

# Characteristics of a Team Leader

What is Team leadership? Here are 10 ways to think about the art of leading. Consider the areas where you are strong and where you might want to continue to develop your skills.

**Mission:** Leading means having a mission and sharing it with others. When you inspire others you share a common goal.

**Motivation:** Through motivation, the leader channels the energy and professional potential of their team to achieve the objectives.

**Service:** The leader is at the service of the team, and not the other way around. The service unit volunteers should feel the support of their leader by having the necessary tools and resources, feedback on their performance and recognition for a job well done. In addition, the leader must know how to listen well to understand the needs of their volunteers.

**Empathy:** One of the qualities of any leader is emotional intelligence, the ability to put themselves in the place of others, understand their concerns and solve problems.

**Creativity:** The definition of leadership also has to do with creativity. Good leaders can create an environment that will encourage all the members of their team to develop their skills and imagination to contribute to the mission and goals.

**Thoroughness:** A good leader sets the bar high for their people, because they want to reach the goals and make the best of their teams.

**Managing:** The leader must be at the forefront to lead and guide their team through the whole process until the goal is reached. But besides being that “torchbearer”, leaders also know when to step back so their team can take the initiative. In this way, the team gets the chance to develop, both personally and professionally.

**Team Building:** True leadership is about working in a team to reach a common goal. Team-aware leaders provide ongoing feedback and support throughout a project and reward the group after a job well done.

**Taking risk:** The leader is the one responsible for taking the risks that others are not willing to take. They are confident enough to make a decision and if they make a mistake, the leader has the courage to assume responsibility, rectify and then take the right path without placing blame.

**Improving:** True leadership seeks continuous improvement for themselves and their team members for both personal growth opportunities and professional skill development.