

# How to Be A Leader In Business

A Guest Article by Gloria Martinez, *Guest Writer* – March 17, 2017



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Good leaders are not born with their skills, but leadership skills are not difficult to develop if you have the determination and you take the time to practice them. In order to reap the rewards of good leadership, you must first invest in it. Once you have a strong set of management skills, you can use them to benefit not only the operation of your enterprise, but also to strengthen your workforce and increase productivity.

## **Take Initiative**

One of the first steps to good leadership is to show some business acumen. Take initiative when things need getting started, rather than waiting for someone else to get things done. Accepting responsibility and setting an example will inspire your workforce to follow suit. Be decisive and make things happen. Remember that you don't always need to wait to be asked for help. Offer input or assistance where you think it is needed.

### **Achieving Trust in Management**

Trust is a big issue in the workplace, but all too often a trust gap yawns between management and employees. There are many factors that can damage trust, knowing what these are and how to prevent them can mean the difference between a solid, respectful relationship with your employees and a dire trust deficit. Trust is essential for forming a [solid foundation](#) to ensure employee motivation, employee retention, effective communication and a positive contribution of team participation.

### **Honesty is the Best Policy**

Always be honest in all communications with your team. Don't be tempted even to bend the truth even if sharing honest information is to your disadvantage. Exhibit open body language, look your employees in the eye when you are talking to them and keep your hands in sight. These actions will encourage your employees to be open and honest with you in all aspects of their work from filling in timesheets to making accurate reports.

### **Trust Begets Trust**

To be a successful team leader and to promote maximum potential among your team, you must be able to [trust them](#). You must be able to count on your employees to get their work done without constant supervision. This means you have to allow your workers the freedom to perform to their best ability wherever they are, whether they are in the office, at a conference or working remotely from home.

### **Consistency Counts**

Be consistent in both your words and your behavior so that your employees know they can rely on you. Make an effort to always show up on time for work and for meetings. Setting a good example will promote consistency within your workforce. Always fulfill your promises.

### **Listen as you Lead**

One of the essential factors of being a trusted leader is to be able to listen to others with an open mind and without making judgments or accusations. It's also important to focus on issues at hand and find positive solutions rather than centering on personalities or individual actions.

### **Equality is Esteemed**

Treat your employees as valued and trusted partners. Even the newest member of the team should feel that they make an important contribution. Equality among employees is facilitated when you meet regularly with the members of your workforce; learn to know their names and details about their lives outside of work. Treat each of them with the same genuine respect.

Consider how you can strengthen your bonds with your employees and encourage them to fulfill their maximum potential. Remember to listen to suggestions from your team; their input could lead to new breakthroughs, especially if you are not afraid to try out new methods. Staying abreast of concerns and disagreements within your workforce will enable you to defuse them before they get out of hand. This will help instill your employees with confidence in your [leadership skills](#).

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