STARTUPS: EARLY STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Elena Gostrer February 11, 2025



SELF-INTRO: YOUR FIRST PITCH

Your Self-Introduction: The First Pitch You'll Ever Make



G

Greeting — Your Statement of Purpose. Define your expertise clearly and confidently.



F

Features — Show What Makes You Unique. Highlight the experiences that shape your perspective.



B

Benefits — Explain Why It Matters. Show how your experience translates into value for your audience.

AGENDA

From Passion to Market

The risks and challenges startups face without a marketing strategy

Strategy Isn't Optional

An introduction to marketing strategy and its role in startup success.

Victory Begins with Knowledge

The main components of a marketing strategy and their importance

Master Your Strategy

How to create a marketing strategy for success.



WHY WE'RE ALL HERE TODAY?

Creators. Builders. Dreamers. Mapping the Road to Success

- **Startup Founders** Bringing ideas to life.
- **Freelancers/Employees** Innovating from within.
- **Investors** Fueling potential and growth.
- **Aspiring Founders** Ready to take the leap.



STARTUPS ARE BORN EVERY MINUTE...

137,000 Startups are launched every day

368,000 children are born daily



90% of startups fail.

20% fail within the year one.

70% don't make it to year five.

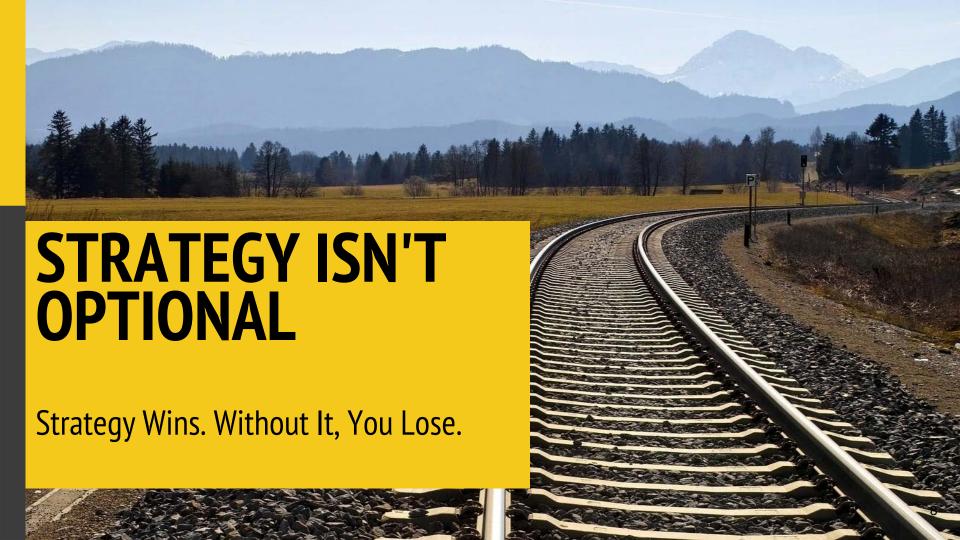
...BUT NOT ALL REACH THE STARS

The #1 reason?

Misreading market demand (42%)







LOST OR LEADING?

Without a plan, you drift - not drive

STRATEGY: YOUR STARTUP NAVIGATOR





What do you serve that others overlook?





STRATEGY: A GUIDING START, NOT A FIXED PATH





What do you serve that others overlook?

Why are you the best choice?





STRATEGY: THE ULTIMATE COST SAVER

When everything feels important, nothing really is.

Trim the fat, sharpen the focus.

Every dollar and hour invested moves the needle.



BUILD RIGHT OR BURN OUT



Jawbone

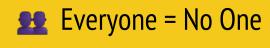
"\$1 Billion Exit – With a Clear Target"

"When Messaging Misses the Mark"

12,000 Orders in 48 Hours

💸 \$1 Billion in Funding... Gone

Message Beats Product







PICK A LINE -CHOOSE MARKET WINS

The fastest way to fail?

Trying to win everywhere at once.

- Scattered Focus = Scattered Results
- One Market, One Focus





FIND YOUR PEOPLE

Talking to everyone?

You're talking to no one.

- Identify the Core
- Understand Their Needs
- Connect Directly



SMALL NICHE, BIG WINS

Where's the gold?

In the gaps others overlook.

- Broad Market = Fierce Competition
- Smaller Niche = Faster Wins
- Solve One Problem, Serve One Audience and Win





STAND OUT OR GET LOST - YOUR USP DECIDES

Why should they choose you?

- Clarity = Conversions
- Be Bold, Be Clear, Be Different
- No USP? You're Just Noise





WHY TIMING IS EVERYTHING

Wasted Resources

Moving in the wrong direction drains limited money and time.

Team Atmosphere

 Repeated pivots erode trust and morale, impacting team productivity.

Missed Opportunities

Clear strategy early helps you seize market opportunities before competitors.





Imagine a startup that inspires you.

Can you name their

- **★** market
- ★ target audience
- **★** niche
- ★ USP?







DEFINE YOUR MARKET

- Understand the Industry.
 - ☐ Identify key trends, growth areas, and major players in your industry.
- Narrow Down: Identify Your Segment.
 - Focus on a specific customer group or need within the broader industry.
- Evaluate the Segment's Potential.
 - Assess the size, demand, and growth potential of your chosen segment.





THE BIG QUESTION: WHO?

- Identify Key Characteristics.
 - Demographics, behavior, and preferences.
- Engage Directly.
 - ☐ Talk to potential users, not just stakeholders.
- Validate Assumptions.
 - Test your audience hypothesis with surveys, interviews, or small pilots.





NARROW NICHE: FINDING YOUR PIECE OF CAKE

- Start with Your Segment.
 - ☐ Ask: Who specifically needs this?
- Identify the Gaps.
 - Look for unmet needs or underserved groups within the segment.
- Test Your Niche Early.
 - Engage with potential users to validate interest and demand.





WHY YOU? YOUR UNIQUE ADVANTAGE

- Solve a Specific Problem.
 - Identify the customer pain point you solve better than anyone else.
- Highlight What's Unique.
 - Focus on what makes you different and irreplaceable.
- Connect to Timing.
 - Explain why your solution is essential right now.





CHESSBOARD: COMPETITORS AND PARTNERS

Competitors

- Identify who's solving similar problems.
- Understand their strengths and weaknesses.

Partners

- Partners help scale faster and expand your reach.
- Focus on businesses or organizations that share your values.



MARKETING DOESN'T LIVE IN BUBBLE

- Your Strategy is Their Roadmap.
 - ☐ If they don't see it, they won't build it.
- Early Input = Fewer Late-Stage Problems.
 - It's easier to tweak a plan than rebuild a product.
- Buy-In is Everything.
 - No one sells a product they don't believe in.

DON'T LET THIS BE YOUR STORY



Startups always take longer than expected, cost more than budgeted, and deliver less than hoped.

& A

THANK YOU!



CONTACT ME

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