

To me, determined means to strive to accomplish your goals no matter the means. To want something bad enough that you forget to take care of yourself. If someone random person were to criticize any type of work or idea, they wouldn't matter since they are not apart of the bigger picture. Unless of course they're part of the bigger picture, than that is a different story. I am determined to make money coding, designing, and screen printing. It takes a lot of determination when you want to finish a coding project within a certain amount of time without sitting on an idea for too long; otherwise you won't reach your end goal for that particular project. Or at least you won't get the same result you were hoping for for the purpose of that project. Designing and screen printing takes a lot of effort to get right for me. As a somewhat perfectionist with a dash of OCD I can't be proud of my work unless it ticks all my invisible check boxes and/or answer all my questions. Will the demographic accept this? Will they not? Do I want them to? Am I doing this for me or the public? Is this complicated? Will they *feel* what I *feel* looking at this? Those were just some examples of what goes through my head when I'm determined to get my art to meet my standards. Though determination doesn't happen without motivation.

Having the urge to act upon a thought due to self gratitude is what motivation means to me. When you have an idea that sparks life into your being and you think "I have to do this" just to satisfy an itch. I'm always motivated to play guitar or draw anytime of day. Creating, learning, and sharing art motivates me. Knowing that every time I play guitar or draw enhances my skills whether by a little or a lot. Regardless of where I'm at emotionally while doing these activities, it feels good to express myself in any kind of manner that I choose. Having a physical manifestation of my emotions definitely feels great and motivates me to make more things.

Though it gets frustrating at times when what I picture doesn't come out right, then I start getting unmotivated. But when I get motivated, I get passionate.

Passionate, to me, means baring your soul in what you're doing. What I mean by "baring your soul" is expressing yourself emotionally through a catalyst. Though I'm still finding who I am in the world of art, I'm very passionate about it. Putting myself into what ever piece I make so when someone looks at it or listens to it, they know it was me who created it without having to read labels. Having my thumbprint told apart from all the others by baring my soul. By showing that being human in your work is a must. Showing others that having emotions and expressing them is okay. For the longest time I had no passion for anything. Closed off and boxed up. Parents telling me to hold in my tears and that boys don't cry. That I have no reason to be upset over petty things and that there was no reason to be sad when I had food, shelter, and clothes. I wasn't allowed to be human or bare my soul and so I didn't know who I was and therefore couldn't be passionate about anything up until high school.

I've chosen the words determination, motivation, and passionate to describe myself to express that I'm dedicated to completing projects with quality and humanity. Determination showing I won't stop when the going gets tough. It lets you know there's no persuading me when my eyes are on the prize. Motivation to demonstrate my urge to start projects and continuously work on them. There is no better feeling doing what you love. Except for when you can live off doing what you love. Passionate to express that I'm a human with emotions and not just a number in the system.

When people see my work I want them to see all of me. All the effort, time, and feeling I put into it. After all the years of suppression I'm able to manifest my identity. Who I am. I know

what I want now which feels amazing, and everything currently happening in my life is just a stepping stone to obtain a better self understanding. With most if not all actions stemming from a combination of determination, motivation, and passion.