.

I started turning pages and was blown away by how powerful it was. Willie had created a Mandala for any new information he wanted to remember, whether it was a book he read, a lecture he attended, or anything else he wanted to retain. He could
remember anything and everything that he chose to!

A few weeks later, I got Willie to teach the Mandala process to me and I've been using it ever since. It’s probably one of the most powerful ways to capture knowledge that I have ever used.

Basically, here's how you do it. (You can use simple software, like Microsoft PowerPoint® or something similar, to create your own Genius Mandalas™.) You start with a single page, and create a title at the top, representing the TOPIC. You then create a number of smaller diagrams that represent different CONCEPTS of the topic. Remember, an image is worth a thousand words. At first you might try to squeeze a lot of words in because most of us are used to this way of capturing and recording learned data. For this one, though, we recommend you really work on representing concepts using symbols, images, diagrams, etc. It's definitely okay to use words, but try to step back and ask yourself, "What is the 'main idea' that I've just learned, that I want to remember? How can I represent that with an image, a diagram, or a picture?" This takes a little getting used to, but after your third or fourth time, it's a lot easier.

The Mandala below is one created for a training series on passive income, well over 20 hours long, represented here on one single page! As you progress through the training it represents, the various areas begin making more sense. Once someone is done with the training, they could look at this Mandala and remember everything they've learned! They would never need to get retraining again! That's power!

Imagine five years from now, you're holding a book like Willie’s, with a whole lot of Genius Mandalas™ representing a whole lot of amazing information you wanted to remember! Go ahead, try one for yourself. Start creating your own Genius Mandalas™.
At WealthClasses, we use Genius Mandalas™ during class so students can more easily remember the material. It’s part of our promise to help students learn, perform, and earn to become wealthy.

One day I hope your personal Mandala book is as thick as Willie’s, a reflection of the knowledge you would have, and knowledge that you can also pass on to your children, and to their kids as well one day!

Meanwhile, I’m going to try and convince Coach Willie to hold training on how to build your own Genius Mandalas™. Keep your fingers crossed…

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A few weeks later, I called Willie without warning to ask him to jump on a webinar with me due to start in fifteen minutes because my guest presenter was a ‘no show.’ I was frantic; Willie just laughed. He delivered an awesome, content-filled training on the webinar that night, and I could hear that he was calm, knowledgeable and could articulate the material well.

An hour later, after the webinar ended, I called him and asked, “How could you possibly be so prepared in so little time, without being frazzled like I was?”

I could hear his smile widen and his laugh crackle over the phone lines. “I just opened my Genius Mandalas™ book to the topic you wanted me to cover and spoke with the knowledge I retain in there. I could have spoken for another few days on this one,” he explained.

“Let me guess… this was all from one, single page?” I asked.

He laughed harder. “Yes it was…”

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