

SAMPLE PRESENTATION DESCRIPTIONS

Keynotes + Training Segments + Webinars

THE UNWRITTEN RULES OF MANAGING UP: SURVIVING THE “DIFFICULT BOSS”...AND THRIVING

Unfortunately, too many corporate workplaces have degenerated into an “us” vs. “them” mentality where managers and subordinates talk past each other, label the other as “difficult”, and miss valuable opportunities to team and collaborate for joint success. A key to success for virtually everyone in the workplace is adopting a “managing up” mentality that focuses on how each of us can help our bosses (and other senior leaders) be successful – even if they’re not the “perfect boss”. This presentation defines “managing up” – what it is/isn’t, then explores proven techniques for managing up with a few common varieties of the “difficult boss”:



“THE TORNADO”

I hope you don’t mind me intimidating everyone with my overbearing nature at your team meetings... I’m just trying to help you speed things along.



“THE CLUELESS CHAMELEON”

I’m not exactly clear on what I’m looking for, but I’ll be sure to hold you responsible when I don’t get it!



“THE WISHFUL THINKER”

Would you please boil the ocean? (and solve world peace too while you’re at it)



“THE WISHFUL THINKER”

“I know I asked you to manage this one, but I’ve got a few ideas on how you should handle it...and could you give me a daily update just to be sure we’re on the same page?”

Participants will learn ...

- Techniques for effectively managing an overbearing or chaotic personality type
- How to use risk analysis to present sensitive information and manage difficult discussions
- The benefits of using team charters and other techniques to provide clarity in low communication environments

For an overview of some of the “managing up” tips provided in this session, please view this [training video](#).

SECRETS OF THE THOROUGHbred LEADER

Think back to the best leader you ever had. Did they have a magical quality that made you want to walk on hot coals if they asked? Do you have those same leadership qualities? Oftentimes, we assume that being that “great leader” is out of reach for us because we don’t have that charismatic personality, but that’s not true! Most of us can dramatically improve our leadership abilities and become the leaders that teams love by rebalancing our task/relationship focus. This presentation explains why the “Thoroughbred Leader” is not only respected but embraced. We will share characteristics that define the “Thoroughbred Leader and explain how their approach differs from other leadership styles. You will learn intervention techniques that leaders can use to manage delicate conflict situations and also learn why it’s critical to establish team charters. You will leave with specific tools and techniques that you can implement immediately to enhance your leadership skills!

Participants will learn ...

- The special sauce that makes amazing leaders amazing
- To identify their placement on the “Task/Relationship” leadership style continuum
- Strategies Thoroughbred Leaders use to proactively build a culture of accountability
- How Thoroughbred Leaders set goals that truly motivate
- Techniques that Thoroughbred Leaders use to communicate clearly
- Specific tools and techniques that leaders can use to clarify expectations and get everyone on the same page
- Tips for delegating smart (and being able to still sleep at night)

For an introduction to this topic area, please watch these two training videos: [3 Leadership Styles](#) and [Becoming a Thoroughbred Leader](#).



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NO MORE SLACKERS!!! BUILDING A CULTURE OF ACCOUNTABILITY IN YOUR ORGANIZATION

Organizations thrive when individual departments or business units are highly collaborative and accountable to one another. Similarly on an individual level, team success often hinges on its ability to foster a group of highly accountable individuals. Unfortunately, too often managers and team leaders are saddled with “slackers” who simply don’t follow through on tasks or action items as promised. This presentation explores this accountability dilemma and provides specific facilitation techniques that you can use to foster a culture of accountability within your team. It is this “culture of accountability” that encourages each team member to place a higher priority on following through on tasks, respect due dates, and ultimately focus on coming through for the team every time! We will explore the importance of action items – how to document/assign them the right way and how to manage them on an ongoing basis. We will also explore different options for how to communicate with the slacker team member and provide a recommended approach that insists on accountability while maintaining positive relationships. Don’t let slackers drag down the productivity.

