## Top 10 Tips for Staying Learning-Flexible

## 1. Say "I don't know" faster

Admitting you don't know something is often the first step to actually learning it. But most of us have been trained to avoid looking clueless, especially at work. Flip that. Curiosity beats ego every time.

Example: Like when I had no idea what "Kuub" was, so I just asked. Saved myself an awkward Google rabbit hole.

## 2. Learn from people younger than you

The world changes fast. If you only learn from people older or more senior, you risk getting stuck in yesterday's version of "how things work."

Example: Ask the holiday student how they stay organised. Their system might make your colour-coded Outlook folders look like cave paintings.
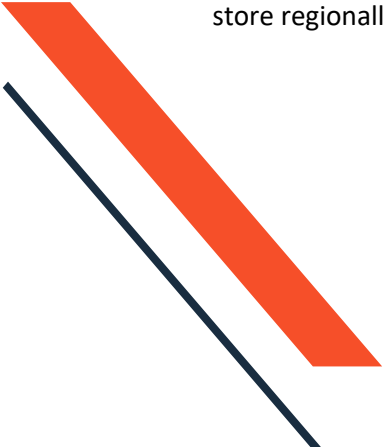
## 3. Join things you're not already good at

We gravitate to things we can already do well — it's nice for the ego. But learning flexibility comes from regularly being the beginner in the room. Try 2 Dangerous Things A Year.

Example: That team member who volunteers for the comms committee despite never having used Canva? That's the spirit.

## 4. Put your assumptions on trial

Most of us walk around with outdated mental models. Challenge them deliberately. Ask yourself, "What if the opposite were true?" "What else might explain this?"

Example: Thought remote workers were lazy until your hybrid team outperformed every other store regionally? Time to upgrade the assumption.

## 5. Use your mistakes as curriculum

Mistakes aren't just embarrassing blips, they're case studies with your name on them. Replay them, analyse them, teach from them.

Example: That one time you hit 'Reply All' with your "tactfully worded" rant? Lesson plan material right there.

## 6. Consume different formats

Read, listen, watch, discuss. Don't limit yourself to one mode. You'll absorb more — and make surprising connections — when your brain gets info in different ways.

Example: Listening to a podcast on supply chain while driving might be the thing that helps you explain inventory backlogs better to your team.

## 7. Get feedback before it's perfect

If you only seek feedback when you're confident, you're not really learning, you're validating. Ask for feedback when things are half-baked.

Example: Sharing your draft store roster with your 2IC before finalising it might prevent the nightshift-nobody moment.

## 8. Teach what you're learning

Explaining a concept to someone else forces you to understand it more deeply, and it exposes what you don't yet know.

Example: When someone on the team asks how you use that new scheduling app, walk them through it. You'll both learn.

## 9. Spend time outside your bubble

Talk to people in different industries, job types, age groups. Fresh input breaks stale thinking.

Example: A quick yarn with the delivery driver might spark a better idea for your store's click-and-collect process than three strategy meetings.

## 10. Have a learning goal that scares you a bit

Comfort is the enemy of growth. Pick something to learn that makes you squirm slightly, then give it a go.

Example: Leading your first toolbox talk? Running a meeting with the regional manager? If your palms are sweaty, your brain is growing.



# 10 TIPS FOR STAYING LEARNING-FLEXIBLE

**SAY "I DON'T KNOW" FASTER**

Admitting you don't know something is often the first step towards learning it.

**JOIN THINGS YOU'RE NOT ALREADY GOOD AT**

Regularly being a beginner helps you grow and stay adaptable.

**USE YOUR MISTAKES AS CURRICULUM**

Treat your errors as valuable lessons

**TEACH WHAT YOU'RE LEARNING**

Explaining concepts to others reinforces and clarifies younderstanding.

**HAVE A LEARNING GOAL THAT SCARES YOU A BIT**

Pick a challenge that's slightly scary: comfort doesn't foster growth

**LEARN FROM PEOPLE YOUNGER THAN YOU**

Keep up with new ideas and perspectives by engaging with younger generations.

**Put your assumptions on trial**

Most of us walk around with outdated mental models. Challenge them deliberately.

**GET FEEDBACK BEFORE IT'S PERFECT**

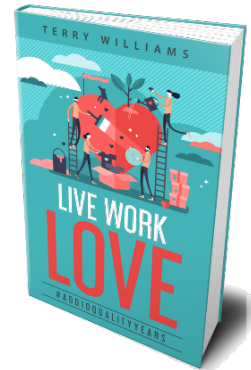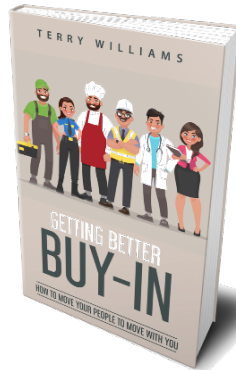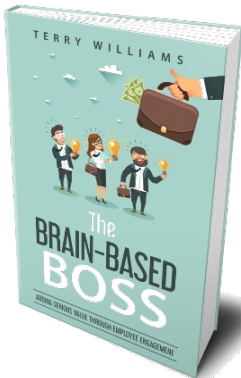Seek input before you're confident: it can lead to better outcomes.

**SPEND TIME OUTSIDE YOUR BUBBLE**

Engage with people from different bakgunds to broaden yourperspective.

**Consume different formats**

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