

Leadership and Management

Leadership for Managers

11 Principles of Leadership

I came across 11 leadership principles of Marine Corps in [Guide Book for Marines](http://www.operationalmedicine.org/TextbookFiles/FMST_20008/FMST_1104.htm) (http://www.operationalmedicine.org/TextbookFiles/FMST_20008/FMST_1104.htm) on the Internet and here is my interpretation of 11 principles. I am interested in hearing from Marines about their leadership experience.

1. **Take responsibility** – we need to seek and take responsibilities if we need to grow; never shy away, whatever seems challenging will help you expand your perspective.
2. **Know yourself** – reflect upon your strengths and weaknesses; seek improvement and understand that you can achieve only those goals that you set.
3. **Set an example**- conduct your business in a professional manner; do not loose temper – small minds are bothered by small problems; not only work in your job but also work on your job as well. Be a brand that people want to associate with.
4. **Develop your subordinates**- consider this as part of your job; learn to delegate; as Zig Ziglar said *“You can have everything in life that you want if you will just help enough other people get what they want”*; give them opportunities to learn & grow; guide them if they fit somewhere else.
5. **Be available** – in every respect; be available to listen to problems and challenges people are facing; to motivate, to lead and to show right direction; to hear criticism; to take decisions and to act on time.
6. **Look after the welfare of your employees** - the way you want your boss to look after your welfare; develop emotional intelligence; connect with people and find out what motivates them; do something that touches their lives; help them when they are in need. Arrogance and ignorance will not take you to the top or won't keep you there for long.
7. **Keep everyone well informed** – right communication is the key; make sure that the tasks are understood, supervised and accomplished on time and tell why you need all this done; do no assume - aks and tell.
8. **Set goals that are achievable** – always set the goals – people need to know what they are expected to deliver and by when; let people figure out how; goals should motivate teams to act; measure the results and reward people.
9. **Make sound and timely decisions**- that are aligned with the core principles of your organization and with your job descriptions; there will always be more than one right answer – choose the one that benefits the most and not only you; take decisions like a servant leader.
10. **Know your job** – be technically and tactically proficient in your job; know your people; know the processes and challenges; know how can you add value to the organization or your department.

11. **Build teamwork**- not all people can perform equally but they should complement each other while working towards a common goal; promote team work and diversity; shield your team from external pressure; be flexible with team.

“Leadership is intangible, hard to measure, and difficult to describe. It’s quality would seem to stem from many factors. But certainly they must include a measure of inherent ability to control and direct, self-confidence based on expert knowledge, initiative, loyalty, pride and sense of responsibility. Inherent ability cannot be instilled, but that which is latent or dormant can be developed. Other ingredients can be acquired. They are not easily learned. But leaders can be and are made.” – General C. B. Cates, 19th Commandant of the Marine Corps

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3 Responses to 11 Principles of Leadership

1. *MARK GORDON* says:

March 26, 2010 at 12:37 AM

I’m very thankful because when I read the PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP thier is a big changes on my management...I’m working as a Supervisor in Spa and I handle it well...Thank you very much.

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2. *PAUL* says:

July 8, 2012 at 6:02 PM

these 11 principles of leadership is not arranged.. .. we’d recited this on our training last day.

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◦ [virk](#) says:

July 9, 2012 at 8:11 PM

Paul, thanks for your comment. I'd appreciate if you share the list of arranged ones.

Reply

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