

Banned from school for hacking



Co-founded a traffic monitoring company, Traf-O-Data, which failed



Dropped out of Harvard



Got a cream pie thrown in his face by a protester



Accused of stealing from a rival



Committed to donating half of his wealth over his lifetime "It's fine to celebrate success, but it is more important to heed the lessons of failure."



Microsoft

Net worth: \$91.6 Billion









Didn't realize he was adopted until he was 10 Worked as a McDonald's fry cook Struggled with physics in college and switched to computer science instead Turned down jobs at Intel and Bell Labs for a small startup, which failed within two years



cadabra.com



Worked out of a garage in Seattle, in which he built his own office furniture

Quit his job to start Cadabra, which he later renamed Amazon Job-hopped within the finance industry



Launched a failed auction site to try to take down eBay Now, he's one of the wealthiest people in history "Most large organizations embrace the idea of invention but are not willing to suffer the string of failed experiments necessary to get there."



Jeff Bezos amazon

Net worth: \$105.1 Billion







Contracted pneumonia at nine months old



Went to a public college, dropped out, enrolled at the University of Chicago, then dropped out again



Started a business that struggled at first, forcing him to mortgage his house





Worked odd jobs for 8 years

Had to fire most of the people in his company to get it back on track in the 1990s

Now, he owns 98% of the island of Lanai in Hawaii "I have had all of the disadvantages required for success."







Dropped out of school at 16 to join the Army but was rejected for being underage; joined the Red Cross instead







Lost the rights to his most successful character, Oswald the Lucky Rabbit

Started Laugh-O-Gram Studio, which went bankrupt after two years



Went completely broke, then came up with a new character on the train from Manhattan to Hollywood: Mickey Mouse "The difference in winning and losing is most often not quitting."



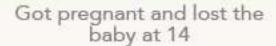
Net worth: \$5 Billion







Was abused as a child by relatives



Took a talk show called AM Chicago from the lowest-rated to the highest-rated show within a few months





She's won Emmy awards, the Lifetime Achievement award, and was nominated for an Academy Award

Was humiliated and sexually harassed during her first job as a TV news anchor



She's the first female African American billionaire, and has donated millions of dollars to charities, including her own charities: The Angel Network and The Oprah Winfrey Foundation "Think like a queen. A queen is not afraid to fail. Failure is another stepping-stone to greatness."



Net worth: \$2.8 Billion





Demoted from partner to the information technology division of his company after 13 years as a stock trader

Laid off at age 39





To land their first client, he promised, "I'll get it done in six months, and if you don't like it, you don't have to pay for it"

Created a Wall Street firm that pitched technology built on better and more accessible data

The company now has more than 300,000 terminal subscriptions

"America is built around this premise that you can do it, and there are an awful lot of people who are unlikely to have done it who did."



Michael Bloomberg

Bloomberg

Net worth: \$52.3 Billion





Fled from poverty in Scotland and came to America with his parents at 13 Earned \$1.20 per week at a textile factory





Dodged the draft by paying for a substitute

Worked as a telegrapher and found a job at the railroad



Though he was largely considered a robber barron, he donated massive sums of wealth toward philanthropic causes, funding more than 3,000 libraries

"And here is the prime condition of success, the great secret: Concentrate your energy, thought, and capital exclusively upon the business in which you are engaged."



Andrew Carnegie

CARNEGIE

Net worth: \$310 Billion*
*at its height in today's
dollars

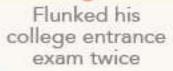








Pedaled 70 miles on his bike to give tours to tourists



Applied to Harvard 10 times and got rejected

Applied to KFC with a group of 24 other people; they hired 23 of them, but he got rejected



Was told that his escrow payment service was a stupid idea





Now, he's one of the richest people in China

"In life, it's not how much we achieved, it's how much we've gone through the tough days and mistakes."



Jack Ma

Alibaba.com

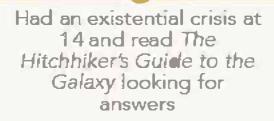
Net worth: \$41.5 Billion







Got thrown down a staircase at school



Dropped out of Stanford University's PhD program





Got fired as the CEO of Paypal while he was on vacation



Slept in the office and showered at the local YMCA as his company, Zip2, was getting off the ground



Invested \$40 million in his own company to save it from going broke during the recession

Today, he runs companies from SolarCity to SpaceX to Tesla Motors to fulfill his dream of saving humanity "Failure is an option here. If things are not failing, you are not innovating enough."

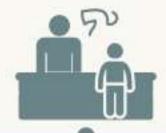


Elon Musk

TESLA

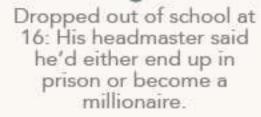
Net worth: \$21.4 Billion





TUDENT

Struggled in school because of his dyslexia



Created a magazine called Student, which often had cash flow problems



Created a mail-order record business called Virgin to help fund the magazine; he claims the company's big

"My attitude has

always been, if you fall

flat on your face, at

least you're moving

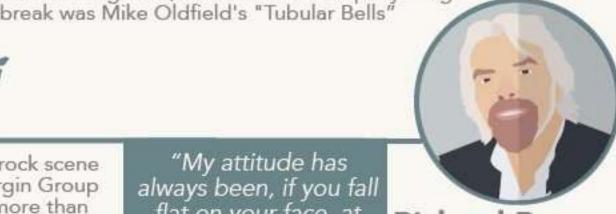
forward. All you have to do is get back up and try again.



Wanted to start an airline, but in the initial test of their only plane, a flock of birds flew into the engine



From the punk rock scene to space, his Virgin Group now controls more than 400 companies



Richard Branson



Started a soda company, car company, bridal gown company, and digital download company, which all failed

Sources: www.biography.com | www.inc.com www.businessinsider.com | www.en.wikipedia.org www.gatesnotes.com | www.entrepreneur.com www.forbes.com | www.cnbc.com | www.adweek.com www.linkedin.com | www.networthpost.com

