

Proven Techniques to Help You Develop Leadership Skills – Guaranteed!

As leaders of businesses, it is often hard to keep up with the times and mold yourself into a great leader. Many people look to people who are great leaders like; Bill Gates and Steve Jobs for inspiration. They study these people to see what they have done to make their businesses into international superstars. There are many leaders to pull from for inspiration. Finding the right niche to help you advance is an important factor to focus on. When you have the right motivation and niche to help you, you are ready to begin the process of becoming a great leader. It is going to be a long road full of difficulties and stress, but like so many leaders have discovered, it will be worth your time and investment. Here are a few suggestions to help you develop yourself into a great leader:

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Are You Using the Best Practices, Processes, and Techniques in Your Organization?

Who Needs to Use Personal & Professional Assessment Tools?

With society changing every day, it is important to look at other ways which can help us keep up with the rest of the world. Having personal and professional assessment tools in your everyday life is a great benefit. However, many people aren't familiar with what personal and professional assessment tools are. To understand what they are, you need to realize how they can help you. Acknowledging who you are, where you are going in your life, and how to get there are very important issues that personal and professional assessment tools help with. But first, here is some background information about the tools.

Personal assessment tools: These are simply an assessment on you. This is achieved by answering a wide variety of questions which assess qualities ranging from relationships, attitudes, work styles, and skills. One such personal assessment tool is the Personality Test. You can get a variety of types of tests if you do a simple search.

Professional assessment tools: Now these are a little different. They are instruments used to determine where you are best placed in your career or the type of career you should focus on. The test examines where you are in your life. They measure what your strengths and weaknesses are enabling you to set developmental goals to reach your vision.

Having professional assessment tools is important if you are to advance further in your career.

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1. **Look to the past** – Whether this is through mentors such as Roosevelt, Truman, Gates, or Jobs, focusing information from great leaders of the past and the traits they carried is a way of developing great leadership traits of your own. Leaders in the past have had experiences that will help you to not repeat their mistakes and benefit from their successes. Granted, you are not running a country, but you are running something that is your livelihood. You can gain experiences when you listen to their counsel, identify the traits that are successful, and mimic their strategies.



2. **Train like the rest** – A great leader is also a great follower. By going to training with the rest of the employees, you can gain great insight to where your employees are in their development. You will be able to understand their strengths and weaknesses and help instruct each individual further in their career. This also looks good for you as the leader, owner, or supervisor. A higher authority that puts oneself into that situation is looking for ways to improve themselves too. As an employee, having an authority figure that is looking to improve themselves, their employees, and their company goes a long way to improve company morale. Not to mention, increase productivity and customer focus.

3. **Listen** – This seems simple enough, but it's not. Listening to your employees is the most important step of all if you want to develop yourself into a great leader. This leadership development strategy is practiced simply by hearing and responding to what employees have to say. Listening to complaints, suggestions, and overall compliments is very important to your employees. **A great leadership trait is listening.**



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When a leader wants to have a group that is efficient in their work duties, they listen to the employee's suggestion(s) as to what needs to be done to make the process less strenuous as well as the suggested resources they need.

Looking at the present great leaders of multi-billion dollar companies, you can see the many techniques they use. Having well organized methods to help you develop yourself into that great leader and a mentor or a coach to keep you focused is paramount. Keeping employees happy is how you can truly help yourself develop. This is through leading by example first.

Start today! What are the top 3 leadership traits you want to develop? Does your coach agree with you? What action steps are you going to take...and when?

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"The person who makes a success of living is the one who sees his goal steadily and aims for it unswervingly."

~ Cecil B. DeMille

Listen Up

If you think your audience is listening challenged, tune them back in with some questions that focus on their needs and your presentation. But don't hit them out of the blue or you'll risk embarrassing – and therefore alienating – audience members. Give them some warning that questions are coming with a statement such as: I'm going to talk for a few minutes about how this product will translate into reduced costs for you and then I'm going to ask you some questions. Because the audience knows in advance that questions are coming, they'll be alert to whatever you have to say. Just don't let too much time elapse between announcing that questions are coming and asking them, or your audience might tune back out again.



"He who refuses to embrace a unique opportunity loses the prize as surely as if he had tried and failed."

~ William James

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It is always important to stay one step ahead of your competition.

Now that you understand what personal and professional assessment tools are, you can see the benefits of using such instruments.

