



Hi,

It's finally here! My favorite month of the year—December. I like December because it's fun, busy and chock full of both holiday and birthday celebrations for my family and friends.

This December edition of the Life Tailoring newsletter wraps up our series on the ingredients of success. Over the past year, we've worked our way through belief, sense of responsibility, directness of action and communication, sense of urgency and purpose, knowledge and skill, hard work, opportunity, support from others, social and cultural awareness and intelligence. Our 12th and final ingredient of success is luck.

I hope you enjoy this issue and feel lucky to have received it so you can continue building your success.

Happy reading and Happy Holidays,



Karen

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## 12. Luck

I categorize luck or good fortune in one of two ways. The first is that which is completely outside of your control. The second is the good fortune you have as a result of circumstances which your previous actions helped to bring about. Although the latter is more interesting to consider, I believe that both can contribute to success.

Let's start by looking at an example of luck that is completely outside of your control. Consider the location of your birth. You had no say in the matter, did you? You were born where your mother was. This was a choice that your parents had more control over than you did. Yet, the location of your birth can be a lucky or unlucky thing. If you were born in North America, then you may consider yourself lucky because you were born in a prosperous part of the world. If you were born in North America into poverty, then you may consider yourself unlucky despite being born in a prosperous part of the world. In either case, you are left with making the best of the situation to contribute to your overall success. That's the way it work with things that are outside of your control, isn't it? You make the best of the situation and move on toward your success.

**Don't Forget**

**Due to the holidays, there will be no Building Success calls in December.**

Now let's take a look at an example of luck that is partially in your control. I think the most quickly understood example of this type of luck is the overnight sensation. Remember Susan Boyle, the overnight sensation from Britain's Got Talent? ([See her performance on YouTube.](#)) To all of us seeing her for the first time, she came out of no where with an amazing voice that was completely at odds with her appearance. She appeared to be an overnight sensation and one of the luckiest women ever. However, the truth is she's been singing all of her life. She didn't just wake up one morning and discover she had an amazing voice. She's cultivated her talent by taking professional singing lessons, performing in local theater and practicing—a lot. She's devoted a lot of time to singing. As a result of her previous actions, she was lucky to be selected to be part of Britain's Got Talent. AND it was through the luck of our living during a time of such wonderful technological capabilities that we were all able to hear her performance via YouTube and that she was propelled to be such a well-known celebrity almost instantaneously.

I believe this type of luck that is partially within our control is a summation of all the other ingredients of success. For it's through belief, a sense of responsibility for your self, directness of action and communication, a sense of urgency and purpose, knowledge and skill, social and cultural awareness, a willingness to work hard, recognizing and seizing opportunities, support from others, and finally intelligence that being in the right place at the right time happens. IN other words, being the "best you" is what make you lucky and successful.

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