

SIX QUALITIES OF A GOOD LEADER

We often hear it said of someone in a leadership or a management role that they are a 'born leader'. Certainly, there are many characteristics which are common amongst those in management or leadership positions that make them well suited to the job, but whether these are attributes those people were born with or they developed and learned over time is an interesting question.

In the end, it doesn't matter whether a person is born with these qualities or develops them over time. They might be a natural aspect of their personality or the result of a concerted effort to become a better manager or workplace leader.

These are the Six Qualities of a Good Leader:

1. Person of Integrity

A good leader has an exemplary character. Good leaders must be trustworthy, and be seen to act with honesty and integrity.

The authority a leader develops with their team starts with developing trust and respect.

2. Enthusiastic

It's not good enough just to be enthusiastic about your work or project; a good leader is enthusiastic about their leadership role too.

Leaders need to demonstrate enthusiasm to inspire and motivate the team to perform at their best.

3. Confident

In order to lead and set the direction of a team, a good leader must demonstrate confidence as a person and confidence in the leadership role.

Confidence from the team leader draws out the trust and best efforts of the team around them.

4. Calm

Good leaders remain calm, composed and focused on the goals and objectives, even in the face of setbacks or difficulties.

Crises come and go, but a good leader takes these in their stride and keeps a cool head.

5. Analytical thinker

Good leaders need to be able to understand and conceptualise projects as a whole but also as sub-sections. In order to get the best from each member of their team, a good leader needs to understand how that team member and their contribution to the project works alongside the contributions of each of their colleagues.

For an analytical thinker, the goal remains in view at all times but they can break down the process into manageable pieces or see the interplay between different contributions made by each team member.

6. Committed to Excellence

Good leaders are determined to deliver excellence. This means prioritising quality at every stage of the project and ensuring resources are available to the team to deliver the excellence expected.

Not only should high standards be maintained, but a good leader encourages innovation and proactively raises the bar to achieve excellence throughout every stage of a project.

Teams perform best and deliver excellence when they see a leader who values and rewards hard work.