

Why Nations Fail

by Daron Acemoglu & James Robinson

A printable to-do list of the most effective habits from this book. Check one off each day you do it.

MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT SUN

⁰¹ **Identify inclusive vs extractive institutions in your country**

Where do you see rule of law, secure property rights, competitive markets? Where do you see power concentrated and extraction happening?

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⁰² **Trace institutional change in one nation over time**

Pick a country and track how its institutions evolved over 50+ years. How did critical junctures change the trajectory?

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⁰³ **Examine institutions in your organization**

Does your company's culture encourage innovation or extraction? Are incentives aligned to create value or capture it?

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⁰⁴ **Study the role of technology in institutional change**

How are digital technologies shifting power dynamics? Can tech create more inclusive institutions or entrench extractive ones?

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⁰⁵ **Research how nation-building efforts fail (or succeed)**

Analyze why some development aid succeeds and some fails. The institutional lens explains most failures.

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⁰⁶ **Think critically about your own incentive structures**

What incentives do you face in work, relationships, and life? Are they pushing you toward creation or extraction?