

# Owning the Technology Adoption Curve by Cory House

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## Choose a Spot on the Curve

### a. Early Adopter

- i. Who? Learners, Leaders, Innovators, Authors, Risk-takers, Travelers, Hobbyist
- ii. Why?
  1. Money, Love Learning, Experimentation, Green field, Bore Quickly
  2. Big Fish, Small Pond – Relative place in the hierarchy matters
  3. Be anti-fragile (like Kanye West). Fast moving tech actually benefits you.
- iii. Example: Julie Lerman with Entity Framework
- iv. Mindset:

You must have a growth, rather than a fixed mindset.

“Find a parade and get out in front of it” - Jim Barksdale
- v. Why not? Poor Docs, Exhausting, Lonely, Risk of Bad Bets

### b. Mainstream

- i. Who? Teacher, Practitioner, Creator, Integrator
- ii. Why? Prefer width > depth, Community, Documentation, Jobs, Long-term Specialty, Low Risk
- iii. Example: Martin Fowler
- iv. Mindset:

“Wealth isn’t about having money. It’s about having options.” – Chris Rock

“Focus on just-in-time learning, not just-in-case learning” – Kathy Sierra
- v. Don’t see anything worth learning? Focus on your core. Paradigms, patterns, architecture, etc.
- vi. Why not? You’re a commodity, Proprietary treadmill

### c. Strategic Laggard

- i. Who? Mature, Balanced, Polisher
- ii. Why? Stability, Simplicity, Low Stress, Work/Life balance
- iii. Examples: “Sal” and “Antonio” I don’t know any famous strategic laggards. That’s a point to consider.
- iv. Mindset: A 'good job' can be practically attractive while still not good enough to devote your entire life to.
- v. COBOL devs make \$88k... \$83k is the salary where happiness plateaus.
- vi. Why not? Layoffs, Few Local Options, Assumed Apathy, Lack of Respect, Lack of community

### d. Three keys to choose your spot on the curve

- i. **Know Yourself.** Choose based on your values. Take free survey at [viacharacter.org](http://viacharacter.org)
- ii. **Follow contribution, not passion.** Watch this for more: <https://vimeo.com/85927282>
- iii. **Think financial.** - Go big on on thing for the most potential upside. Diversify skills to reduce risk.

## Recommended Reading:

Mindset by Carol Dweck | Essentialism by Greg McKeown | Antifragile – Nassim Taleb

## Is Your Team Writing Clean Code?

I offer on-site training sessions on Clean Code, Front-end Development and Software Architecture. Sessions vary from 1 hour to multiple days. [bitnative.com/training](http://bitnative.com/training)