DOs and DON’Ts for Working Effectively with Every Generation

DO ...

☑ Recognize and accept that generational differences naturally influence our ideas, expectations, values, perceptions, and behaviors at work.

☑ Accept that you can learn from others’ different life experiences, perspectives, and approaches – just as others can learn from yours.

☑ Be willing to flex your natural style and preferences in order to work more effectively with all of your colleagues. Continually remind yourself that increased cooperation and collaboration result in greater success for EVERYONE!

☑ Remember that each individual brings something special to the table. Each person represents a piece that must be present in order for your organizational puzzle to be complete.

☑ Focus on what really matters: productivity, teamwork, customer service, and mutual success.

DON’T ...

✗ Stereotype! Avoid judging your colleagues’ capabilities by what they wear, how they approach tasks, or what hours they seem to work.

✗ Ridicule others. Avoid derogatory labels like “dinosaur,” “punk kid,” “bureaucrat,” etc., that are disrespectful, degrading, and counterproductive to group cohesion.

✗ Assume that all members of any given generation think and behave exactly the same. While trends and similarities will exist within age groups, members of those groups still are INDIVIDUALS and should be treated as such.

✗ Entertain the arrogant belief that your way is the best and only way. If you catch yourself falling into that trap, take a moment to reflect on the successes your team has experienced from diverse people and approaches.

✗ Presume that your time, your ideas, your feelings, or your individual goals are more important than those of your colleagues.

This Solution Finder comes from Generations Working Together.
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