

## CHAPTER 30 DRAFT BLUEPRINT: THE LEADERSHIP JOURNEY

As we wrap up this section on leadership, this worksheet is designed to help reflect on your personal leadership journey and set goals for leaving meaningful footprints, impactful fingerprints, and lasting imprints as a leader.



**Footprints** represent the path and the milestones.

It's about blazing new trails, charting the course, and pushing the envelope, as hard as it may seem. Oftentimes, it's about moving the needle to eventually move mountains, as I like to say it. It is about forging a path where none existed and creating a lasting legacy with a journey of authenticity, passion, and purpose breaking down barriers, biases, and boundaries along the way.

**Fingerprints** represent the work and the results.

It's about the handiwork in architecting a vision and the hands-on work to execute for impact. It's about the leadership demonstrated and influence exerted that profoundly changes not just the innovation but impacts the processes, the people, the culture, and the very DNA itself. It is the collaborating seamlessly across functions, boundaries, and silos to deliver meaningful results.

**Imprints** represent the impact on minds and hearts.

It's about the human element, which includes mentoring and coaching as well as building bridges and alliances. It requires empathy and empowerment. Imprints are the elements of a legacy that inspire others with enthusiasm while role-modeling the commitment and excitement that increases engagement with all stakeholders.

## FOOTPRINTS

Reflect on the path you've taken in your career journey. Consider the significant milestones, challenges overcome, and achievements attained thus far.

- What are the defining moments or experiences that have shaped my career path?
- How have I demonstrated resilience and adaptability in navigating challenges?
- What lessons have I learned from both successes and setbacks along the way?

*Defining Moments and Lessons Learned*

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## FINGERPRINTS

Reflect on the tangible results and contributions you've made in your career. Consider the projects you've worked on, innovations you've introduced, and the impact you've had on processes, people, and culture.

- What are some of the key projects or initiatives I've been involved in, and what were the outcomes?
- How have I influenced or transformed processes, teams, or organizational culture?
- What unique skills, strengths, or approaches do I bring to my work that leave a distinctive mark?

*Key Projects and Transformative Moments*

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## IMPRINTS

Reflect on the emotional and relational aspects of your career journey so far. Consider the relationships you've built, the mentorship you've provided, and the legacy you aspire to leave behind.

- How have I supported and empowered others in their career development?
- What meaningful connections or relationships have I formed in the workplace?
- What values and principles do I want to be remembered for, and how do I embody them in my interactions with others?

*Mentor(s):*

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*Their imprints on my life:*

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*Three ways I can influence and support others:*

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In the space below, write a brief summary of your overall leadership goals, considering the footprints, fingerprints, and imprints you aim to create. This could be a personal mission statement or a vision for your career journey.

*My goals:*

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### Cue the Qs

- *What new trails could I blaze? Charter the course? Bust barriers? Skills to develop?*
- *What could be a truly transformative contribution from my current or future work?*
- *What additional ways can I influence and support others on their leadership journeys?*

**ACTION PLAN:**

List three concrete steps you can take in the next 6-12 months to start progressing toward your leadership goals.

1 ..... Date.....

2 ..... Date.....

3 ..... Date.....

As you embark, or continue, on your own journey, consider maintaining a leadership journal. Each day, take a few moments to reflect on your experiences, interactions, and decisions. Ask yourself how you've left footprints, created fingerprints, or imprints. Write down your observations and insights. This exercise can help you gain insights into your career journey, identify areas for growth, and reaffirm your values and aspirations as a leader.

By consistently journaling, you can track your growth and evolution as a leader, understand the patterns of your impact, and ensure you're making meaningful contributions. Your journal becomes a living record of your leadership journey, revealing your unique footprints, fingerprints, and imprints along the way.

Leadership evolves in parallel with our understanding of self, our commitment to self-improvement, and our ability to inspire and empower others. This journey is intrinsically tied to our own self-growth. In the next section, we'll delve into the realm of self-growth, the cornerstone of effective leadership.

This journey within, just like our exploration of leadership, will undoubtedly leave a profound mark on the way we see ourselves, the world, and our place in it.