

The Checklist Manifesto, Atul Gawande

Published in 2009, *The Checklist Manifesto* is available through the Overdrive Libby app. On a recent car trip I decided to listen as Gawande, a renowned surgeon, explained the value of using a simple checklist for procedures completed over and over.

It's not hard to understand the value of a checklist when learning something new, or completing a task you do annually, or a few times a year. I wouldn't pack for a mission trip without a checklist, and many of us prepare our taxes by using a checklist. However, I have not been a person who "lived by the list" on a daily basis. Listening to this book has me re-thinking that idea.

Gawande uses numerous medical and business models to clarify the value of creating and using simple (as in 4-5 step) checklists for procedures, when looking for consistent outcomes. He shares surgery room statistics showing the value of making sure simple procedures are followed, as well as reviews the well-known example of the pilot checklist before flight.

This is an easy listening book, well written with practical examples.