Quotations for Leaders and Thinkers

careertech
RCCTA Resource Center for CareerTech Advancement

Leadership Guide
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Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity.

—George S. Patton

The best way out is always through.

—Robert Frost

Few things are harder to put up with than the annoyance of a good example.

—Mark Twain

Little strokes fell great oaks.

—Benjamin Franklin

Whether you think you can or whether you think you can't, you're right.

—Henry Ford

Good bread was never made from bad grain.

—French proverb

What makes the desert beautiful is that somewhere it hides a well.

—Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly.

—John F. Kennedy

If you can dream it, you can do it.

—Walt Disney

It takes a long time to become young.

—Pablo Picasso

The time is always right to do what is right.

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Nothing is impossible, the word itself says "I'm possible!"

—Audrey Hepburn

Women who seek to be equal with men lack ambition.

—Marilyn Monroe

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

—Thomas Edison

A leader is a dealer in hope.

—Napoleon Bonaparte

Example is leadership.

—Albert Schweitzer

I have always supported measures and principles and not men.

—Davy Crockett

Well done is better than well said.

—Benjamin Franklin

Education is hanging around until you've caught on.

—Robert Frost

They succeed, because they think they can.

—Virgil

Don’t fight the problem, decide it.

—George C. Marshall

You just can’t beat the person who never gives up.

—Babe Ruth

A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus.

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.

—Winston S. Churchill

Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow.

—Helen Keller

A happy life is one spent in learning, earning, and yearning.

—Lillian Gish

All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure.

—Mark Twain

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

—Mahatma Gandhi

Whatever you are, be a good one.

—Abraham Lincoln

Sometimes if you want to see a change for the better, you have to take things into your own hands.

—Clint Eastwood

We acquire the strength we have overcome.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Brevity is the soul of wit.

—William Shakespeare

Courage is being scared to death…and saddling up anyway.

—John Wayne

The most courageous act is still to think for yourself. Aloud.

—Coco Chanel

Creativity takes courage.

—Henri Matisse

It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.

—Aristotle

It is not in the stars to hold
our destiny but in ourselves.

—William Shakespeare

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.

—Will Rogers

Being uncool is being pretty much the coolest you can be.

—Rufus Wainwright

Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be.

—Abraham Lincoln

Logic will take you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.

—Albert Einstein

To know what you know and what you do not know, that is true knowledge.

—Confucius

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

—Benjamin Franklin

I am not afraid of storms for I am learning how to sail my ship.

—Louisa May Alcott

The minute that you're not learning I believe you're dead.

—Jack Nicholson

Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.

—Confucius

Don't cry because it's over.
Smile because it happened.

—Dr. Seuss

If you always do what interests you, at least one person is pleased.

—Katharine Hepburn

The secret of getting ahead is getting started.

—Mark Twain

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.

—Arthur Ashe

When you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see.

—Henry David Thoreau

The most effective way to do it, is to do it.

—Amelia Earhart

You've got to go out on a limb sometimes because that's where the fruit is.

—Will Rogers

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

—Nelson Mandela

Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten.

—B.F. Skinner

It is better to know some of the questions than all of the answers.

—James Thurber

Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.

—Henry Ford

It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.

—Harry S. Truman

You can observe a lot by watching.

—Yogi Berra

The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and falling short, but in setting our aim too low and achieving our mark.

—Michelangelo

He who opens a school door, closes a prison.

—Victor Hugo

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Nine-tenths of wisdom is being wise in time.

—Theodore Roosevelt

Never mistake motion for action.

—Ernest Hemingway

My only fault is that I don't realize how great I really am.

—Muhammad Ali

Set your course by the stars, not by the lights of every passing ship.

—Omar N. Bradley

The road to success is always under construction.

—Arnold Palmer

Success is often achieved by those who don’t know that failure is inevitable.

—Coco Chanel

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.

—Winston Churchill

I begin with an idea and then it becomes something else.

—Pablo Picasso

Tact is the art of making a point without making an enemy.

—Isaac Newton

Anyone who has begun to think, places some portion of the world in jeopardy.

—John Dewey

The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

I believe things cannot make themselves impossible.

—Stephen Hawking

Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way.

—Booker T. Washington

The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary.

—Vince Lombardi

Education is the best provision for old age.

—Aristotle

What you are will show in what you do.

—Thomas Edison

Habit is the nursery of errors.

—Victor Hugo

Stay hungry, stay foolish.

—Steve Jobs

Life itself is the proper binge.

—Julia Child

Things turn out best for the people who make the best of the way things turn out.

—John Wooden

In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.

—Abraham Lincoln

You always pass failure on your way to success.

—Mickey Rooney

Knowledge speaks, but wisdom listens.

—Jimi Hendrix

Every cloud engenders not a storm.

—William Shakespeare

Art is what you can get away with.

—Andy Warhol

Every strike brings me closer to the next home run.

—Babe Ruth

If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing.

—Benjamin Franklin

A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of Nature.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

To lead the people, walk behind them.

—Lao-Tzu

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

—Mahatma Gandhi

Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known.

—Carl Sagan

You can't build a reputation on what you are going to do.

—Henry Ford

It is never too late to be what you might have been.

—George Eliot, British author (1819-1880)

This world is but canvas to our imaginations.

—Henry David Thoreau

The worst thing that happens to you may be the best thing for you if you don't let it get the best of you.

—Will Rogers

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