

How to Build a Work Algorithm

Track 01 leave-behind · SD AI Studio v1 · 2026-06-02 · tier: PUBLIC (vanilla education)

You don't have one feed. You have several, and each one is trained by what you tap. The problem is they're all trained on the *wrong* you — the bored you, the doom-scroll you, the 2am you. This is how to build a separate feed that feeds your work, and how to keep it that way.

The rule underneath all of it: **the algorithm learns from what you DO, not what you follow.** Follows are a weak signal. Watch-time, taps, saves, replies, and “not interested” are strong signals. So the move isn't just “follow better people” — it's “only spend behavior on signal.”

1. Why a separate account, not a cleanup

Cleaning your existing account fights years of trained behavior. A fresh account starts neutral and tilts in minutes if you feed it cleanly. Keep the old one for friends and fun. The new one is a tool — treat it like a workspace, not a hangout.

- **Different app instance or profile** so the two never cross-train.
 - **A real email, a real name** if you want people to follow back. This is a builder account, not a burner.
 - **One platform at a time.** Don't open five accounts the same day and abandon four.
-

2. The cold-start: tilt the feed on purpose

A new feed is begging to be trained. The first hour decides the next six months.

1. **Follow 10–20 of the right people** (your list — section 4). Don't follow 500. A tight list is a sharper signal.
 2. **For the first day, only tap on-signal.** Open the posts you actually want more of. Watch them to the end. Save them. The feed reads completion + saves as “more of this.”
 3. **Use the negative signal.** Every platform has a “not interested / hide / not for me.” It's the fastest lever. One “not interested” outweighs ten passive scrolls.
 4. **Follow who they follow.** Open 3 of your best follows, look at who *they* follow and who they reply to, grab the overlap. Builders cluster — the right 20 lead to the right 100.
 5. **Don't break the seal.** For the first week, resist tapping a single off-topic thing on this account. One celebrity rabbit-hole and you've taught it you're here to waste time.
-

3. How each platform actually trains (so you pull the right lever)

Platform	What trains it most	The lever to pull	The trap
X / Twitter	Replies, follows of accounts you reply to, dwell time, “not interested”	Reply to 2–3 builders a day; use Lists to bypass the algo entirely	The “For You” tab drags toward outrage — live in Lists and Following
YouTube	Watch-time + completion, “not interested” / “don’t recommend channel”, search history	Watch full builder videos; aggressively use “don’t recommend channel”	One late-night binge re-skews home for days; keep it off this profile
LinkedIn	Dwell, comments, who you follow + connect with	Comment on 2 builder posts a day; follow not just connect	Reactions are weak; comments are the real signal
Instagram / TikTok	Completion, re-watches, saves, follows	Save + finish builder reels; long-press “not interested” on slop	Explore page is the fastest to pollute — train via saves, not scrolling
RSS / newsletters	Nothing — you are the algorithm	Curate the feed by hand (Inoreader); no engagement games	The trap is <i>not having one</i> — this is your un-gameable layer

The meta-point: **social feeds are rented attention; an RSS reader is owned attention.** The strongest input diet runs one trained social account per platform you actually use, plus one hand-built RSS reader that no algorithm touches.

4. Who to follow — the five buckets

Don’t chase a master list. Fill five buckets, 3–7 people each. This is the scaffold; **Lucas’s actual picks go in section 5** and you swap in your own over time.

- **Harness operators** — people who live in the tools daily (Claude Code, Codex, agents, MCP). They tell you what’s real this week.
- **Builders who ship in public** — show the work, show the numbers, post the repo. Proof over takes.
- **Theorists worth the hour** — the few who are worth a long read, not a hot take.
- **A conservative voice** — someone skeptical of the hype. Keeps you honest, kills FOMO.
- **Aggregators & weeklies** — one or two newsletters/lists that pre-filter the firehose so you don’t have to. The shortcut bucket.

A good feed has all five. All-hype-no-skeptic burns you out; all-theory-no-operator leaves you behind.

5. A starter set (swap in your own)

This is a seed list, not gospel — the names below are a starting point. The whole skill is curating your own over time. Use this to cold-start, then prune and add as section 6 says.

- **Harness operators** — the people who live in Claude Code / Codex daily and tell you what actually shipped this week. Boris Cherny and the Anthropic Claude Code team; the agent-skills builders trading configs in public.
 - **Builders who ship in public** — Nick Saraev (automation), Liam Ottley (agency agents), Pieter Levels and Marc Lou (raw shipping volume). Show the work, show the numbers.
 - **Theorists worth the hour** — Andrej Karpathy (build-from-scratch, fundamentals); Onchain AI Garage / Tomby (agent-fleet patterns). The few worth a long read.
 - **A conservative / skeptic voice** — pick one person who's genuinely skeptical of the hype. It kills FOMO and keeps you honest. (Leave this slot for someone whose pushback you actually respect.)
 - **Aggregators & weeklies** — Every (AI & I), Hamish (content/research), one or two newsletters that pre-filter the firehose so you don't have to.
-

6. Keep it clean: the monthly re-prune

A feed decays. The right follow six months ago posts crypto now. Once a month, 15 minutes:

1. Scroll your follows. Unfollow anyone who drifted off-signal or went quiet.
2. Add 3–5 new ones from “who they follow.”
3. Spend a few “not interested” taps on whatever crept into recommendations.
4. Check your RSS list — kill dead feeds, add what proved useful.

Treat it like cleaning a workspace. Five minutes a week beats a rebuild a year.

7. The security sidebar (do this once)

A separate work feed pairs naturally with separating the rest of your work life:

- A **dedicated work account / browser profile** so work and personal don't cross-pollute (feeds or logins).
 - A **separate password vault** (1Password) for work accounts. Worth it.
 - **Sensitive stuff off the machine you experiment on.** If you're going to YOLO new tools, do it where a mistake can't cost you anything that matters.
-

Companion: Track 01 (Algorithm Reset) in the Sharathon track design. This guide is the take-home version. PDF edition lives at </share/algorithm-reset-guide.pdf> once generated.