

## Be The Woman On Top

It's not easy being a woman in a man's world, especially when you're building a career in a male-dominated industry. Even with the talk of equality between the sexes, a woman still has to work doubly hard to be respected and accepted in her chosen craft. With the right attitude and a positive outlook, however, this isn't impossible to achieve at all. In fact, it'll only be a matter of time before you find yourself the woman on top.

### Dress To Impress

In any high-powered industry, first impressions always last. That's why you always have to dress to impress - a philosophy that applies to both sexes.

As a woman, you want to be taken seriously. Dressing like a tart won't get you the respect you want. Dressing like a man, on the other hand, won't achieve the same thing. Indeed, in order to be taken seriously and respected, you need to dress the part.

Go for smart suits and elegant dresses that will give you an air of sophistication and professionalism. Be feminine and don't be afraid to use color. However, don't be too flamboyant and overly sexy either. This advice also applies to your shoes, bags, and other accessories. Your power dressing efforts won't go unnoticed.

### Speak Up

In a male-dominated industry, women make the mistake of keeping their head down and keeping a low profile on a regular basis. You do realize, however, that you have ideas, propositions, and solutions just as good as any, so don't be afraid to speak up and get yourself heard.

Contribute to meetings on a regular basis. Share your thoughts and opinions. Take the initiative to get your proposals implemented. In other words, go beyond the realm of your comfortable workload and get yourself noticed by the people who matter.

Do not, however, overdo it. Be assertive, but not aggressive. Aggression turns men off, and the men you work with are no exceptions. Of course, be sure to contribute useful stuff. Don't just speak out for the sake of doing so, or you'll only end up embarrassing yourself. Take the initiative only when you truly have something that you feel is useful to contribute.

### Keep Your Emotions in Check

A common reason why men are wary of working with women is the fact that women are more emotional rather than rational. When you hold a high-powered career in a fast-paced industry, emotions are a huge liability.

Don't succumb to feelings of rage, disappointment, or anger. If you need to cry or vent, make sure that your male colleagues won't see you at it. Keep your emotions in check as much as you can. Nobody wants to work with a cry-baby, and a drama queen isn't likely to be given a higher position.

Indeed, it can be difficult being a woman in a man's world. But like everything else, it's all a matter of survival. Only the fit survive, and only the fittest will succeed. You know that you do have what it takes, so don't hold back. Sooner or later, you'll find yourself the woman on top.

### About the Author

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