



## The When to Jump Roadmap

Welcome to your jump roadmap! Whether you've got a sketched vision, a fully baked next move, or maybe just a kernel of an idea, this template is designed to help you move one step closer in your jump journey.

While there is no secret playbook to making a successful jump, we've identified four key concepts that seem to apply to all worthwhile jumps. Trace these common points along a narrative line, and they form the Jump Curve, an arc mapping out the phases that accompany the process of making a good jump. Use this as a guiding framework to outline key insights to consider along the journey.

### **What is your jump?:**

I have a rewarding job at Bain but I really want to become a pro squash player and travel the world.

### **Phase 1: Listen to the Little Voice**

Tune in to what that little voice inside you is saying - the one that won't go away.

What matters to you most?

- Living a life that I'll look back on and be proud of when I'm 80
- "Build yourself a great story" -Jeff Bezos

Why does it matter to you?

- Because you get one trip around the world to make it count
- "There are no re-dos in life" - friends' dad

What are the questions you fear when you consider listening to the little voice?

- What will my resume look like?
- What will my parents tell their friends?
- When will I return to the “real world”?

## **Phase 2: Make a Plan**

Decide to take action around your idea.

What does a fully-baked jump plan look like?

- Enough money saved to give a real shot.
- Safety net of skills to lean back on.
- Hours of pre-jump practice to rely on

How will you/how did you tackle the first three pillars of planning?

1. Financial planning:

Budgeted an initial savings goal for the first 3 months on tour. Put away cash each month until I reached it.

2. Safety net sewing

Took coworkers to coffee + spent weekends at the office in order to jump with a solid reputation behind me.

3. Pre-jump practice

Joined the pro squash tour part time, pitched sponsors, changed diet, slept on couches → tasted the real life jump before taking the jump in real life

Each jump takes 10,000 unsexy steps of planning. List a few steps you'll tackle this month here.

Description	Notes
Create a pitch deck for potential sponsors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask other pros if they have one</li> <li>• Write the 'why', not the 'what'</li> </ul>
Take one current pro out for coffee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Find out what Dan says is the hardest part of playing the tour</li> </ul>
Map out potential couch surfing hosts in New Zealand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research the squash club and university alumni network</li> </ul>

What are 3-5 key action items/next steps you can take? (Add a due date.)

- Reach out to pitch 5 potential sponsors
- Find 2 more pros to interview
- Confirm 1 couch in 1 major city in the North and South Island of NZ



## Phase 3: Let Yourself Be Lucky

When you decide it's time to jump, you're going to find your luck.

What do you need to do, think, or feel to trust the unknown?

- Let myself be bored (remember this [New York Times blog post](#))
- I will read obituaries to remind myself that there are no final rankings in life ([Charlie Wheelan student address to Dartmouth 2011](#))

What's the most meaningful advice someone has ever given you?

What words are you going to hold on to in your corner for the darkest days of your jump journey?

- "When you are 80 years old, and in a quiet moment of reflection narrating for only yourself the most personal version of your life story, the telling that will be most compact and meaningful will be the series of choices you have made. In the end, we are our choices. Build yourself a great story. "([Jeff Bezos](#), here, at 17:24)



- This quote, from Nike Founder Phil Knight:



Nudges Forward:

(What videos, photos, words, and other motivations are going to keep you going when things get tough?)



## **Phase 4: Don't Look Back**

Don't look ahead or behind, to the right or left, wondering if your jump is a "success" or a "fail", a "win" or a "lose". If you've followed the little voice, made a plan and let yourself be lucky, your jump will be worth doing.

Define your jump in terms of journey, not result. What does a 'win' look like?

- A life that I look back on when I'm 80 years old and I am proud of. A life without regret. A journey toward the pro squash tour where I solved for all the knowns, I accepted the looming unknowns, and I embraced that certainty, and that journey that followed.

What is one failure that you're now grateful for making in your life- and how does that impact your approach to your jump?

- My first real business failing - it taught me the importance of who you surround yourself with when you decide to jump. I never forgot that lesson.

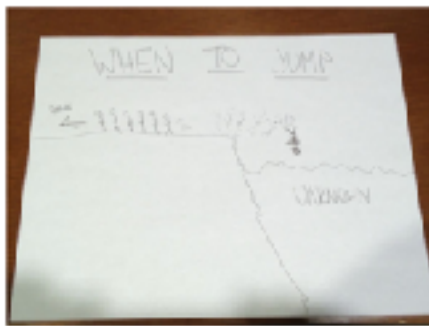
## Looking ahead: your jump journey

Fast forward. It's your 100th birthday and your son or daughter, brother or sister, or best friend is giving you a toast, describing your jump. What do they say?

- Mike pursued his jump with passion, and without fear.

### Bonus content: my second jump

What building *When to Jump* the book and platform looked like on my Dropbox files



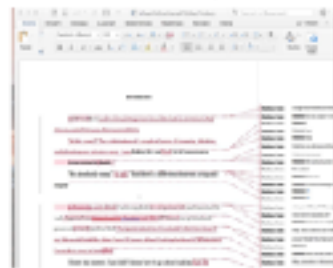
The first cover page sketch, Jan 2013



The email of the idea, sent with the sketch, Jan 2013



First take of the Jump Curve, originally with a fifth step involved



First edit on the first words of the book - 'Here were a lot'



**When to Jump: If the Job You Have Isn't the Life You Want** Paperback – 11 Jan 2018  
by Mike Lewis (author)

**#1 Best Seller** in Teaching Adult Education

See all 5 formats and editions

Kindle Edition  
£3.99

Paperback  
£11.99

Read with Our Free App

1 New from £11.99

Jan 2018: #1 Bestseller Amazon UK