

A-6 TECHNIQUES

QUALITIES FOR GOOD USY LEADERSHIP  
HOW TO DEVELOP THEM

Philadelphia Region

Leadership is the art of influencing people to cooperate towards a goal which they come to find desirable. A good leader recognizes abilities in others and encourages their development in creative channels towards that goal. Leadership is not what any single person, usually the leader, does, but is any action by any member which helps the group to move in the direction it wishes to move. Leadership can best be described as a set of services to a group, not as a personality.

A. Subjective traits of a good leader

1. Conviction and Integrity
  - (a) Set the example for the way of life you advocate.
  - (b) Never make promises you cannot keep.
2. Sincerity
  - (a) Display a genuine interest in others.
  - (b) The good of the USY and your local chapter is of primary importance, all other considerations are secondary.
3. Dependability and Thoroughness
  - (a) Be punctual.
  - (b) Assume responsibility willingly.
  - (c) Follow through whatever you start to a successful conclusion.
4. Tact
  - (a) Say only good things of others. Avoid any gossip.
  - (b) Never make any corrections or offer personal rebukes publicly.
  - (c) Never by-pass anyone in authority. Consult frequently with your Rabbi and leader.

5. Initiative
    - (a) Do not be hampered in your work by custom or precedent.
    - (b) Display originality and resourcefulness.
  6. Friendliness
    - (a) Greet your members with a warm smile and address them by name.
    - (b) Remember the Simchas and share in the sorrows of others.
  7. Fairness
    - (a) Give credit often to those who deserve it.
    - (b) Do not jump to conclusions.
    - (c) Make no judgments based on insufficient information.
    - (d) Abide by the will of the majority.
  8. Able Speaker
    - (a) Be sure of your facts.
    - (b) Modulate your voice to a pleasant pitch.
    - (c) Be concise and clear and avoid being repetitious.
    - (d) Remember you cannot retract a word once uttered, so think before you speak.
    - (e) Be brief.
  9. Attractive Personality
    - (a) Practice good posture.
    - (b) Try to rid yourself of nervous mannerisms.
    - (c) Be immaculate and neatly dressed.
    - (d) Be a good listener.
    - (e) Retain your sense of proportion and good humor. Neither be over critical or over-sensitive.
  10. Enthusiasm
    - (a) Try to be cheerful and optimistic.
    - (b) Do not allow temporary failure to discourage or side-track your efforts.
    - (c) Have faith in your fellow-members. Your projected picture of them will encourage a higher standard of interest and participation.
  11. Executive Ability  
Ability to organize; ability to involve and train other members.
- B. Skills a leader needs
1. Knowledge of how to organize - to be able to see the whole job, and then how to divide into units.

