



# The One Minute Manager

enneth Blanchard and Spencer Johnson



# **Book summary & main ideas**

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## Summary:

The One Minute Manager is a book written by Kenneth Blanchard and Spencer Johnson. It was first published in 1982 and has since become one of the most popular business books of all time. The book focuses on three key management techniques: setting goals, giving feedback, and rewarding good performance.

The authors argue that effective managers should be able to manage their employees quickly and efficiently with minimal effort. They suggest that managers can do this by using the "One Minute Manager" technique which involves setting clear expectations for employees, providing regular feedback on their progress towards



those goals, and rewarding them when they meet or exceed those expectations.

The book also provides advice on how to handle difficult situations such as dealing with poor performance or conflict between team members. It emphasizes the importance of communication between manager and employee in order to ensure everyone is working together towards common objectives.

Overall, The One Minute Manager offers an easy-to-follow guide for busy managers who want to get more out of their teams without having to spend too much time managing them. By following its simple yet effective principles, any manager can learn how to effectively lead their team while still maintaining a healthy work/life balance.

### Main ideas:

#1. Set Goals: The One Minute



Manager encourages setting goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. This helps to ensure that employees are working towards a common goal and that their efforts are focused and productive.

The One Minute Manager encourages setting goals that are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound. This helps to ensure that employees have a clear understanding of what is expected of them and how their efforts will contribute to the overall success of the organization. By setting SMART goals – Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound – employees can focus on tasks that are important for achieving organizational objectives.

Setting SMART goals also allows managers to track progress towards those objectives more easily. It provides an



opportunity for feedback between manager and employee so they can adjust strategies as needed in order to reach desired outcomes. Additionally, it gives employees a sense of ownership over their work by allowing them to take responsibility for meeting their own targets.

Overall, setting SMART goals is an effective way for organizations to ensure that everyone is working together towards common objectives while still giving individuals autonomy over their own work. It creates a culture where everyone understands what needs to be done in order achieve success.

#2. Praise: The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of praising employees for their efforts and accomplishments. This helps to build morale and encourages employees to



#### continue to strive for excellence.

The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of praising employees for their efforts and accomplishments. Praise is an important tool in any managers arsenal, as it helps to build morale and encourages employees to continue striving for excellence. When a manager takes the time to recognize an employees hard work or success, it can have a powerful effect on that individuals motivation and productivity. It also serves as a reminder that their contributions are valued by the organization.

Praise should be given frequently but sincerely; managers should avoid empty compliments or generic praise which may not be taken seriously. Instead, they should focus on specific achievements or behaviors that deserve recognition. Additionally, when giving praise, managers



should make sure to explain why they are recognizing someone's effort â€" this will help them understand what kind of behavior is expected from them in the future.

Finally, it is important for managers to remember that praise does not always need to come with tangible rewards such as bonuses or promotions; sometimes simply acknowledging someone's hard work can be enough incentive for them to keep up their good performance.

#3. Delegate: The One Minute
Manager encourages managers to
delegate tasks to employees in order to
maximize efficiency and productivity.
This helps to ensure that tasks are
completed in a timely manner and that
employees are given the opportunity to
develop their skills.



Delegation is an important part of effective management. The One Minute Manager encourages managers to delegate tasks to employees in order to maximize efficiency and productivity. This helps ensure that tasks are completed on time, while also giving employees the opportunity to develop their skills and take ownership of their work. Delegating tasks can help create a sense of responsibility among team members, as well as foster collaboration between them.

When delegating tasks, it's important for managers to provide clear instructions and expectations so that everyone understands what needs to be done. It's also essential for managers to give feedback on how the task was handled so that employees can learn from their mistakes and improve in the future. By delegating effectively, managers can empower their teams with greater



autonomy while still maintaining control over projects.

#4. Listen: The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of listening to employees in order to understand their needs and concerns. This helps to foster a positive working environment and encourages employees to feel valued and appreciated.

The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of listening to employees in order to understand their needs and concerns. Listening is an essential part of effective communication, as it allows managers to gain insight into what their employees are thinking and feeling. By taking the time to listen, managers can better identify potential problems or areas for improvement within the workplace. Additionally, actively listening shows that a manager values their employee's opinions



and ideas, which helps foster a positive working environment where everyone feels appreciated.

Listening also encourages open dialogue between management and staff members. This creates an atmosphere of trust and respect between both parties, allowing them to work together more effectively towards common goals. Furthermore, by understanding each other's perspectives on various issues, they can come up with creative solutions that benefit everyone involved.

In conclusion, The One Minute Manager highlights the importance of listening when managing people in order to create a productive work environment where everyone feels valued and respected. Taking the time to truly listen will help build strong relationships between management and staff while also helping identify



potential problems or areas for improvement.

