

In an attempt to make myself more accountable for my goals, I am tracking them here along with details for my own benefit, and perhaps anyone else who may find any use in my code related exercises.

“Impossible is just a word thrown around by small men who find it easier to live in the world they’ve been given than to explore the power they have to change it. Impossible is not a fact. It’s an opinion. Impossible is potential. Impossible is temporary. Impossible is nothing.” – Muhammad Ali

Writing Them Down

Experts believe if you don’t write a goal down, you are far less likely to achieve it. So here goes..

1. **Deploy a Lambda Function**
2. **Create a Single Page App (SPA)**
3. **AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate**
4. **Own a Tesla**
5. **Read 10 Books**

Accountability

[wpfa icon="fa-check-circle"] **Deploy a Lambda Function**

My professional life revolves around building and managing software teams. To that end, I spend every day of my life in one way or another writing or reviewing software applications. For almost a decade now there has been a growing trend of [serverless](#) architecture, which essentially abstracts all of the complexity of managing and deploying application code *and*

dramatically reduces scalability bottlenecks. The Amazon Web Services (AWS) flavor of serverless is [Lambda Functions](#).

So in an attempt to stay relevant and lead by example, I wanted to deploy some simple Lambda examples for my teams this year as POCs for a lot of the initiatives we were undertaking at work.

Thus far I've managed to complete a couple pretty neat (albeit simple) examples:

1. <https://github.com/litwicki/lambda>
2. <https://github.com/litwicki/lambda-s3-notifier-nodejs>

Create a Single Page App

Similarly to the Lambda initiative, I have for years been working with Javascript frameworks; mostly AngularJS and wanted to stretch some of those coding muscles and push my teams to build our application UIs with complete abstraction as a [single-page-app](#). The concept being pretty self explanatory; the idea being the entire application behaves as a single page without requiring cumbersome page-loads or post-backs, which has a significant improvement to user experience. An added bonus is the emphasis on proper API design to be the under-pinning of the UI application!

My very basic example was a simple tic-tac-toe application tutorial to get me started:

1. <https://github.com/litwicki/tic-tac-toe>

My stretch goal is to create a SPA that manages my kids chores that I can build a simple touch-screen using a Raspberry Pi to host.

AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate

This speaks for itself. Given how often I am working in Amazon Web Services, and how much I ask of my teams, I wanted to lead by example here and get officially certified, and push my

teams to do the same. As of writing this, approximately a dozen of my team members have become *AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate* as well; something I am extremely proud of.

I myself made it a point to be the first one to earn the certification on June 4th, leading the way.



Google Certified - Professional Cloud Architect

Multi-cloud does not have to be a myth!

Read 10 Books

There is no substitution for education, and all education starts with reading. To that end, I wanted to average at least one book per month this year, with a conscious effort not to focus exclusively on one subject matter.

1. [Start With Why](#)
2. [Crushing It!](#)
3. [Origin](#)
4. [Primed to Perform](#)
5. [Never Split The Difference](#)
6. [The Greatest: My Own Story](#)
7. [The Selfish Gene](#)
8. [Factfulness](#)
9. [Measure What Matters](#)
10. [The China Study](#)

Own a Tesla

Ever since the reveal of the Model S, owning a Tesla has been a lofty goal of mine that I never thought possible to achieve. Despite the fact conventional wisdom warns against goals for physical things for a variety of very good reasons, I made an exception this year for this particular goal because the physical good itself has deeper meaning. For me personally I align with the mission of Tesla and what it stands for, as well as the immeasurable contribution to society my small (by comparison) investment will be when purchasing a Tesla vehicle. Secondly, I find tremendous inspiration in Elon Musk who is the CEO and visionary behind Tesla since taking over from the original founders.

