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# Mastering The Vc Game A Venture Capital Insider Reveals How To Get From Start Up Ipo On Your Terms

## Jeffrey Bussgang

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Mastering the VC Game  
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 Founder's Pocket Guide: Startup Valuation  
 A Venture Capital Insider Reveals How to Get from Start-up to IPO on Your Terms  
 Straight Talk for Startups  
 How It Works and How to Get It  
 Venture Capital Valuation, + Website  
 Insights from Leading Practitioners on the Art of Raising a Fund, Deal Structuring, Value Creation, and Exit Strategies

*Mastering The Vc Game  
 A Venture Capital Insider  
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 From Start Up Ipo On  
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### JILLIAN DICKERSON

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**Mastering the VC Game** Apress  
 A Wall Street Journal Bestseller! What are venture capitalists saying about your startup behind closed doors? And what can you do to influence that conversation? If Silicon Valley is the greatest wealth-generating machine in the world, Sand Hill Road is its humming engine. That's where you'll find the biggest names in venture

capital, including famed VC firm Andreessen Horowitz, where lawyer-turned-entrepreneur-turned-VC Scott Kupor serves as managing partner. Whether you're trying to get a new company off the ground or scale an existing business to the next level, you need to understand how VCs think. In *Secrets of Sand Hill Road*, Kupor explains exactly how VCs decide where and how much to invest, and how entrepreneurs can get the best possible deal and make the most of their relationships with VCs. Kupor explains, for instance: • Why most VCs typically invest in only one startup in

a given business category. • Why the skill you need most when raising venture capital is the ability to tell a compelling story. • How to handle a "down round," when startups have to raise funds at a lower valuation than in the previous round. • What to do when VCs get too entangled in the day-to-day operations of the business. • Why you need to build relationships with potential acquirers long before you decide to sell. Filled with Kupor's firsthand experiences, insider advice, and practical takeaways, *Secrets of Sand Hill Road* is the guide every entrepreneur needs to turn their startup

into the next unicorn.

*Exit Strategies for Entrepreneurs and Angel Investors (but Maybe Not Venture Capitalists)* John Wiley & Sons  
 Mastering the VC Game A Venture Capital Insider Reveals How to Get from Start-up to IPO on Your Terms Penguin  
*Venture Capital Strategy* 1x1 Media  
 Venture Capital is a marriage between 'people with money and no ideas' and 'people with ideas and no money'. It is a high-risk investment vehicle with the potential for manifold returns and the possibility of a complete investment written-off. Although it is essentially private money and smaller in size than traditional financing pillars, its impact has been phenomenal, even to the extent of transforming the way we live in the modern world. Yet the fact remains that the business of venture capital is not fully understood by startup founders and fund managers are also not familiar with the inner workings of other venture funds. And, as more public or tax-players' money flows into this asset class, it begs a shift from the existing esoteric styles to more transparent and predictable operations. It would also be beneficial if the craft of venture capital is well understood by the business community and most importantly, policymakers as *Demystifying Venture Capital: How it works and How to get* primarily written to address these concerns, and to explain the subject in a nontechnical manner, as far as possible. A handbook for fund managers, startups, academicians interested in the subject, policy makers, and aspiring entrepreneurs, this book is unique as it has been written along with the top 25 venture funds in India as co-authors. The first part builds the concepts and theoretical framework of venture investing throughout the venture capital life cycle, giving readers a robust academic backdrop while the second part offer 25 first-hand accounts of how VCs invest, where they invest, what they look for while investing, providing invaluable insights into the minds and methods of VCs. All in all, this prototype is a first-of-its-kind endeavour to deliver a 360-degree + view of the Venture Capital universe.

**Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat** John Wiley & Sons  
 The definitive guide to demystifying the venture capital business *The Business of Venture Capital, Second Edition* covers the entire spectrum of this field, from raising funds and structuring investments to assessing exit pathways. Written by a practitioner for practitioners, the book provides the necessary breadth and depth, simplifies the jargon, and balances the analytical logic with experiential wisdom. Starting with a Foreword by Mark Heesen,

President, National Venture Capital Association (NVCA), this important guide includes insights and perspectives from leading experts. Covers the process of raising the venture fund, including identifying and assessing the Limited Partner universe; fund due-diligence criteria; and fund investment terms in Part One Discusses the investment process, including sourcing investment opportunities; conducting due diligence and negotiating investment terms; adding value as a board member; and exploring exit pathways in Part Two Offers insights, anecdotes, and wisdom from the experiences of best-in-class practitioners Includes interviews conducted by Leading Limited Partners/Fund-of-Funds with Credit Suisse, Top Tier Capital Partners, Grove Street Advisors, Rho Capital, Pension Fund Managers, and Family Office Managers Features the insights of over twenty-five leading venture capital practitioners, frequently featured on Forbes' Midas List of top venture capitalists Those aspiring to raise a fund, pursue a career in venture capital, or simply understand the art of investing can benefit from *The Business of Venture Capital, Second Edition*. The companion website offers various tools such as GP Fund Due Diligence Checklist, Investment Due Diligence Checklist, and more, as well as external links to industry white papers and other industry guidelines.

