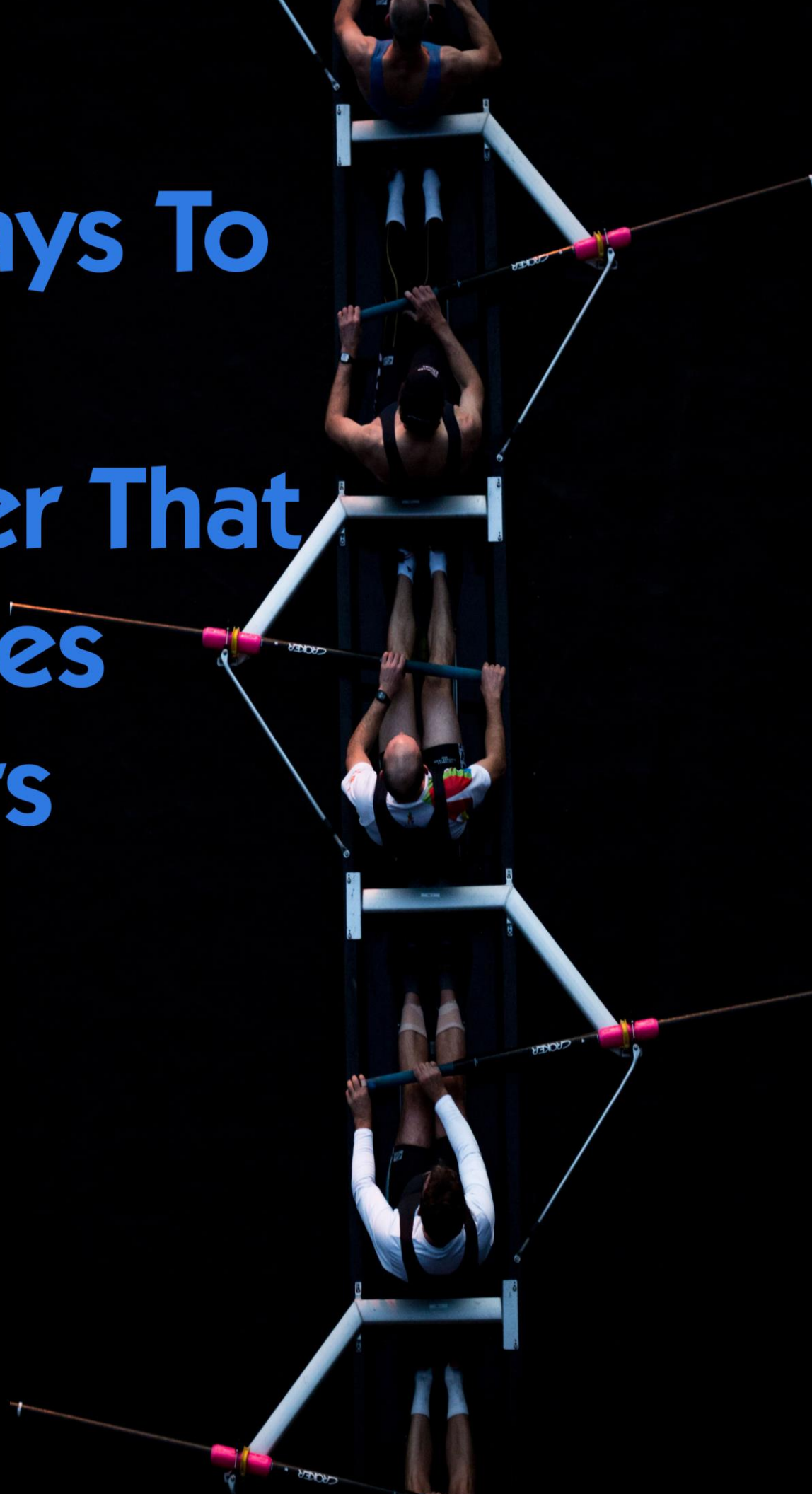
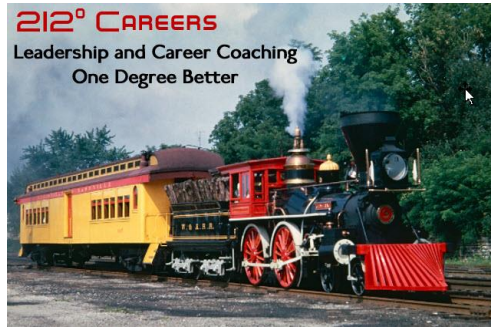


# 10 Ways To Be A Leader That Inspires Others





Leadership and Career Coaching includes thorough assessment and feedback. The starting point is CliftonStrengths to help clients make the most of the key points in this article.

