

MindTeam Solutions

Effective Communications Tips for Success

These tips are specific actions you can take to improve or fine-tune specific skills. In time and with patience, you should observe a measurable improvement in your presentation skills.

Body Language

- Make yourself approachable. Smile. Make eye contact. Act "naturally" rather than stiffly or exaggeratedly.
- Move with purpose. Avoid jerky, quick, or repetitive movements. They make you appear nervous or anxious.
- Maintain socially-acceptable grooming standards—clean, moderate fragrances, hair, jewelry and clothing that does not distract.
- Give a firm, dry, warm handshake. Shake two or three times, then relax your grip and gently pull your hand away to end the handshake.
- Appear confident. Establish good posture, stride with a purpose, and keep your head and shoulders erect.
- Use "open" gestures. Sweep your hands and arms out towards the audience. Keep your palms up or out in an inviting and inclusive gesture.
- Make eye contact with each individual in the audience for approximately five seconds per person.
- Move towards the audience to include them and establish a relationship with them.
- Back away from the audience to end a train of thought or cut a discussion.
- Nod when you make a point on which you want your audience to agree. They will tend to nod along with you and agree subconsciously.

MindTeam Solutions, Inc. Great things happen when groups get together! www.MindTeamSolutions.com Tips from "Stuff for Busy People" pocket reference book series