
Excellent leadership offers no excuses. The best leaders are proactive and do not wait for someone to tell them to find a solution, start the machinery, or take a shortcut. They take the initiative before being told. They are self-starters.

Initiative is an essential skill of leaders. It is what distinguishes a leader from a follower. There are plenty of excellent employees who are happy to follow directions, but initiative is powerful. Initiative changes the world. Who has taken initiative that has changed our world? Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Teresa, George Washington all took initiative that changed our world.

Are you making an excuse or taking initiative? Identify here what taking initiative means to you.

- What’s the first time you can remember taking initiative? How did it feel?
- How do you rate yourself on taking initiative in your current job?
- What prevents you from doing it more often? Do you want to?
- What will you do as a result of this activity?