Marine Corps Leadership Principles and Traits

Marine Corps Leadership Principles

- Know yourself and seek self-improvement.
- Be technically and tactically proficient.
- Develop a sense of responsibility among your subordinates.
- Make sound and timely decisions.
- Set the example.
- Know your Marines and look out for their welfare.
- Keep your Marines informed.
- Seek responsibility and take responsibility for your actions.
- Ensure assigned tasks are understood, supervised, and accomplished.
- Train your Marines as a team.
- Employ your command in accordance with its capabilities.

Marine Corps Leadership Traits

- **Dependability**
  The certainty of proper performance of duty.

- **Bearing**
  Creating a favorable impression in carriage, appearance and personal conduct at all times.

- **Courage**
  The mental quality that recognizes fear of danger or criticism, but enables a man to proceed in the face of it with calmness and firmness.

- **Decisiveness**
  Ability to make decisions promptly and to announce them in clear, forceful manner.

- **Endurance**
  The mental and physical stamina measured by the ability to withstand pain, fatigue, stress and hardship.
• **Enthusiasm**
  The display of sincere interest and exuberance in the performance of duty.

• **Initiative**
  Taking action in the absence of orders.

• **Integrity**
  Uprightness of character and soundness of moral principles; includes the qualities of truthfulness and honesty.

• **Judgment**
  The ability to weigh facts and possible solutions on which to base sound decisions.

• **Justice**
  Giving reward and punishment according to merits of the case in question. The ability to administer a system of rewards and punishments impartially and consistently.

• **Knowledge**
  Understanding of a science or an art. The range of one’s information, including professional knowledge and an understanding of your Marines.

• **Tact**
  The ability to deal with others without creating offense.

• **Unselfishness**
  Avoidance of providing for one’s own comfort and personal advancement at the expense of others.

• **Loyalty**
  The quality of faithfulness to country, the Corps, the unit, to one’s seniors, subordinates and peers.