

When we think about managers, we think about people we know (or knew) who have shaped us. We think about people we either look up to or despise. We think about people who are incompetent, and you could do their job better, or those you are amazed at their time management skills.

My earliest management experience comes from my dad. He's one of the people I most respect in the world. He has built a company of family values from the ground up and kept a culture burning within the company that shares in happiness, hard work, and family. What do I mean by family? My dad has kept all his employees close. Most of them have stayed with the business through good and bad times.

Most of my family has worked with my dad at some point, and most are still working for him. Even those who aren't related by blood seem almost like an extended family. Everyone respects my dad and the effort he has done to create the company. But what I most like about my dad, is the management. Now, I'm not an expert in my dad's management practices. I only worked for him for a few short weeks in between school and university. What I do know, is that he was always friendly with the staff. I never saw him talk down to someone. He could hang out with the labourers as well as with the office staff. Even with me, being a nobody at the company, I saw how his management trickled down.