

Effective Leadership Techniques

Listen and Learn from Others

Of all the leadership attributes, listening may be the most important. The Leader who listens knows what's going on around him or her because listening opens the doors to genuine communication. It demonstrates respect and caring for others. But listening only gets you part way to better leadership. You must also learn from it and use that learning to guide your actions. It's only through learning that we are able to change, grow, and prepare for the future.

Energize the Organization

A big part of any leader's job is to provide energy for the organization. Leaders are the batteries that jump start people and get individuals and teams moving in the right direction. Along the way, leaders serve as cheerleaders to keep the energy up and the organization humming. Getting and keeping people excited about their jobs, enthused about the team, and motivated about what they can accomplish is no easy task. But every day, in places large and small, men and women find ways to generate the energy we all need to help us and our organizations succeed.

Develop Yourself and Others

Effective leaders understand that the strength of their organization lies within the talents of their people and themselves. Some call this collective talent and organization's "intellectual capital." Just like shrewd investors, leaders know they have a responsibility to grow this capital so that it will pay dividends to the organization. They place a premium on continuous learning through a variety of methods. And they understand that when they and their team members stop growing, so does the organization.

Empower Other to Lead

Fact is, the more control you give to others, the more control you have. Delegation of responsibility not only shares the workload, it also extends the boundaries of your authority. You're able to influence and affect much more than one person could ever do. When people feel they have responsibility, they're more likely to take ownership of their jobs. They become more accountable for their actions and they care about the results they achieve.

Lead well ... and the rest will follow