Be Your Own Boss

- Personal success
  - Set goals (set your graduation date and then figure out what you need to do to get there)
  - Think ahead – where do you want to be when you finish?
  - Be independent
  - Be a self-starter

Be Your Own Boss

- Personal success (cont'd)
  - Learn how to give technical presentations
  - Learn how to do technical writing
  - Get involved in professional organizations
  - Attend conferences and seminars

Be Your Own Boss

- Problem solving
  - Know the questions you're trying to answer!
  - Set a time limit – if you haven't figured it out by the deadline, ask for help
  - Ask other students to help you solve research problems
  - When you take a problem to your advisor, have a few ideas for a solution

Be Your Own Boss

- Effective research
  - Do a thorough literature review early
  - Keep good data
  - Document everything!
  - Don't miss the forest for the trees
  - Take charge of your research – you are the expert now!

Be Your Own Boss

- Client (Advisor) Relations
  - Anticipate what your advisor wants and have it ready
  - Meet deadlines (Give your advisor what she wants when she wants it)
  - Don't wait for your advisor to tell you what to do next
  - Offer to write a conference paper using your most recent data