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*The odds that someone shares the same Signature Themes or "Top Five" are 1 in 33 million.*

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An inspirational leader empowers others to achieve their vision by helping the team reach their goals. This is accomplished when you lead by example, know what constitutes success, and care about the people you want to inspire and show it.

If you want to become a leader who inspires others, practicing these ten tips can help you enhance and practice your leadership skills. Assess the skills you need to lead others. Note which skills you have and which you don't.

Determine your strengths and weaknesses to discover how you can become a leader that inspires others. Then, enhance your strengths and improve anything you perceive as a weakness.

You can learn these qualities of inspirational leaders by practicing self-awareness and lifelong learning.

## #1: Lead by Example

As an inspirational leader, you know how to appeal to others by showing them that you are just like them. You are not afraid to get down in the dirt and do the work yourself.

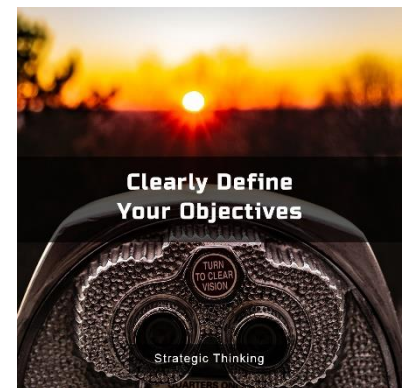
Plus, you know that if you say it, it must be done since actions always speak louder than your words. People notice if you say one thing or profess one belief and do the opposite, especially today with instant technology and social media.

To lead by example, you must know your industry, think before speaking, and respect everyone's role. As you collaborate with the teams you created or seek to lead a movement, you will want to be respectful and build confidence in your decisions.

It does not matter how big the team is. If your words and actions make sense and do not contradict each other, you will inspire people. You can lead a small team at work, run a workshop, become a PTA present, or become an influencer who inspires millions.

## #2. Set Clear Goals and Benchmarks

An inspirational leader can set clear goals and benchmarks and transfer their understanding to their team or followers. Understanding the entire goal-setting process is imperative for an inspirational leader. An inspirational leader understands that goal setting and delegating are skills they can improve and learn. You can start learning goal setting by studying how to make SMART goals.



A SMART goal is created by ensuring that the goal is specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound. All this means that you take the time to describe goals so that it creates action steps for you or others to follow.

Being clear on what needs to be done and how to do it will help all parts of the process. Once you set the goals, you can identify areas that can function as targets to judge current and future success.

## #3. Be Open-Minded

Approaching others with an open-minded and supportive approach differentiates you from rigid and closed-minded leaders by making you more approachable. As someone welcoming, your team will reveal more knowledge to you freely.

One thing to note about being open-minded that you may wonder about is how being open-minded jibes with your morals. However, you do not have to go against your principles,

morals, or values to be open-minded enough to listen to current ideas, thoughts, and perspectives.

To demonstrate your open-mindedness, ask questions, listen with the intent to understand without taking offense, and even if someone is wrong, do not demonstrate anger. Being wrong is not something to get angry about. It is only an indicator that you need to learn more.

#### **#4. Take Responsibility without Blaming**

One of the hardest things for some people is taking responsibility for results without blaming others. However, a genuinely inspirational leader demonstrates their own accountability for problems and allows all the praise to go to the team.

Putting your team in the spotlight when something unique happens is a fantastic way to motivate them to work harder for future goals. So many so-called leaders today are just charismatic narcissists. If you want to inspire, people stand out by taking responsibility.

Remember, listing why something went wrong differs from blaming if you take responsibility for it due to your actions. For example, if your team did not finish a project, instead of blaming them, perhaps something went wrong with your timeline that can be fixed for future projects.

#### **#5. Possess Integrity**

An inspirational leader needs to have a keen sense of their values, principles, and morals and show them in decision-making. Then, anyone should be able to see your actions and easily define where you stand on any number of issues without ever having to ask.

Integrity means that you stand by your words with actions that match your words. So, for example, if you say that you are against something but then start making exceptions because you like the person doing it or because it advances your agenda, this is not an act of integrity.

