

# ROCKET SKY

## KEYS TO SUCCESS

Character Animation is a career, not a job. A career is the result of hard work, commitment and sacrifice. Follow these simple steps to get the most out of your training by getting into and maintaining the proper habits. When things seem rough during the program, refer to this page and review these simple habits to ensure successful development.

### 1. CREATE YOUR OASIS

Rocket Sky is taught and learned online, and this has many benefits when studying character animation **IF** you set yourself up to take advantage of these benefits. You must create a proper work environment, somewhere quiet for your studies, away from distractions. Make this place as comfortable as possible, because like every professional animator in the world, you'll be spending an inordinate amount of time there.



### 2. UNPLUG

The great Richard Williams, the author of *The Animator's Survival Kit*, has this listed as lesson #1. We'll consider it the second part of #1. The great animators of the golden age learned this lesson early on, and reaped the rewards after implementing it into their process. What it means is, whatever you're listening to or watching, shut it off. Including classical music. Disconnect yourself from everything except your work at hand. Put your entire focus on the process, and reap the rewards that come with such old-school professionalism. This could very well be the difference between becoming a good animator or a great one. And with all of the personal distractions today this may be the biggest struggle. But like we said, there's a difference between a job and a career. Do what's best to improve your animation, sacrifice, and there's a bright future ahead.

### 3. STAY POSITIVE

Having a strong, positive attitude is the key to success. Period. With a strong attitude there are no problems, only challenges. In animation, you're going to make lots and lots of mistakes, and hopefully learn from every one of them. You learn far more from your mistakes than you do your successes, so we encourage you to be fearless when you approach your work and make as many mistakes as possible. Seriously. Most pros will tell you that animating a shot is a series of mistakes leading to a final product. It's all about how you react when things don't always go smoothly, and staying positive is a sure way to make sure you succeed. There's nothing wrong with frustration, it's frustration that motivates you to improve, but when you're frustrated, be positive in your thinking and you will be able to achieve your goals.