

10 WAYS TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Good leaders must lead by example. By walking your talk, you become a person others want to follow. When leaders say one thing, but do another, they erode trust — a critical element of productive leadership. Here are 10 of the many ways to lead by example.

1. **TAKE RESPONSIBILITY** — Blame costs you your credibility, keeps team members on the defensive and ultimately sabotages real growth.
2. **BE TRUTHFUL** — Inaccurate representation affects everyone. Show that honesty really is the best policy.
3. **BE COURAGEOUS** — Walk through fire (a crisis) first. Take calculated risks that demonstrate commitment to a larger purpose.
4. **ACKNOWLEDGE FAILURE** — It makes it OK for your team to do the same and defines failure as part of the process of becoming extraordinary.
5. **BE PERSISTENT** — Try, try again. Go over, under or around any hurdles to show that obstacles don't define your company or team.
6. **CREATE SOLUTIONS** — Don't dwell on problems; instead be the first to offer solutions and then ask your team for more.
7. **LISTEN, ASK QUESTIONS, SEEK TO UNDERSTAND** — You'll receive valuable insights and set a tone that encourages healthy dialogue.
8. **DELEGATE LIBERALLY** — Encourage an atmosphere in which people can focus on their core strengths.
9. **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF** — Exercise, don't overwork, take a break. A balanced team, mentally and physically, is a successful team. Model it, encourage it, support it!
10. **ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES** — Like **Alexander the Great** leading his men into battle, you'll inspire greatness in your company.

SOURCE — **Carl Golden**