

What If I Want to Be a Better Employee?



By Nathan Sachs,
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ALL EMPLOYEES THINK they know what it would take to be a better manager or a better employer. Often they might see the relationship only from their perspective and not from the perspective of the manager or employer. This is particularly so when the manager or the employer is also the business owner.

What would it take to be a better employee? Let's start with the simple stuff. Always show up on time. Do what you say you're going to do. Finish what you start.

Now let's raise the bar a little. How about we always view the situation from the eyes of the business owner? Don't just use common sense, use your imagination. Constantly look for ways to create value for your place of employment. Handle situations calmly. Never get angry. When under pressure, demonstrate grace and dignity. Don't be afraid to break out of your comfort zone. If you have nothing to do, find something to do. You are paid

for results but employers also like to see activity.

Always strive to be on the client or customer's agenda, not on your own. Try to think entrepreneurial, the owner of your business does. Stick to your morals and beliefs at all times. Try to bond with your fellow employees. Act like a superstar ... demonstrate bravado.

Be confident. Accept challenges and overcome them. Learn how to handle rejection. Manage your time wisely. Think strategically. Don't insist on guarantees, gamble on yourself. Never lie. Learn people's names and use them. Create opportunities for yourself. Be proactive and not reactive. Dislike clutter, and don't create it. Promise a lot and deliver more. Say less and do more. Learn to be a better listener and less of a talker.

Employers want employees to be innovators and dreamers, not robots. Every day ask yourself, if you owned the business that you worked for, would you hire you? ■

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