#5. Set Expectations: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to set clear expectations for employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are held accountable for their work and that they are motivated to do their best.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to set clear expectations for their employees. This helps ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner, while also holding employees accountable for their work. By setting expectations, managers can motivate their team members to do their best and strive for excellence.



When setting expectations, it is important to be specific about what needs to be done and when it should be completed by. It is also important to provide feedback on how well the task was performed so that employees know where they stand with regards to meeting the goals set out by management. Additionally, providing rewards or incentives can help further motivate employees.

By taking the time to properly set expectations with your team members, you will create an environment of trust and respect which will lead to better performance from everyone involved. Setting clear expectations not only ensures that tasks are completed in a timely manner but also helps foster a positive working relationship between manager and employee.

#### #6. Provide Feedback: The One



Minute Manager encourages managers to provide feedback to employees in order to help them improve their performance. This helps to ensure that employees are aware of their strengths and weaknesses and that they are given the opportunity to grow and develop.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide feedback to employees in order to help them improve their performance. This helps create an environment of open communication and trust between the manager and employee, which is essential for successful team dynamics. By providing timely, constructive feedback, managers can ensure that employees are aware of their strengths and weaknesses and given the opportunity to grow and develop.

Feedback should be specific, actionable,



measurable, relevant, timely and consistent. It should also be delivered in a respectful manner with clear expectations for improvement. Additionally, it's important that both positive reinforcement as well as corrective criticism are provided so that employees feel supported while still being held accountable for their work.

By following these guidelines when providing feedback on employee performance, managers can foster an atmosphere of growth within their teams while helping each individual reach his or her full potential.

#7. Reward: The One Minute
Manager encourages managers to
reward employees for their efforts and
accomplishments. This helps to
motivate employees and encourages
them to continue to strive for
excellence.



The One Minute Manager encourages managers to reward employees for their efforts and accomplishments. This is an important part of the management process, as it helps to motivate employees and encourages them to continue striving for excellence. Rewards can come in many forms, such as verbal praise, a bonus or raise, additional vacation time, or even recognition at company events. By recognizing employee achievements with rewards that are meaningful to them, managers can help foster a positive work environment where everyone feels appreciated.

Rewards also serve another purpose: they provide feedback on how well an employee is performing. When someone receives a reward for their hard work and dedication, it sends the message that their efforts have been noticed and valued by the organization. This type of feedback



reinforces good behavior and motivates people to keep up the good work.

Ultimately, rewarding employees is essential for creating a successful workplace culture where everyone feels motivated and engaged in their job duties. The One Minute Manager provides valuable guidance on how best to use rewards effectively so that all team members feel recognized for their contributions.

#8. Monitor Performance: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to monitor the performance of employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are held accountable for their work and that they are motivated to do their best.



The One Minute Manager encourages managers to monitor the performance of their employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed on time and with quality results. This monitoring process helps to hold employees accountable for their work, as well as motivate them to do their best. By regularly checking in with employees and providing feedback, managers can help create an environment where everyone is working together towards a common goal.

Monitoring performance also allows managers to identify areas where improvement is needed or recognize when an employee has gone above and beyond expectations. This type of recognition can be incredibly motivating for employees, helping them feel valued and appreciated for the hard work they put into their job. Additionally, it gives managers insight into how different team members are



performing so they can make adjustments if necessary.

Overall, monitoring performance is essential for any successful organization. It ensures that tasks are being completed efficiently while also recognizing individual contributions from each member of the team.

#9. Communicate: The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of communication between managers and employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are aware of their responsibilities and that they are given the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of communication between



managers and employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. Effective communication is essential for any successful business, as it allows managers to provide clear instructions and expectations to their staff, while also allowing employees to ask questions or voice concerns. This helps create an environment where everyone understands what needs to be done and how they can contribute towards achieving organizational goals.

Communication also provides an opportunity for feedback from both sides. Managers can use this feedback to make sure that tasks are being completed correctly, while employees can use it as a way of expressing their ideas or opinions on how things could be improved. By creating an open dialogue between manager and employee, organizations can



foster a culture of collaboration which will ultimately lead to better results.

Ultimately, effective communication is key when it comes to managing people effectively. The One Minute Manager encourages managers and employees alike to take the time necessary for meaningful conversations so that everyone involved has the information they need in order to do their job well.

#10. Set Deadlines: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to set deadlines for tasks in order to ensure that they are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are held accountable for their work and that they are motivated to do their best.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to set deadlines for tasks in



order to ensure that they are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to create an environment of accountability, as employees know that their work must be done by a certain date or else there will be consequences. Setting deadlines also motivates employees, as it gives them something tangible to strive towards and provides them with the satisfaction of completing their task on time.