**Mastering the VC Game** Vior Webmedia  
 Forget the 10,000 hour rule— what if it's possible to learn the basics of any new skill in 20 hours or less? Take a moment to consider how many things you want to learn to do. What's on your list? What's holding you back from getting started? Are you worried about the time and effort it takes to acquire new skills—time you don't have and effort you can't spare? Research suggests it takes 10,000 hours to develop a new skill. In this nonstop world when will you ever find that much time and energy? To make matters worse, the early hours of practicing something new are always the most frustrating. That's why it's difficult to learn how to speak a new language, play an instrument, hit a golf ball, or shoot great photos. It's so much easier to watch TV or surf the web . . . In *The First 20 Hours*, Josh Kaufman offers a systematic approach to rapid skill acquisition— how to learn any new skill as quickly as possible. His method shows you how to deconstruct complex skills, maximize productive practice, and remove common learning barriers. By completing just 20 hours of focused, deliberate practice you'll go from knowing absolutely nothing to performing noticeably well. Kaufman personally field-

tested the methods in this book. You'll have a front row seat as he develops a personal yoga practice, writes his own web-based computer programs, teaches himself to touch type on a nonstandard keyboard, explores the oldest and most complex board game in history, picks up the ukulele, and learns how to windsurf. Here are a few of the simple techniques he teaches: Define your target performance level: Figure out what your desired level of skill looks like, what you're trying to achieve, and what you'll be able to do when you're done. The more specific, the better. Deconstruct the skill: Most of the things we think of as skills are actually bundles of smaller subskills. If you break down the subcomponents, it's easier to figure out which ones are most important and practice those first. Eliminate barriers to practice: Removing common distractions and unnecessary effort makes it much easier to sit down and focus on deliberate practice. Create fast feedback loops: Getting accurate, real-time information about how well you're performing during practice makes it much easier to improve. Whether you want to paint a portrait, launch a start-up, fly an airplane, or juggle flaming chainsaws, *The First 20 Hours* will help you pick up the basics of any skill in record time . . . and have more fun along the way.

*Venture Capital For Dummies* Bsmrt LLC  
 Venture Capital 101 is an easy to read, fun, and information packed book about venture capital. If you're an entrepreneur and you're thinking about contacting venture capitalists for financing, *Venture Capital 101* is your first stop for learning the basics of venture capital.

*Early Exits* Harvard Business Press  
 "Bibliography found online at [tonyrobbins.com/masterthegame](http://tonyrobbins.com/masterthegame)"--Page [643].

*Start-up to Scale-up* John Wiley & Sons  
 #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER If you want to build a better future, you must believe in secrets. The great secret of our time is that there are still uncharted frontiers to explore and new inventions to create. In *Zero to One*, legendary entrepreneur and investor Peter Thiel shows how we can find singular ways to create those new things. Thiel begins with the contrarian premise that we live in an age of technological stagnation, even if we're too distracted by shiny mobile devices to notice. Information technology has improved rapidly, but there is no reason why progress should be limited to computers or Silicon Valley. Progress can be achieved in any industry or area of business. It comes from the most important skill that every leader must

master: learning to think for yourself. Doing what someone else already knows how to do takes the world from 1 to n, adding more of something familiar. But when you do something new, you go from 0 to 1. The next Bill Gates will not build an operating system. The next Larry Page or Sergey Brin won't make a search engine. Tomorrow's champions will not win by competing ruthlessly in today's marketplace. They will escape competition altogether, because their businesses will be unique. Zero to One presents at once an optimistic view of the future of progress in America and a new way of thinking about innovation: it starts by learning to ask the questions that lead you to find value in unexpected places.

