15 Key Characteristics Of Effective Leaders

CHECKLIST
□ **Focus**

A strong and effective leader has the ability to disregard the clutter and focus on the critical aspects of any issue or project. They don’t allow trivial things to bog them down.

□ **Confidence**

An effective leader has the ability to instill confidence in their team and employees, and can communicate a clear vision, while being a strong coach capable of empathy.

□ **Transparency**

You’ve heard about wearing the various hats that come with management, and many people buy into the concept of wearing a mask. However, effective leaders are transparent. This may reveal their flaws, but it also shows their passion, and their ability to bounce back after falling flat.

□ **Integrity**

Effective leaders are role models. An effective leader should role model the values of their company. If a leader relies on a playbook filled with reactive and obsolete procedures rather than doing what is right, they are limiting the businesses potential. Leaders who show integrity create a culture of integrity.
**Inspiration**

There is no such thing as being self-made. If a leader tells you they’re self-made… They’re wrong. Leaders are *driven*. No one starts with nothing; they start with advice and *inspiration*. Effective leaders are fueled by their internal drive, passion, beliefs, and inspiration. The power of inspiration is great.

**Passion**

It’s important to love what you do, and any effective leader does that. Because to be successful, you don’t have to just be good at it. You need to let it consume you, and at times, it will become an obsession. It doesn’t matter how successful your business is, you’re not satisfied, your passion drives you to be bigger and better.

**Innovation**

Any effective leader is willing to innovate and find new ways to get things done. Throughout history there have been innovators, it isn’t just essential to our survival, but also to our success. Innovators are leaders, the two cannot be separated. Whether that innovation is through organization, technology, or thought- it is what effective leaders do to solve the challenges they face.
- **Patience**
  Patience is a test of commitment. There is no clear path to success, and effective leaders show patience as they overcome the many obstacles that stand in between them and their success. An effective leader does not give up at the first hurdle, but finds a better way to operate to overcome.

- **Decisiveness**
  An effective leader is decisive. They know what information to use to make a decision, and that once that decision is made they should make it with conviction, and never look back.

- **Positivity**
  Greatness is bred from a culture of optimism. There are ups and downs in every industry, but positivity is what keeps things going. The key to being forever optimistic is being fearless, it’s all about believing that you can turn the impossible into the possible.

- **Communication**
  When people don’t know your expectations, they will fall consistently short. It’s vital that a leader learns how to communicate consistently, regularly, and effectively.

- **Persistence**
  Everything that is great will take time. An effective leader is willing to go above and beyond where most others will stop.
- **Insightfulness**
  
  Insightful is a lot like wisdom, it improves with time.

- **Accountability**
  
  A great leader never assigns blame to others, rather they hold themselves accountable, and accountability shows character.

- **Empowerment**
  
  What is effective leadership without empowering one’s team to achieve? It may be difficult to delegate, but an effective leader learns that teamwork is vital to winning.