Deadlines can also help managers stay organized and prioritize tasks more effectively. By setting deadlines, managers can better plan out how long each task should take and when it needs to be finished by. This allows them to focus on the most important tasks first while still ensuring that all other tasks are completed within the allotted timeframe.

Overall, setting deadlines is an effective way for managers to ensure that their



team is productive and motivated. It creates an atmosphere of accountability while providing employees with clear goals they need to reach in order for everyone involved to succeed.

#11. Provide Resources: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide employees with the resources they need in order to complete their tasks in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are given the opportunity to develop their skills and that they are able to work effectively.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide employees with the resources they need in order to complete their tasks in a timely and efficient manner. This helps ensure that employees are given the opportunity to develop their skills and work effectively. Resources can



include anything from access to technology, such as computers or software programs, to training materials or mentorship opportunities. By providing these resources, managers can help create an environment where employees feel supported and empowered.

Managers should also strive to make sure that all of the necessary resources are available when needed. This means ensuring that there is enough equipment for everyone on staff, making sure that any software programs used by the team are up-to-date, and having a plan in place for how new technologies will be implemented if needed. Additionally, it's important for managers to stay informed about changes in industry standards so they can provide their teams with relevant information.

Finally, it's essential for managers to communicate clearly with their teams



about what resources are available and how they should be used. Employees should understand why certain tools or processes have been chosen over others so they know how best utilize them within their roles.

#12. Encourage Teamwork: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to foster a team environment in order to maximize efficiency and productivity. This helps to ensure that employees are working together towards a common goal and that their efforts are focused and productive.

Encouraging teamwork is an important part of the One Minute Manager philosophy. By creating a team environment, managers can ensure that employees are working together towards a common goal and that their efforts are focused and productive. This helps to



maximize efficiency and productivity, as well as create a sense of camaraderie among coworkers.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to foster this team atmosphere by providing clear direction on tasks, setting expectations for performance, recognizing individual contributions, and celebrating successes. Additionally, it is important for managers to provide feedback in order to help employees understand how they can improve their work or better contribute to the team effort.

By encouraging teamwork through these methods, the One Minute Manager ensures that everyone is working together towards success. This creates an environment where each employee feels valued and appreciated for their contribution while also feeling like they are



part of something bigger than themselves.

#13. Manage Time: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to manage their time effectively in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are given the opportunity to develop their skills and that they are able to work effectively.

Managing time is an essential skill for any manager. The One Minute Manager encourages managers to use their time wisely in order to ensure that tasks are completed on time and efficiently. This helps create a productive work environment where employees can develop their skills and be successful. By managing their own time, managers can also set a good example for their team members by showing them how important it is to stay organized and prioritize tasks.



The One Minute Manager suggests breaking down large projects into smaller chunks so that they are easier to manage. It also recommends setting deadlines for each task so that progress can be tracked easily. Additionally, the book emphasizes the importance of taking regular breaks throughout the day in order to remain focused and energized while working.

By following these tips from The One Minute Manager, managers will be able to effectively manage their own time as well as help guide their team members towards success. Time management is an invaluable skill which will benefit both employers and employees alike.

#14. Provide Support: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide support to employees in order to ensure that tasks are



completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are given the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback and that they are given the resources they need to succeed.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide support to their employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed efficiently and on time. This support can come in many forms, such as providing resources, answering questions, and offering feedback. By doing this, managers create an environment where employees feel comfortable asking for help when needed and have the tools they need to succeed.

This type of supportive management style also helps build trust between manager and employee. When a manager is willing to take the time to answer questions or



offer advice it shows that they care about their teams success. It also allows employees to develop better problem-solving skills since they know there is someone available who will listen and help them find solutions.

Providing support is essential for any successful business relationship. The One Minute Manager emphasizes the importance of creating an atmosphere where both parties feel comfortable communicating openly with each other so that everyone can work together towards achieving common goals.

#15. Foster Creativity: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to foster a creative environment in order to maximize efficiency and productivity. This helps to ensure that employees are given the opportunity to think outside the box and that their



## ideas are valued and appreciated.

Fostering creativity is an important part of being a successful manager. The One Minute Manager encourages managers to create an environment that allows employees to think outside the box and come up with creative solutions to problems. This helps ensure that employees feel valued and appreciated, which in turn leads to increased efficiency and productivity.

The One Minute Manager suggests several ways for managers to foster creativity among their team members. These include providing opportunities for brainstorming sessions, encouraging open dialogue between team members, allowing time for experimentation and exploration, recognizing innovative ideas, and rewarding those who take risks or come up with new solutions.



By creating a culture of innovation within the workplace, managers can help their teams become more productive while also giving them the freedom they need to be creative. By fostering creativity in this way, managers can ensure that their teams are able to reach their full potential.