**100 Insider Rules for Beating the Odds--From Mastering the Fundamentals to Selecting Investors, Fundraising, Managing Boards, and Achieving Liquidity** Simon and Schuster

Continuing the events from *Beneath the Attic* and *Out of the Attic*, the prequel trilogy to the *Dollanganger* series comes to a riveting end with *Shadows of Foxworth*, a passionate novel about Corrine Foxworth's intense desire to flee her overbearing life trapped in the Foxworth estate. Two generations before Corinne Foxworth locked her children in an attic, the life of her grandmother, a gorgeous young girl named Corrine Dixon changed forever. At age sixteen, she discovered she was pregnant by the wealthy and handsome Garland Foxworth. Now, trapped in the labyrinthine Foxworth estate, young Corrine is overwhelmed with her stifled life and domineering husband. When an artist is hired to paint her portrait, she immediately falls in love and is convinced to abandon this dark world forever, unaware that her decision could have far-reaching consequences that linger for generations...

**Marketing Lessons, War Stories, and Hard-Won Advice from Leading Venture Capitalists and Angel Investors** Penguin

Venture capitalists are the handmaidens of innovation. Operating in the background, they provide the fuel needed to get fledgling companies off the ground--and the advice and guidance that helps growing companies survive their adolescence. In *Creative Capital*, Spencer Ante tells the compelling story of the enigmatic and quirky man--Georges Doriot--who created the venture capital industry. The author traces the pivotal events in Doriot's life, including his experience as a decorated brigadier general during World War II; as a maverick professor at Harvard Business School; and

as the architect and founder of the first venture capital firm, American Research and Development. It artfully chronicles Doriot's business philosophy and his stewardship in startups, such as the important role he played in the formation of Digital Equipment Corporation and many other new companies that later grew to be influential and successful. An award-winning *Business Week* journalist, Ante gives us a rare look at a man who overturned conventional wisdom by proving that there is big money to be made by investing in small and risky businesses. This vivid portrait of Georges Doriot reveals the rewards that come from relentlessly pursuing what-if possibilities--and offers valuable lessons for business managers and investors alike.

*The Business of Venture Capital* Notion Press

This book studies diverse categories of venture capital (VC) firms in India based on their ownership type (domestic vs foreign), stage of investment (early vs growth stage) and VC investment team composition (entrepreneurial experience vs investing experience). For each category of VC firms, the nuances in their investment, portfolio involvement and exit strategies are separately analysed.

Employing the framework of information asymmetry, the book studies how different categories of VC firms rely on distinct mechanisms such as deal syndication and domain specialization to address the ensuing adverse selection and agency risks. It also delves into the macro context by assessing whether the emergence of VC in India has been driven by 'pull' or 'push' factors. This is accomplished by analysing in depth the supply and demand of VC funds. Finally, it critically reviews the existing policies of entrepreneurial finance and arrives at recommendations for future directions of the same.

*Why We Back the Wrong Ideas#and What to Do About It* HarperCollins

"In principle, venture capital is where the ordinarily conservative, cynical domain of big money touches dreamy, long-shot enterprise. In practice, it has become the distinguishing big-business engine of our time...[A] first-rate history." —New Yorker "An excellent and original economic history of venture capital." —Tyler Cowen, *Marginal Revolution* "It is an article of faith that ready access to venture capital makes an economy more dynamic. Nicholas frames the case historically."

—Wall Street Journal "A detailed, fact-filled account of America's most celebrated moneymen." —New Republic VC tells the riveting story of how the venture capital industry arose from America's

longstanding identification with entrepreneurship and risk-taking. Whether the venture is a whaling voyage setting sail from New Bedford (as in VC's infancy) or the latest Silicon Valley startup, VC is a state of mind as much as a way of doing business, exemplified by an appetite for seeking extreme financial rewards, a tolerance for failure and experimentation, and a faith in the promise of innovation to generate new wealth. Tom Nicholas's authoritative history takes us on a roller coaster of entrepreneurial successes and setbacks. It describes how iconic firms like Kleiner Perkins and Sequoia invested in Genentech and Apple as it tells the larger story of VC's birth and evolution, revealing along the way why it is such a quintessentially American institution—one that has proven difficult to recreate elsewhere.

**Georges Doriot and the Birth of Venture Capital** Penguin

40 leading venture capitalists come together to teach entrepreneurs how to succeed with their startup *The Entrepreneurial Bible to Venture Capital* is packed with invaluable advice about how to raise angel and venture capital funding, how to build value in a startup, and how to exit a company with maximum value for both founders and investors. It guides entrepreneurs through every step in an entrepreneurial venture from the legalities of raising initial capital to knowing when to change tactics. Andrew Romans is the co-founder and general partner of Rubicon Venture Capital, a venture capital fund that invests in privately held technology companies and enables its investors to co-invest along side the fund on a deal-by-deal basis via innovative sidecar funds right up to IPO or M&A exit. Romans is also the founder and general partner of The Founders Club, a venture capital equity exchange fund and investor in later stage liquidity transactions.