Participants will learn ...

- What a “culture of accountability” is and why it’s important
- Techniques for infusing accountability into the “team DNA”
- Best practices that leaders can use to encourage individual accountability and set someone up for success
- The importance of balancing focus on accountability and relationship building/maintenance

For an introduction to this topic area, please watch this brief [training video](#).

EMBRACING CHANGE WITH CONFIDENCE

Do you feel as if your world is constantly changing and you can’t keep up? Do you work in an environment where the only constant is change? Are you leading an organization where change is a fact of life yesterday, today, and forever? If so, this presentation is for YOU! Learn the five steps of accepting change and how to navigate them successfully. Explore key mistakes that many leaders make when faced with leading change and learn key components of a change management plan and tips for leading staff through a change more effectively. Managing change can be a lifelong challenge – learn simple techniques to help you begin to embrace change in your daily life.

Participants will learn ...

- The reality of change – what is it and why is it so difficult to manage?
- The five critical steps of accepting change
- Elements of a successful change management plan
- Learn key principles for leading change in the workplace and moving an organization from fear to commitment

For an overview of some of the “managing up” tips provided in this session, please view this [training video](#).



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PROJECT MANAGEMENT SECRETS TO ENHANCE YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Today's leaders are being asked to do more with less in increasingly challenging workplace environments, and the undeniable truth is that "project management" isn't just for project managers. Virtually everyone will manage a project at some point in their career. Project managers are constantly tasked with simultaneously controlling time, cost, and quality while being challenged to motivate their cross functional teams. Many of these project management principles can easily be applied to enhance leadership abilities as well. If you're a leader who is often frustrated by slacking team members, difficult projects to manage, and constant workplace miscommunications, this presentation is for you! You will leave with specific tips and techniques you can begin to use immediately to enhance your leadership abilities.

Participants will learn ...

- How to effectively handle the team slacker
- The benefits of using a project charter and scope analysis to help get stakeholders on the same page before the project begins
- The three magic questions of task assignment
- Best practices to enhance team communications
- Specific project management techniques that any leader can apply to enhance individual and team effectiveness
- The importance of conducting risk analysis early on

For an introduction to this topic area, please watch these this [training video](#).

FACILITATION SKILLS FOR THOSE TRICKY MEETING SITUATIONS

As individual contributors and business leaders we're often charged with leading meetings and guiding a team towards a common goal. But what do you do when you've got a group of difficult personalities to contend with in your session? This can be a particular challenge as leaders feel the need to firmly and confidently address issues as needed while also maintaining positive relationships with team members. If you're often flustered by difficult personalities in your meetings and not quite sure how to manage them effectively, this presentation is for YOU! When you use these tips and techniques, you will not only benefit through increased productivity but also enhance your credibility with your team. Whether you are new to the workforce or a seasoned executive, these are the facilitation secrets you need to know!

Participants will learn ...

- How to use facilitation techniques to help a team reach a goal
- Techniques for effectively managing the slacker/unprepared meeting attendee (case study presented)
- How to address the dominator without shutting them down
- How to reign in the rambling attendee and keep your meeting on track
- Tips for making meetings more efficient

For an introduction to this topic area, please watch this brief [training video](#).

MOMPREENURSHIP: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

For many moms entrepreneurship sounds perfect - trading the corporate jungle or the stay at home grind for a utopian balance of pilates in the morning and business calls in the afternoon (promptly ending at 3:00 to make carpool). But, the truth is that the reality often comes with twists and turns and more than a few lessons learned. In this presentation we'll explore the good, the bad, and the ugly of entrepreneurship based on Dana's personal experience.

Participants will learn ...

- Common misconceptions about entrepreneurship
- 3 key questions that everyone should ask before pulling the trigger on their entrepreneurial idea
- Valuable tips for getting media attention for your business
- Practical takeaways that can help you on your journey

