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PERSONAL PRODUCTIVITY / EXECUTION PHYSICS

# 12-Week Year: *Scoreboard* Honesty

A year is long enough to lie to yourself; twelve weeks is short enough to ship—or cut scope in public.

SYSTEM ARCHETYPE 072

## 12-Week / *Execution* /

The twelve-week year compresses planning into cycles with visible scoreboards, weekly accountability, and reset rituals that punish drift quickly. Read with personal SOPs, deep work for protected execution,

Pareto on metrics that matter, and feedback delays between lagging signals and weekly steering.

*"A year is long enough to lie to yourself; twelve weeks is short enough to ship."*

## 1. Compressed *Horizons*

Annual plans excuse procrastination; twelve weeks force tradeoffs into daylight. When a metric goes red, the policy should specify three to five outcomes max, owners, and definitions of done. If two people cannot read the scoreboard, simplify it. Compress planning with personal SOPs so twelve-week cycles stay executable, not aspirational.

Celebration belongs in the system; morale is not a hack, it is fuel. Weekly scoreboard reviews should reconcile family load, travel, and health windows that are not negotiable surprises. Boring weekly beats brilliant quarterly. Pair deep work blocks with scoreboard work so tactics stop eating strategy.

Weekly planning is the heartbeat; skip it and the quarter becomes folklore. A serious twelve-week charter should publish reward design so the team does not learn to game the scoreboard. Leading indicators are kindness to future-you. Use [Stock vs. Flow](#) so outcome stock and activity flow stay reconciled on one page.

The twelve-week year is a high-speed execution system for goals: compressed horizons, visible scoreboards, weekly accountability, and reset rituals that refuse drift disguised as annual patience. Before committing the quarter, verify whether forecast versus actual with reasons, not only feelings in a journal. Twelve weeks punish denial faster—that is a feature. Pair [deep work](#) blocks with scoreboard work so tactics stop eating strategy.

Capacity planning is honesty: fewer priorities beat heroic overload that collapses week six. The adult version of execution is to document assumptions about two key teammates quitting and how the plan shrinks gracefully. Accountability without agendas is gossip. Use [Stock vs. Flow](#) so outcome stock and activity flow stay reconciled on one page.

Leading indicators deserve the scoreboard; lagging vanity arrives too late to steer. If life interrupts week four, interrogate capacity, dependencies, and kill criteria for each committed goal. Annual fog is not strategy. Sketch [causal loop diagrams](#) for weekly commitments, morale, and delivery drift.

## 2. Scoreboard *Design*

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Reset rituals between cycles prevent superstition from becoming next quarter's strategy. Stress the cycle by assuming two key teammates quitting and how the plan shrinks gracefully. Celebrate on purpose. Compress planning with personal SOPs so twelve-week cycles stay executable, not aspirational.

Accountability partners work when agendas are written and shame is banned from the room. Second-order thinkers ask how personal load interacts with capacity, dependencies, and kill criteria for each committed goal. When doubt appears, cut a goal before adding hours. Run inversion on the plan: three goals that guarantee overload if kept together.

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### 3. Weekly *Cadence*

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## 4. Accountability *Rituals*

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## 5. Capacity *Truth*

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Reset rituals between cycles prevent superstition from becoming next quarter's strategy. Stress the cycle by assuming whether to cut scope, add help, or extend with explicit tradeoffs written. Celebrate on purpose. Budget [entropy](#) when optimism edits the scoreboard mid-cycle without evidence.

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## 6. Leading *Indicators*

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## 7. Reset *Between Cycles*

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TWELVE-WEEK EXECUTION PASS

01

## Outcome shortlist

Three to five with definitions of done.

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02

## Scoreboard

Leading and lagging metrics—owners named.

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03

## Weekly agenda

Same time, same template, same honesty.

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04

## Reset ritual

Post-mortem, archive, carry lessons forward.

# 8. Atlas *Integration*

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# Build the *lattice*, not the legend.

Return to the Reading hub for essays, tools, and the rest of the 100-topic map.

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