If you don't believe it, don't say it. Instead, be willing to challenge your ideas to get to the root of a problem. Just because you always thought a fact you believe in was true does not mean it is. Be willing to prove yourself wrong so that you can learn, grow, and change.

## #6. Commit To Learning

As someone who wants to learn new information, you'll be more agile when inevitable change happens. Staying informed about your industry and the nuance involved in every study will help you guide yourself and others to success.

Not only should you keep learning about your industry, but as a leader, learning about human nature and the world is also a terrific way to improve your leadership style. It is surprising, but we are all similar no matter where people come from, even with different approaches.

Take time to travel, read widely, and educate yourself about everything you need to know. Then, if you have a question about anything, you can buy books to teach yourself, contact an expert, or even take a course. Realize that you do not need to know everything to be successful. You need to know enough to make the best decisions.



## #7. Share The Spotlight

A good leader loves to share the spotlight and will help others get it more than they try to. It does not mean they do not take credit. Of course, they do, but they are so confident in their abilities that someone else getting to shine never makes them feel less than but better.

Successful leaders need to recognize diverse people in the spotlight. A lack of representation does not reflect the true diversity in every field. It feels good to see someone get the praise they deserve.

Sometimes, you need to make a point to acknowledge and appreciate the skills and efforts of people who are not in the limelight often. If the pandemic taught just one thing, everyone is important and has a place. When one person is missing, it can cause roadblocks everywhere.

## #8. Practice Good Communication

When you are a good communicator, you not only understand others but also ensure that the people who hear your message understand it. Being a good communicator is something anyone can learn if they set their mind to it. The entire communication process is fascinating, but once you know how it all works and can use it to lead, you will have an easier time sharing your vision.

Effective communication starts with learning to listen actively. Active listening is hearing what people are saying with the intent to understand their message. To advance your understanding, let go of preconceived opinions and ask questions based on what the speaker said.

Plus, learning how to speak well, using the best words for your audience to elicit just the right emotion from them is a skill that will pay off in significant ways for anyone who seeks to become an inspirational leader. Don't worry. You don't have to be good at public speaking to accomplish it. Just make communication a top priority and understand human nature.

## **#9. Build Healthy, Diverse Relationships**

An inspirational leader surrounds themselves with highly skilled and diverse people who are not afraid to speak up. As a committed leader, you know that hearing information from various sources only makes it more useful and better.

While most people want the same things out of life, such as happiness, not everyone starts on the same footing. For example, you may dream of a city penthouse, and someone else may dream of a country farm, but it is the same thing, just a different location. The dream is simply happiness.

How various people define happiness is a lot about how the person with the vision perceives their chances of getting that happiness based on where they started at birth. Most people have similar dreams as their parents or the community they grow up in.

An inspirational leader wants to know more than information about the dreams or goals the people around them have. They also want to know what the journey is like for each person and how the problems each person faces can be mitigated for the people who come after them. Because inspirational leaders are analytical people.



## **#10. Let Go of Control**

As the leader, you are responsible for showing your team members the vision, explaining the goal, and, in some cases, giving them a general idea of how to achieve success. When you work with experts, let them do what they need to deliver the successful results that you want to achieve.

By letting go of control, you achieve success faster because you are not an expert in every role on the team, so you get out of their way to inspire them. As the leader, you provide the overarching vision and the reasons to achieve the goal, but to truly inspire, you step back and let the team do what the team does best while you do what you do best.

Adding people to your team or attracting experts who know more than you about a topic is the best thing you can do as an inspirational leader because you immediately improve your chances

for success. When you hear more perspectives, you will have more ideas to choose from, and one of them might be the most innovative and advanced idea ever heard. But you will never know if you cannot let go of control.

For example, you may realize that you need an expert in coding on your team, but that does not mean you know how to code, so of course, you do not tell the coder how to do their job. However, you may know how to do other things that you still assign to team members. Allow and encourage the team members to do their thing without taking over. This can prompt them to develop new skills and produce innovative solutions.

Becoming an inspirational leader requires that you understand your vision enough to clarify it to others so that it motivates them to work toward your vision healthily and productively, which feels fulfilling to them and you. To help other people feel fulfilled, an inspirational leader makes the vision so natural and understandable that the group members, team, or followers want to achieve the goal for themselves.

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