

# Leadership

Most employees would say that having a good leader for a boss is very important to them. What makes a good leader? Are people naturally good or bad leaders or can leadership skills be effectively taught? Following is a list of generally agreed upon attributes that are necessary for good leadership:

## Vision

This is the ability to create and communicate a clear direction for the business. Once created, it is also the ability maintain direction and not get side-tracked.

## Communication skills

Leaders must be able to express their vision in a clear and concise way. In addition, they must be good listeners and show others that they value their opinions.

## Motivation skills

Leaders must be able to make employees buy into the plan. This can be done: through the development of employees' skills, by creating loyalty and trust among employees and by rewarding employees' hard work.

## Self-motivation

In order to motivate others, you must be motivated yourself. This involves letting the employees see that you are giving your all to the company.

In addition to the above mentioned main skills, following is a set of sub-skills that add to the quality of leadership that a person offers:

- trustworthiness - keeping your word, being honest
- delivering on promises - like being trustworthy, you deliver what you promise
- treating people with respect and fairness
- not deliberately harming others
- dedication to improving the lot of those you represent
- management skills - the ability to get things done efficiently
- strong influence skills
- the ability to convey a compelling vision of the future

## For More Information

Internet: [www.mindtools.com](http://www.mindtools.com)