

# Twenty Questions about Your Boss

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Your relationship with your boss is built on shared values, goals, and performance. Some bosses are open books; others inscrutable. No matter. It is up to you to learn as much about your manager as you can, in order to make the most of your working relationship. When it comes to managing your boss, knowledge is power. Knowing the answers to these twenty questions can help you and your boss work together more effectively.

With that in mind, please fill in the blanks regarding your manager:

1. Preferred method of giving info to me: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Preferred method of getting info from me: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Biggest current pressure: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Stands for these values first and foremost: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Biggest "hot button": \_\_\_\_\_
6. Passion outside of work: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Has expertise in: \_\_\_\_\_
8. Lacks expertise in: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Vision for our organization: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Would be really hurt if someone: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Best boss my boss ever worked for: \_\_\_\_\_
12. Expects this from me when there's a small problem: \_\_\_\_\_
13. Expects this from me when there's a big problem: \_\_\_\_\_
14. Will not compromise when it comes to: \_\_\_\_\_
15. Considers a great day at work to be: \_\_\_\_\_
16. Handles pressure by: \_\_\_\_\_
17. Is respected by her/his bosses for: \_\_\_\_\_
18. Respects others for: \_\_\_\_\_
19. Has a blind spot about: \_\_\_\_\_
20. Thinks I'm great at: \_\_\_\_\_

How easily did the answers come to you? Could you answer every one with confidence?  
Consider meeting with your boss, asking these questions and comparing your answers.  
Would you feel comfortable doing that? If not, what would it take to get to that level?

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