

Traits of Successful Project Managers

Successful project managers exhibit the following traits:

- Results-oriented, can-do individual;
- Good head for details;
- Strong commitment to the project;
- Aware of organizational goals;
- Politically savvy;
- Cost conscious;
- Understand business basics;
- Understand needs of staff, customers, and management;
- Cope with ambiguity, setbacks, and disappointments;
- Good negotiating skills; and
- Appropriate technical skills.

Capable of building teams with the following characteristics:

- clear and realistic goals;
- well-defined deliverables;
- a proper mix of skills;
- a proper level of education/skills among team members;
- adequate tools to do the job;
- Discipline (e.g., a communication plan, regular meetings, well-defined documentation);
- cohesion and the capacity to reach consensus readily;
- a structure that is appropriate to the work that needs to be done;
- the ability to integrate diversity;
- the ability to achieve the desired results; and
- the ability to work with customers effectively.