

Being a leader comes with a lot of responsibility. Being a great leader, however, is about the impact and influence you have on your co-workers and others. I hope to develop trust, passion, confidence, accountability, communication, positivity, problem-solving skills, empathy, delegation, and humility.

Trust. To me, without trust in a relationship, there is nothing. A great leader should trust his or her employees and their abilities. If the employee feels trust in their relationship with a leader, they will be more open and vulnerable with them. If you lack trust, then how do you expect others to be honest as well. Being honest and trusting is the best way to create strong and lasting connections with others. It is also easier to achieve success when both sides of the relationship create a sense of trust because they know they can rely on the other person.

Passion. If you are not passionate about what you are doing, then why are you doing it? To be passionate about your goals and objectives is inspiring to those around you. This motivates all employees and to do their best and strive for success. Those around you can feel and see if you are not passionate about what you are doing so you must motivate them to achieve their goals.

Confidence. To believe in yourself and your abilities are something everyone should strive for in life. If you do not believe in yourself then no one will. Therefore, you will not be taken seriously. It is very apparent if someone is confident in themselves and if they are not. It takes a lot to have self-love, but I think it is truly something everyone should have. A leader with self-confidence will make immediate decisions and accomplish goals much faster if they believe in their capabilities. For someone just starting in a position may not be the most confident at first, but if you "fake it till you

make it" the confidence will eventually come. This statement is so true because as long as you look or act like you know what you are doing, people around you will notice it and believe your confidence, causing you to believe in yourself.

Accountability. This goes back to trust and owning up to your commitments and promises that you made. If you are a leader, this skill is a must. You are responsible for the whole company and every decision that you make affects everyone else involved. If a mistake is made, you must own up to it and help create a solution to the problem. Holding both yourself and your employees accountable, creates a sense of responsibility everyone must uphold. You must give credit when it is due but also take the blame when necessary.

Communication. Great communication is a key factor in a leadership position. Being personable and knowing the right words to say in any situation is something I strive for. I want people to know they are come to me and be open about anything they are struggling with. Great communicators get their message across but in the best and most effective way possible. Also, being able to communicate with others in many different ways such as coaching someone to explain how to operate something is an important asset. Being able to talk to a wide variety of people is also a factor that is essential because everyone is so different. Knowing your audience and listening to their wants and needs all contribute to successful communication.

Positivity. A team is inspired by their leaders' attitude and outlook on any situation. Being a positive leader is a hard role because not everything in life is always positive. There are constant ups and downs and struggles to face in life and being a leader, your feelings are put in the spotlight. So, by bringing negative energy into the

workplace, the leader is bringing everyone down as well. It is impossible to be positive all the time, but it defiantly makes a difference in everyone's attitude around you.

Managing stress is also a factor that can create problems, but it is all about how the leader reacts to stress and their overall outlook on the situation.

Problem-solving skills. A leader must be able to analyze a situation and make the best decision for them. They can identify and define problems quickly and efficiently. These skills allow a leader to sometimes solve a problem before it even arises. This may also come with making hard decisions, but a well-rounded leader will be able to make these tough decisions while keeping others in mind too.

Empathy. Understanding others' needs and wants is an essential trait to have as a leader. Being aware of others' feelings and their way of thinking is crucial in the world we live in today because someone always gets their feelings hurt. However, when you are aware and take into consideration people's emotions, this can be avoided. You may not always agree with other's views but to appreciate and listen to them is all that is needed sometimes. By being empathic, you create a deeper connection with people's needs, wants, and problems. You understand them on a different level than before just by being open-minded.

Delegation. A real leader knows they cannot do everything on their own which is why they have a great team backing them up. This is where trust and responsibility come into play because a leader is believing in their employee to handle the tasks that they are given. When delegating tasks to employees, they feel a sense of trust and responsibility from you, and in return will create better work and a positive work environment. This is a great way to maximize productivity and performance while also

building a team. A leader needs to know how and when to delegate work accordingly so that they can get their most important work done. This can be tricky for a leader to do in the best way possible but when done correctly, it can be very effective and helpful to the team.

Humility. Being a humble leader creates a better leader. No one wants a leader who is cocky and brags about how successful they are all the time. That just tears people down when in reality, we should be building everyone up in the company to be the best they can be. A humble leader leads to transform and create a better environment. They know their strengths and weaknesses but strive to learn and grow more without losing confidence. This also makes you more approachable since a leader is often thought of as someone scary because they are higher up than you. You can create genuine connections with colleagues because people feel as though they can talk to you. Being more concerned about yourself than your team will never allow you to be a great leader.

As I become a leader in any setting in my future, I hope to develop these 10 qualities so that I can be the best leader possible. These qualities are important to me because I have seen these qualities in different leaders in my life such as professors, managers, and directors. By using these qualities, you gain respect from your employees and create a more stable work environment. It is very important to me to have a strong relationship with my superiors because I always want my work to be the best it can be. In my future as a leader, I hope to develop trust, passion, confidence, accountability, communication, positivity, problem-solving skills, empathy, delegation, and humility.