# **IGM Session**

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# **Boosting Your Confidence to Present Exceptional Ideas**

## **Article**

Confidence is the key to presenting exceptional ideas in the workplace. It is a skill that can be developed and enhanced over time. Confidence helps individuals to project credibility and competence, two critical attributes that can greatly benefit an employee's career growth. However, even the most confident people can have moments of anxiety when it comes to presenting their ideas. In this article, we provide tips to help you boost your confidence and present exceptional ideas in the workplace.

# **Understand Your Topic**

It is essential to have a thorough understanding of your topic before presenting your ideas. You can gain this by preparing thoroughly and researching the topic. Being knowledgeable about your topic boosts your confidence and provides you with a solid foundation to build your ideas.

#### **Practice, Practice, Practice**

Practice makes perfect. It is essential to practice your presentation before presenting it to your colleagues or supervisor. Rehearsing will help you to eliminate distractions, reduce mistakes, and deliver your ideas confidently. It will give you a chance to work on your presentation skills, such as voice modulation, pace, and body language.

### **Be Prepared for Questions**

Some people might be concerned about being asked questions during presentations. However, being prepared for them shows that you are confident in your presentation and your ideas. You can anticipate the questions you might receive by putting yourself in your audience's shoes and thinking about what they would like to know. Preparing for a Q&A session will help you to build your confidence and demonstrate your competence and preparation.

#### **Positive Thinking**

Confidence can be built up by reframing negative thoughts. Instead of focusing on things that can go wrong or on self-doubt, try to concentrate on the positive aspects of the presentation. Think about the potential benefits of your idea presented, consider the potential for improvement, and remind yourself that you are knowledgeable in your area of expertise. Adopting positive self-talk increases your confidence and helps you to present your ideas exceptionally.

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### Recognize That Everyone Has Room for Improvement

When presenting, many people are afraid of being judged by their peers or superiors. Remember that everyone has room for improvement and that there is no such thing as a perfect presentation. By recognizing that you can improve, you will be more open to feedback and less critical of yourself. This mindset frees you to enjoy the process of presenting, allowing you to focus on delivering the best possible presentation.

Presenting exceptional ideas requires confidence, which can be developed over time. Remember to prepare thoroughly, practice your presentation, anticipate questions, adopt positive thinking, and recognize that there is always room for improvement. By using these tips, you will become more confident in presenting your ideas, allowing you to make a significant impact on your colleagues and the organization.

## **Agenda**

#### Confidence

- A feeling of self-assurance arising from one's appreciation of one's own abilities or qualities.
- "Her confidence in her idea was evident in her presentation, and it convinced the entire team."

#### Competence

- The ability to perform a specific task in a satisfactory manner.
- "His competence in the subject matter made him the go-to person for his team."

#### **Presentation Skills**

- The abilities required to deliver an effective and engaging presentation.
- "Improving your presentation skills can help you to engage your audience better and deliver your ideas with confidence."

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#### **Q&A Session**

- A period during or after a presentation where the presenter takes questions from the audience.
- "Prepare for the Q&A session by anticipating questions and developing confident answers."

## **Expertise**

- The skills and knowledge in a specific field or subject area.
- "Her expertise in the industry gave her confidence while presenting her ideas."

## Reframing

- Changing the way one perceives a situation or event by looking at it in a different way.
- "Reframing negative thoughts into positive ones helped her to present her ideas with confidence."

#### **Feedback**



- Constructive criticism or comments that help improve performance.
- "Taking feedback from colleagues can help improve presentation skills and build confidence."

#### **Superiors**

- People who have a higher rank or authority in an organization.
- "Presenting to superiors requires more preparation and practice to build confidence."

#### Mindset

- A particular way of thinking or a set of attitudes.
- "Adopting a growth mindset can help develop confidence and improve presentation skills."

### **Impact**

- The effect or influence of one person or thing on another.
- "Presenting exceptional ideas can have a significant impact on the success of a project or organization."

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# Discussion

- 1. What techniques have you used in the past to boost your confidence when presenting ideas to your colleagues or superiors? Have they been successful? What would you do differently next time?
- 2. How do you feel about being asked questions during a presentation? Do you prefer to be prepared beforehand or take them on as they come? How do you manage the pressure and potential anxiety that may come with being asked questions?
- 3. Can you think of a time when you presented an idea that you were unsure of or didn't feel entirely confident in? How did it go? What did you learn from the experience, and how did it help you in your future presentations?