**Zero to One** McGraw Hill Professional Entrepreneurs who dream of building the next Amazon, Facebook, or Google can take advantage of one of the most powerful economic engines the world has ever known: venture capital. To do so, you need to woo, impress, and persuade venture capitalists to take a risk on an unproven idea. That task is challenge enough. But choosing the right investor can be harder still. Even if you manage to get backing, you want your VC to be a partner, not some adversary who will undermine your vision in order to make a quick return. Jeffrey Bussgang is one of a few people who have played on both sides of this high-stakes game. By his early thirties, he had helped build two



successful start-ups-one went public, the other was acquired. Now he draws on his experience and unique perspective on the "other side" as a venture capitalist helping entrepreneurs bring their dreams to fruition. Busgang offers detailed insights, colorful stories, and practical advice gathered from his own experience as well as from interviews with dozens of the most successful players on both sides of the game, including Twitter's Jack Dorsey and LinkedIn's Reid Hoffman. He reveals how to get noticed, perfect a pitch, and negotiate a partnership that works for everyone. An insider's guide to the secrets of the world venture capital, *Mastering the VC Game* will prove invaluable for entrepreneurs seeking capital and successful partnerships.

*An Essential Guide to Finding the Right Job*  
Harvard University Press

This updated edition includes several new features, including:

- The Startup Valuation Explorer
- Expanded coverage of Valuation Methods
- Responding to investor questions about your valuation
- Understanding option pool impact on your valuation

For many early-stage entrepreneurs assigning a pre-money valuation to your startup is one of the more daunting tasks encountered during the fundraising quest. This guide provides a quick reference to all of the key topics around early-stage startup valuation and provides step-by-step examples for several valuation methods. This Founder's Pocket Guide helps startup founders learn:

- What a startup valuation is and when you need to start worrying about it.
- Key terms and definitions associated with valuation, such as pre-money, post-money, and dilution.
- How investors view the valuation task, and what their expectations are for early-stage companies.
- How the valuation fits with your target raise amount and resulting founder equity ownership.
- How to do the simple math for calculating valuation percentages.
- How to estimate your company valuation using several accepted methods.
- What accounting valuation methods are and why they are not well suited for early-stage startups.

#### **How to Learn Anything . . . Fast!**

Currency

"Women In Venture" features more than 100 women making investment decisions in venture capital around the world. Forget everything that you have read before and hear the real stories, not manicured by the media, about women who achieved success in this male-dominated industry. They tell us how they worked with men hand in hand to get where they are; how male friends and mentors helped them to

achieve their dreams and become better selves; they tell us what it takes to be a venture capitalist. There has never been a stronger collection of wisdom from women who are at the top of the venture capital world. Imagine watching several episodes of David Letterman's "My Next Guest" show with your favorite characters. Funny, controversial, always sharp and intelligent, they tell about their adventures, challenges, and lessons learned. This is what this book is. Whether you agree or disagree with their personal beliefs and opinions, you won't stay indifferent to what they have to say. The author, Renata George, surveyed hundreds of people on social media to find out who their favorite women VCs are, whom she then interviewed to discuss their experience in venture capital industry in a raw and honest way. The book profiles women VCs of all generations: from first women investors to the brand new names in the venture capital arena, women who manage famous venture capital franchises and who have just raised their first fund. [How to Break Into Venture Capital and Think Like an Investor Whether You're a Student, Entrepreneur Or Working Professional](#) Penguin

*Fundamentals of Entrepreneurial Finance* provides a comprehensive introduction to entrepreneurial finance, showing how entrepreneurs and investors jointly turn ideas into valuable high-growth start-ups. Marco Da Rin and Thomas Hellmann examine the challenges entrepreneurs face in obtaining funding and the challenges investors face in attracting promising ventures. They follow the joint journey of entrepreneurs and investors from initial match to the eventual success or failure of the venture. Written with the goal of making entrepreneurial finance accessible, this book starts with the basics, develops advanced topics, and derives practical insights. Da Rin and Hellmann build on academic foundations from several disciplines and enrich the text with data, mini-cases, examples, and exercises.