#16. Develop Relationships: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to develop relationships with employees in order to foster a positive working environment. This helps to ensure that employees feel valued and appreciated and that they are given the opportunity to grow and develop.

Developing relationships with employees is an important part of being a successful manager. The One Minute Manager encourages managers to take the time to get to know their employees, understand



their strengths and weaknesses, and build trust between them. This helps create an environment where employees feel comfortable expressing themselves and can work together more effectively.

By developing relationships with employees, managers are able to provide feedback in a constructive way that will help the employee grow professionally. Managers should also be open to hearing ideas from their team members and encouraging collaboration among them. This allows for better problem solving as well as improved communication within the workplace.

The One Minute Manager emphasizes that building strong relationships with your team is essential for creating a positive working environment. By taking the time to get to know each individual on your team, you can foster an atmosphere of respect



and appreciation which will lead to greater productivity and success.

#17. Lead by Example: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to lead by example in order to ensure that employees are motivated to do their best. This helps to ensure that employees are held accountable for their work and that they are given the opportunity to learn from their mistakes.

Leading by example is an important part of being a successful manager. The One Minute Manager encourages managers to lead by example in order to ensure that employees are motivated and held accountable for their work. By leading by example, managers can demonstrate the desired behavior and set expectations for their team members. This helps create an environment where employees feel



comfortable taking risks and learning from mistakes.

The One Minute Manager also emphasizes the importance of providing feedback to employees in order to help them improve their performance. Managers should provide timely, constructive feedback so that employees know what they need to do differently or better next time. This will help foster a culture of continuous improvement within the organization.

Finally, leading by example means setting clear goals and objectives for your team members so that everyone knows what is expected of them. When goals are clearly defined, it makes it easier for everyone on the team to stay focused on achieving those goals.

## #18. Provide Recognition: The One



Minute Manager encourages managers to provide recognition to employees in order to motivate them and encourage them to continue to strive for excellence. This helps to ensure that employees are aware of their accomplishments and that they are given the opportunity to grow and develop.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to provide recognition to employees in order to motivate them and encourage them to continue striving for excellence. Recognition can come in many forms, such as verbal praise, awards or bonuses, public acknowledgement of accomplishments, or even a simple pat on the back. By providing recognition for their hard work and dedication, employees are more likely to feel appreciated and valued by their employer. This helps create an environment where employees are



motivated and inspired to do their best work.

Recognition also serves as a form of positive reinforcement that reinforces desired behaviors among employees. When they receive recognition for doing something well, it encourages them to repeat those same behaviors in the future. Additionally, when people know that they will be recognized for good performance it gives them incentive to strive harder and achieve greater success.

Providing recognition is an important part of being a successful manager because it shows your team members that you value their contributions and appreciate all the hard work they put into achieving results. It also helps build morale within the workplace which leads to increased productivity levels.



#19. Manage Conflict: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to manage conflict in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are given the opportunity to resolve their differences and that they are able to work together effectively.

The One Minute Manager encourages managers to manage conflict in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This involves actively listening to both sides of the argument, understanding each persons point of view, and helping them come up with solutions that work for everyone involved. It is important for managers to remain impartial during these conversations so as not to take sides or make judgments about either party. Additionally, it is essential for managers to provide clear expectations



and guidelines on how conflicts should be handled going forward.

Managers should also strive to create an environment where employees feel comfortable expressing their opinions without fear of retribution or criticism. This can help foster open communication between team members which can lead to better problem solving skills when disagreements arise. Finally, it is important for managers to recognize when a situation has become too heated and needs outside intervention such as mediation or counseling.

By taking the time necessary to properly manage conflict within their teams, managers can help ensure that tasks are completed efficiently while also creating an atmosphere of respect among all parties involved.



#20. Evaluate Performance: The One Minute Manager encourages managers to evaluate the performance of employees in order to ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to ensure that employees are held accountable for their work and that they are motivated to do their best.

Evaluating performance is an important part of the One Minute Managers approach to managing employees. By regularly assessing how well each employee is performing, managers can ensure that tasks are completed in a timely and efficient manner. This helps to hold employees accountable for their work and encourages them to strive for excellence.

The One Minute Manager suggests that managers should evaluate performance on a regular basis, such as once per month or



quarter. During these evaluations, it is important to provide constructive feedback so that employees understand what they need to do differently in order to improve their performance. Additionally, it is also beneficial for managers to recognize when an employee has done something well and reward them accordingly.

By evaluating performance on a regular basis, the One Minute Manager ensures that all employees are held accountable for their work while also motivating them with positive reinforcement. This helps create an environment where everyone feels valued and appreciated which ultimately leads to better results.

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