

Leadership Styles

There are many different leadership styles. Different styles work in different situations. A team will be a stronger with a variety of different leadership styles. Take the quiz below to help you find out what leadership style you are more inclined to follow.

Leadership Style Quiz

Circle the response that reflects your first reaction. There is no right or wrong answer.

As a leader, I tend to...

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Never
1. Make my own decisions	4	3	2	1
2. Tell others what to do	4	3	2	1
3. Suggest a decision to others	4	3	2	1
4. Persuade others to do things my way	4	3	2	1
5. Participate just like any other person	4	3	2	1
6. Provide resources to others	4	3	2	1
7. Gather others' feedback before deciding	4	3	2	1
8. Rely on my own judgement	4	3	2	1
9. Make sure the majority rules	4	3	2	1
10. Turn decision over to others	4	3	2	1
11. Ask others to brainstorm choices	4	3	2	1
12. Share my own ideas	4	3	2	1

Add the numbers together from the following set of questions. The highest number will show what leadership style that seems natural for you. You should strive to understand different leadership styles and think of ways you might use them for different situations.

Add the numbers you circled for the following questions	Total	Leadership Style
Question 1, 2, 4, 8	_____	Autocratic
Question 3, 7, 9, 11	_____	Participatory
Question 5, 6, 10, 12	_____	Free Rein

This exercise comes from the Dynamic Leadership Handbook.

Autocratic—This leadership style is more direct and controlling. People tend to be more orientated towards productivity and goals. Their strength is to get things done and make quick decisions. Autocratic leaders take authority and go headfirst in solving problems. They like freedom to manage themselves and others. They tend to measure their success by the items of task/activities they get done.

Participatory—This leadership style requires input from others. People tend to be more concerned about the process of how the decisions are made and that everyone has a voice. Participatory leaders tend to make decisions in a slow, thoughtful process. Generally, these people are good listeners and cooperative.

Free Rein—This leadership style is more relaxed and supportive. People who are free rein tend to be your regular old Joe. Details are not much of a concern, because things will get done. They are comfortable with teamwork and group activities.