**Motivation skills of a leader**

Being the leader of a team is a huge responsibility, regardless of whether you’re the CEO, department manager, or supervisor.

As a leader, it’s your job to inspire and motivate the others on your team to work to the very best of their abilities. Being an effective leader demands a number of qualities and characteristics that encourage those around them to succeed. This article will examine eight leadership qualities that can help to inspire and motivate your team.

**1. Provide a vision and purpose**

[Create an inspiring vision of the future](http://deakinprime.com/news-and-publications/news/what-women-want-in-their-leaders) that also gives your team a purpose - something to look forward to, and something to work towards. Make this vision achievable and realistic and work with your team towards achieving this goal. Think of practices or services that could help make both yours and their job easier. Use personal stories and anecdotes to explain your vision and inspire your team members, it will make you more relatable and less of a separate entity.

**2. Set clear goals**

Set clear goals for completing a project so that your team knows what is expected of them. Ensure that your team agrees with goals and deadlines you have set, and can identify with them on a personal level. This way they can be motivated to work harder and achieve those goals, boosting productivity levels in turn. Making sure that your team are in agreement and happy with goals and deadlines you have set will help them feel more involved in their work.

**3. Lead by example**

One of the most powerful motivational tactics you can use is to lead by example. Working hard, showing professional integrity, and having a can-do attitude are all qualities that will have a positive effect on your team members.

If your team recognises that you value the time and effort they put into their work, and you demonstrate the same actions and values you expect from them, it will inspire them to do the same.

**4. Encourage teamwork**

Encourage members to work together as a team by stressing the importance of and the connection between teamwork and achieving group goals. Note the fact that when people work together, work is much easier and quicker to do. You can further motivate your team by linking performance with team goals.

Encouraging teamwork will help individual team members feel less isolated and separate from the workplace. Employees will feel more engaged and a part of a larger community, inspiring them to work harder and enjoy what they do.

**5. Be optimistic and positive**

Having a positive attitude and an optimist outlook, even when times are tough, can inspire your team members to adopt the same attitude and outlook and continue to work hard. Remaining positive will show your team that it’s not the end of the world if things are going wrong, and keep them focused on the greater picture.

You can also help motivate your team by reacting positively to goal or project completion, and to the skills and abilities that each member brings to the team. Make them feel valued and appreciated, and your team will work harder.

**6. Give praise and rewards**

This is one of the best ways to inspire and motivate your team to work harder. When you praise one person in front of others, it encourages them to work harder or perform better, simultaneously motivating the others to work hard in order to be praised. When a reward is linked to performance, people will work even harder and be more committed to their task in order to win the reward.

**7. Communicate with the team**

You should be contactable at all times so that your team members can ask you questions about a project, get your opinion, offer ideas, and give feedback. Being available for your team plays a key role in motivating them, as it shows that you value the project and their feedback. Making yourself more available also avoids making your team members feel isolated and separate from management. Ensuring you’re always available for your team can boost productivity and improve the quality of your work.

**8. Empower team members**

When you give team members the power or authority to do something with complete control, this helps to motivate them to complete the work. You can also keep motivating your team members to work hard and bring out the best in them by offering constructive feedback. This will result in an empowered, happier, and more productive team.

The eight qualities above are essential in making you an effective team leader. By developing your leadership skills, you’ll see your team’s performance, productivity, and morale improve significantly. In turn, this can lead you and your company towards greater success.