5 Ways to Lead When You’re Not in Charge

Becoming a good leader doesn’t happen because of a job title. In fact, it’s important to learn how to lead before you’re a manager, director, vice president or the CEO. Here are five ways to show your leadership potential.

**BE PROACTIVE.**
Leaders don’t wait to be told what problems need to be solved. They look around and come to the table with solutions.

**MOTIVATE THOSE AROUND YOU.**
You don’t need to be a supervisor to inspire others at work. Encourage your colleagues by being enthusiastic, willing to collaborate and be supportive.

**LOOK BEYOND YOUR JOB ROLE.**
You won’t hear a leader say, “That’s not my job.” Leaders are willing to expand the scope of their roles in an organisation.

**RECOGNISE OTHERS.**
It’s tempting to bask in the glow of a job well done, but a good leader knows that giving credit where credit is due builds credibility and good will.

**SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE.**
Don’t be shy about sharing your knowledge. Stepping up as an expert who’s willing to guide others will get you recognised as a leader.

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How to Lead Through Disruption

Change inevitably creates disruption in organisations. A good leader manages this change, bringing order to chaos so that teams can adapt.

COMMUNICATE A STRONG VISION.

Ensure your team sees the big picture and understands why change is happening.

ARTICULATE THE GOALS AND YOUR PLAN FOR SUCCESS.

Without knowing the destination and having a roadmap to reach it, it’s impossible to navigate disruption.

UNDERSTAND YOUR TEAM.

Some team members will adapt quickly, others will struggle. Know your staff and set realistic expectations.

BE CONSISTENT.

Disruption causes discomfort—the more consistency a leader can provide, the more staff will capable of working effectively through change.

ENSURE STAFF IS A PART OF THE JOURNEY.

Regularly check in and ask for feedback. Those who feel they have a say in what is happening will be less likely to resist change.

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Leadership has changed as the realities of and expectations about work evolves. Here are five traits that make a leader successful today.

**ADAPTABLE**
In a world of constant change and disruption, good leaders must be adaptable to new ways of thinking and working.

**AVAILABLE**
Leaders today must make themselves available as mentors and advisors, guiding the next generation of workers.

**VULNERABLE**
People expect their leaders to be real people who are genuine and recognise they don’t have all the answers.

**EMPATHETIC**
Leaders must be perceptive, understand differences, and show empathy in our increasingly complex world.

**SUPPORTIVE**
Leaders need to understand their staff and provide the support necessary for teams and individuals to thrive.

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