

LEADERSHIP GEMS

30 Characteristics of Very Successful Leaders

By Ria Story

MYTHS AND MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT LEADERSHIP

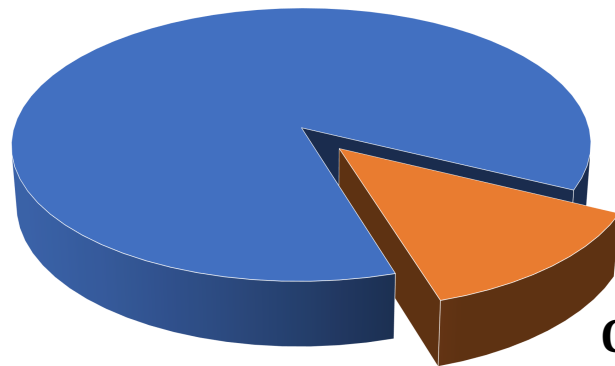
- Leaders are born – you either are or are not a leader
- Leadership is based on position/title/rank
- Leadership comes from authority

“The most dangerous leadership myth is that leaders are born – that there is a genetic factor to leadership.” ~ Warren Bennis

CHARACTER LEVERAGES COMPETENCY

Competency is the skill set, technical knowledge, and ability to perform a task or job. Competency is **what we do**. Character is **who we are** and **how we do** what we do. It's the “soft” skills, such as attitude, work ethic, integrity, leadership, and ability to work with others. 87% of our results is determined by character.

Character 87%



Competency 13%

Leadership is one of the most profoundly complex, and at the same time, incredibly simple concepts. John C. Maxwell states it well, “Leadership is influence.” Influence is simple and easy to understand. If you are influencing someone to do, say, or think something different, you are leading them. But understanding why, how, when and who you are influencing becomes very complex. Leadership is complex because it's primarily increased by developing your character.

LEADER IS INFLUENCE: AUTHENTIC INFLUENCE BEGINS WITH RELATIONSHIP

THE 5 LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP BY JOHN C. MAXWELL (*LEADERSHIP 101*)

- LEVEL 5 PINNACLE: RESPECT
- LEVEL 4 PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT: REPRODUCTION
- LEVEL 3 PRODUCTION: RESULTS
- LEVEL 2 PERMISSION: RELATIONSHIP
- LEVEL 1 POSITION: RIGHTS

CHARACTERISTICS OF VERY SUCCESSFUL LEADERS

1. BE PROACTIVE

- To be proactive is to respond to any given situation based on values instead of emotions.
- When we are proactive, we greatly increase the amount of influence we have with other people. Our ability to lead (influence) increases exponentially when we can first lead and influence ourselves well.

“I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions.” ~ Stephen R. Covey

2. BE AUTHENTIC

- There is a paradox in authenticity because we all want authenticity in everything and everyone else, but we struggle to be authentic ourselves.
- Authenticity requires us to be vulnerable. And, vulnerability is commonly, and incorrectly, perceived as a *weakness*.

“Influence is ultimately an outcropping of trust – the higher the trust, the greater the influence.” ~ Dale Carnegie

3. BE RESILIENT

- Resilience is the ability to recover, to spring back, to thrive, and to become strong after, or in spite of, tough times.

- Resilience is one of the qualities we admire most and expect most in our leaders.

“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.” ~ Nelson Mandela

4. BE CONFIDENT

- *Self-confidence* is conviction of your values and core beliefs enhanced by experience and lessons learned from both successes and failures.
- *Situational-confidence* is certainty in the outcome of a situation which is enhanced by your knowledge, skills, and abilities.

“Confidence comes with maturity, being more accepting of yourself.”
~ Nicole Scherzinger

5. BE INTENTIONAL

- When it comes to stewardships, being intentional with your time, energy, talent, and your life is perhaps the greatest stewardship of all.
- We all have an opportunity to live a life of significance right where we are if we live life on purpose.

“Intentional living is the art of making our own choices before others’ choices make us.” ~ Richie Norton

6. BE A DEVELOPER

- Good leaders are always looking for a chance to develop their followers. How you delegate determines your effectiveness as a leader.
- Delegate results instead of methods by using effective questions.

“It is only as we develop others that we permanently succeed.” ~ Harvey S. Firestone

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Books by Mack & Ria available in paperback, e-book, and some on audio*

Note: You can listen to a sample of each of our audio books at TopStoryLeadership.com/audiobooks

1. ***Blue-Collar Leadership:** *Leading from the Front Lines (paperback in Spanish too)*
2. ***Blue-Collar Leadership & Teamwork:** *30 Traits of High Impact Players*
3. **Blue-Collar Leadership Toolbox Tips:** *60 Micro-Lessons to Maximize Your Influence*
4. ***Blue-Collar Leadership & Supervision:** *Unleash Your Team's Potential*
5. ***Blue-Collar Leadership & Culture:** *The 5 Components for Building High Performance Teams*
6. ***Blue-Collar Kaizen:** *Leading Lean & Lean Teams*
7. ***Change Happens:** *Leading Yourself and Others through Change*
8. ***10 Values of High Impact Leaders**
9. ***Defining Influence:** *Increasing Your Influence Increases Your Options*
10. ***10 Foundational Elements of Intentional Transformation:** *How to Become Your Best Self*
11. ***Who's Buying You? Until You Sell Yourself, You Won't Sell Much**
12. **MAXIMIZE Your Potential:** *Unleashing the LEADER Within*
13. **MAXIMIZE Your Leadership Potential:** *Moving Beyond Management and Supervision*
14. **PHOE3NIX:** *Encourage Engage Empower*
15. ***Straight Talk:** *The Power of Effective Communication*
16. **PRIME Time:** *The Power of Effective Planning*
17. **Leadership Gems:** *30 Characteristics of Very Successful Leaders*
18. ***Leadership Gems for Women:** *30 Characteristics of Very Successful Women*
19. ***ACHIEVE:** *Maximize Your Potential with 7 Keys to Unlock Success and Significance*
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