

## MAKING AN INFORMED CAREER MOVE: SHIFT INTO THE MANAGERIAL POSITION

Several areas need careful consideration when you are looking at a career switch. This is particularly important if you are considering a jump from a worker's or executive's profile to that of a managerial profile. What is it about being a manager that appeals to a large number of people? For some, it is the thrill of being able to order people around. Being in a position of power is extremely appealing for many; unfortunately, there is a notion that being a manager is more about delegating than doing. In reality, things couldn't be more different though. If a manager's position carries power over team members, it also brings with it additional responsibility. A manager could be entirely responsible for all work that is executed by his or her team. Conversely, if the team fails to meet the required objectives or goals, it is the manager who gets pulled up first, and then the team members. Keeping all this in mind then, do you think you are ready to move into a position of higher responsibility? Are you able to lead, organize and manage issues when things threaten to go out of hand? The test of a manager lies not only in managing everyday activities; a manager is responsible for the entire team, and its goals and responsibilities. In effect, a manager is the support system that a team banks upon. This support may also be called upon in times of crises or problems for the team members. The other aspects involved in moving into the managerial category include your ability to handle responsibility. You could be someone who handles responsibility and accountability well. In this case, shifting from worker to manager should not be too stressful for you. Moreover, you will be able to manage your team and company successfully. You could check whether or not you will be a good managerial fit by analyzing how well you respond to certain situations. For an even more objective view of your qualifications, try to take feedback on these questions from someone senior to you, such as your superior:

- Are you an initiative taker?
- When faced with a problem, do you prefer to resolve it or prefer to let your superiors think it out?
- Do you tend to feel bogged down with work often and wish that someone else takes over, even if temporarily? Do you frequently anticipate needs and requirements and act accordingly?
- Do you interact with your superior, often on your own, to find out more about operations and management?
- How do you respond to criticism? Do you get upset and are unable to work for several hours thereafter? To read more about managerial careers and to learn about hundreds of managerial job openings, visit ManagerCrossing.

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