These tools help you understand more about you as a person which leads to building confidence in yourself. With a strong appreciation of yourself you can truly understand and decide what you may need to change in your lifestyle. It is often difficult to hear what is contrary to your self-image. By using personal and professional assessment tools you will be able to get to know what is going on in your head. So many thoughts cloud our judgments as individuals and at times we tend to lose sight on what matters most.

Understanding personal and professional assessment tools is the first step. Putting them into practice is another. As we grow, our minds and experiences grow. We become better acquainted with what we need to do. Knowing the powerful information that these tools deliver provides insight on areas where you may want to seek guidance. Learn all there is about personal and professional assessment tools.

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Do YOU Need A Business Coach?

The Importance of Business Coaching

Business coaching is defined as an interaction intended to enhance performance and facilitate change. It focuses on sound inner judgment and that leads to the best possible outcomes. Business Coaching has been practiced for years. When you have business coaching in your company, you are opening the door for advancement in the performance of your employees, thus your organization. Some benefits you will realize by implementing this well known practice of business coaching are:

1. **Employees will perform at their best** – When you incorporate business coaching into the employee developmental process, your employees will challenge themselves and seek to perform at a higher level. It is very important in any business to have efficient and effective employees. One-on-one interaction with a business coach provides the environment for employees to un-tap their hidden potential; demonstrate their additional capabilities and the added value their enhanced performance brings. This far exceeds the investment you have made in this person.

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*"If you want to live a happy life, tie it to a goal, not to people or things."
~ Albert Einstein*

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One Minute Ideas

Five Tips For Creating An Inspiring Work Place:

1. Find out what your boss or your colleagues need for them to be great at their job. Help them get it.
2. Decide what you need to be great at your job. Ask for it!
3. Find ways to bring out the best in others every day.
4. Leverage your talents by understanding what you are really good at and love doing...then do more of it.
5. Change happens when you change. Be a leader!



Tired of Talking to a Voice Robot? Want to Talk with a Human? Check out this website. It provides the phone numbers and instructions for bypassing a company's computerized answering service and talking directly to a person.

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Under all circumstances it is prudent to stay ahead in the business world and this becomes more important in times of restructuring and uncertainty. When you want your business to grow, you need to think about how your employees will help secure this growth. Business coaching is your answer.

2. Recognizes their experiences – This goes along the same lines as employees performing at their best. With business coaching, the employee works with their coach to reinforce their current strengths and to surface new opportunities where these skills can be utilized, allowing the employee to expand their contribution to the company. Business coaching allows for employees to share their work experiences and feel more involved for doing so. Their attitudes change when they feel they have contributed something to the company. This benefit increases the level of the employee's engagement to the firm and has a multiplying effect throughout the organization.

3. Increases your bottom line – When you have business coaching available to your employees, you recognize and communicate their worth to the company. The main goal of business coaching is to offer the tools and support individuals need to enhance their performance and to facilitate change. Outcomes that you can expect when you have business coaching in practice are higher levels of engagement, as well as, more efficiency and productivity. Investing in your employees is a sound business decision that will yield a high ROI (return on investment). Always thinking and staying ahead in the business world is what is going to make your business grow. Business coaching is what you need if you want to achieve this.

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A coach helps:
Employees perform at their best.
Recognizes their strengths & experiences.
Increasing the bottom line.

Five Ways to Be a More Effective Team Member

What do the terms "synergism" and "teamwork" have in common? How about this: One definition describes both. The dictionary says when two or more substances combine, producing an effect they couldn't produce alone, that's synergism.

That's also teamwork. Together, members of a team produce an effect that no single member could. Creating the synergistic team is not easy. Once people are designated to work together, there is no scientific formula to guarantee that synergism will result. When human beings are involved, personalities and feelings may stand in the way. *To be a more effective team member:*

1. LEAVE YOUR EGO BEHIND. The team project is most important. It's OK to feel honored to be named to a special team, but be committed to the work and to working together with other members.



2. COMMUNICATE WELL. Keep other members informed of your progress. Be very honest about what you can do, and what you have accomplished.

3. COOPERATE WITH THE TEAM LEADER. Just as too many cooks spoil the stew, more than one leader can lead to misdirected efforts. Be careful to do what you are assigned. Feel free, of course, to express your own ideas, but let the leader decide if they can be used.

4. RELAX AND BE OPEN TO NEW IDEAS. Small groups create a good setting for trying new techniques, so leave your reluctance behind.

5. GET ENTHUSIASTIC, AND GIVE A LITTLE EXTRA. That means caring a little more, thinking a little harder, and making a little greater effort.

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