#### **Journey from Entrepreneur to CEO**

BenBella Books

Entrepreneurs drive the future, and the last several decades have been a thrilling ride of astounding, far-reaching innovation. Behind this transformative progress are also the venture capitalists - who are at once the investors, coaches and allies of the entrepreneurs. William H. Draper III knows this story first-hand, because as a venture capitalist, he helped write it. For more than 40 years, Bill Draper has worked with top entrepreneurs in fabled Silicon Valley, where today's

vision is made into tomorrow's reality. The *Startup Game* is the first up-close look at how the relationship between venture capitalists and entrepreneurs is critical to enhancing the success of any economy. From a venture capitalist who saw the potential of Skype, Apollo Computer, Hotmail, OpenTable, and many other companies, come firsthand stories of success. In these pages, Draper explores how to evaluate innovative ideas and the entrepreneurs behind those ideas, and he shares lessons from Yahoo, Zappos, Baidu, Tesla Motors, Activision, Measurex, and more. Also, in revealing his on-the-ground account of how Deng Xiaoping brought China roaring into the modern world and how Manmohan Singh unlocked the creative genius of Indian entrepreneurs, Draper stresses the essential value of farsighted political leadership in creating opportunity. The author also discusses his efforts to bring best practices of the venture capitalist/entrepreneur partnership to the social sector. Written in an engaging narrative, and incorporating many of the author's personal experiences, this book provides a much-needed look at how the world of venture capital and entrepreneurship works.

#### **A Venture Capital Insider Reveals how to Get from Start-up to IPO on Your Own Terms**

McGraw Hill Professional

"This is probably the single most valuable resource for the entrepreneurs aspiring to build successful companies"—Ron Conway, Special Adviser, SV Angel, and investor in Facebook, Google, Twitter, Foursquare, PayPal, Zappos "I highly recommend *Venture Capitalists at Work*. This book captures the personalities and approaches of a number of leading VC practitioners and displays the heart and soul of the venture capital process, by offering an exclusive window into the voice of the practitioners."—Gus Tai, Trinity Ventures "*Venture Capitalists at Work* is a foundational pillar in an entrepreneur's understanding and resources. This is a first in terms of the level of detail, quality of discussion, and value to the entrepreneur."—George Zachary, Charles River Ventures and Investor in Twitter *Venture Capitalists at Work: How VCs Identify and Build Billion-Dollar Successes* offers unparalleled insights into the funding and management of companies like YouTube, Zappos, Twitter, Starent, Facebook, and Groupon. The venture capitalists profiled—among the best in the business—also reveal how they identify promising markets, products, and entrepreneurs. Author Tarang Shah, a venture capital professional himself, interviews rising VC stars, Internet and

software investment pioneers, and venture investment thought leaders. You'll learn firsthand what criteria venture capitalists use to make investments, how they structure deals, the many ways they help the companies they fund, avoidable mistakes they see all too often, the role of luck in a success, and why so many startups fail. *Venture Capitalists at Work* also contains interviews with those on the receiving end of venture money—entrepreneurs in high-profile startups that went on to achieve great success. Whether you're an entrepreneur, an aspiring VC, an M&A professional, or an ambitious student, the knowledge you will gain from *Venture Capitalists at Work* could provide a significant shortcut to

success. Other books in the Apress At Work Series: *Coders at Work*, Seibel, 978-1-4302-1948-4 *CIOs at Work*, Yourdon, 978-1-4302-3554-5 *CTOs at Work*, Donaldson, Seigel, & Donaldson, 978-1-4302-3593-4 *Founders at Work*, Livingston, 978-1-4302-1078-8 *European Founders at Work*, Santos, 978-1-4302-3906-2 *Women Leaders at Work*, Ghaffari, 978-1-4302-3729-7 *Advertisers at Work*, Tuten, 978-1-4302-3828-7 *Gamers at Work*, Ramsay. 978-1-4302-3351-0 [Women Who Venture Red Wheel/Weiser](#) The first of its kind, #BreakIntoVC is an essential guide for anyone looking to gain a straightforward knowledge base on the fundamentals of venture capital. Providing research, resources, anecdotes, and

information, #BreakIntoVC will help college undergrads make the most of interviews and meetings while demystifying venture capital and making the industry accessible. With a small number of opportunities in venture capital and a growing candidate pool, set yourself up for success by getting the insights from insiders. By reading this book, you'll have a clear understanding of what an incoming analyst in a venture capital firm should know. You'll get the basics of accounting, how to pitch companies and understand valuation techniques from early to late stage companies. If you're exploring the industry or if you're curious about venture investing, #BreakIntoVC is a great book to get you started.

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• Philadelphia Tv Channel Guide : [click here](#)