Welcome to the Team Diagnostic™

Teams are the engines that *drive* successful organizations.

Teams produce results that individuals simply can’t, acting alone. Today, the workplace is a maze of nested teams: intact, cross-functional, project, virtual — and the pressure is on teams to form, perform and reform at an astonishing rate.

The Team Diagnostic™ is a state of the art instrument, based on a proven model that defines the necessary strengths for high-performing, sustainable, inspired teams.
“Teamplayer: One who unites others towards a shared destiny through sharing information and ideas, empowering others and developing trust.”

— Dennis Kinlaw

The results you are holding reveal a portrait of this team as it is today — and, as the team perceives itself. This is not a report created from outside analysis. It is a compilation of the team’s views of what completely describes this team, what does not describe this team and a wide range of everything in between. The report reveals the team in many layers from the high-altitude meta view of the team as a whole to individual anonymous responses to open-ended questions. Each layer adds to the picture of the team and the total picture creates rich territory for discussion.

As you review this report it is important to notice the emphasis on strengths. This is fundamental to the approach taken with the Team Diagnostic™ model. No matter what the scores are, every team has strengths to acknowledge and lean into as the team addresses its needs and opportunities for ongoing development. The intention is to substitute judgment with curiosity. Given the information available from this report, what does it indicate for this team?

The Team Diagnostic™ provides a baseline for your team and a map for moving forward. In the end, it is the team that will decide the course direction for the next phase of the journey.
The Goal

From the organization’s point of view, teams exist to produce results. That is the measure that makes a difference. It is this goal that drives every aspect of the team’s life from inception onward. Teams are constantly monitored against results delivered. But output is only half of the story for teams that produce results. The most successful and most effective teams in producing results are also teams that have developed the ability to be sustainable as well. There are times in the life of any team when 100% of the focus must be on the task, the deadline and the deliverables. But the intensity of the heat of that focus is not sustainable. Burn out is the predictable result and teams that are burned out eventually disappoint when it comes to achieving results.

The question to ask then is, “What are the essential factors that go into creating a high performing sustainable team?” Before we address that question however, it is worth looking at a more basic question, “What is a team?” It’s easy to assume we all know what that means. It’s essential that we have a clear understanding.
What is a Team?

“Teams rely on intense, collaborative work to accomplish a specific goal or task that could not be accomplished as well by an individual or a work group. An effective team increases the productivity, satisfaction, and growth of each of its team members, the team itself, and the rest of the organization.”

— Jon R. Katzenbach and Douglas K. Smith
The Wisdom of Teams: Creating the High-Performance Organization

A team is more than a collection of individuals. A team is a selection of people put together for a common purpose with identifiable goals, clear roles and accountability for results. In organizations today, teams are assembled, chartered, implemented and disbanded at an extraordinary rate.
What is a Team?

Teams exist to accomplish certain functions and produce results, as we’ve said. The form of team depends on the team’s objectives and structure. In addition to a traditional functionally structured team it is very common today to also be on one of the three team types below.

- **Project teams** exist for a very specific purpose and typically work against a fixed timeline. When the project is completed the team members may be reassigned or reformed as a new team for a new project.

- **Cross-functional teams** may or may not have a fixed assignment and timeline. The team draws its membership from a variety of sources, all of which have a stake in the team’s results.

- **Virtual teams** may have many different purposes to perform. They are characterized by being geographically disbursed and their reliance on technology to maintain communication within the team.
What is a Team?

Nested teams represent teams within teams or teams with overlapping membership, sometimes with overlapping goals and mission. In fact, most people in organizations today are on multiple teams.

- **How many different teams are you and your team members on?**
- **Where do you overlap in other areas?**
“The fundamental task of leaders is to prime good feeling in those they lead. That occurs when a leader creates resonance — a reservoir of positivity that frees the best in people. At its root, then, the primal job of leadership is emotional.”

— From Primal Leadership by Daniel Goleman, Richard Boyatzis and Annie McKee

A System’s Approach to Teams
As we can see, a team is different from a group. In fact, it is a dynamic system of interrelationships. The Team Diagnostic™ is built on a systems approach to working with teams. The diagnostic is designed to reveal the system by taking the individual views of the team members and graphically creating an aggregate picture.

The team is measured on two axes: the team’s perception of its “productivity” strengths and the team’s perception of the “positivity.” Simply put, “productivity” strengths describe the capacity to perform the function required of the team. “Positivity” strengths describe the process and relationship required to perform as a team. The word positivity is derived from Daniel Goleman’s work with Emotional Intelligence.

If we put “productivity” on a horizontal axis and “positivity” on the vertical axis we create a four quadrant matrix with teams that are characterized by:

- Low Productivity and Low Positivity
- Low Productivity and High Positivity
- High Productivity and Low Positivity
- High Productivity and High Positivity
The Four Quadrants

Low Productivity

High Positivity/Low Productivity
- Collegial, Friendship Based
- Lack of Effective Focus
- Insufficient Sense of Urgency
- Change Resistant — Don’t “Rock the Boat”
- Incompetence Tolerated
- Not Results Oriented
- Sense of Connection and Fun

Low Positivity/Low Productivity
- Atmosphere of Criticism, Blame & Cynicism
- Overwhelm
- No Fun
- Fear of Job Loss and/or Company Failure
- “Firefighting”, Short-Term Orientation
- Turf Protection
- One Step Forward; Two Steps Back
- Poor Teamwork

High Productivity

High Positivity/High Productivity
- Successful, Fun
- Synchronicity, Flow
- Challenging Goals, Inspiring Vision
- Change Proactive
- Open Communication
- Great Teamwork — “How do we continue to improve?”

Low Positivity/High Productivity
- Focus Is Efficiency
- “Just Do It!”, Bottom-Line Orientation
- Retention Problems, High Turnover, Burnout
- Guarded
- Clear Objectives
- Driven
- Competitive
The Model — Productivity

Productivity Strengths support the team in achieving results, accomplishing tasks, staying on course to reach goals and objectives. The Team Diagnostic™ model identifies seven attributes necessary for teams to achieve high performance.

- **Alignment:** There is a sense of common mission and purpose. We value cooperation, cohesion and interdependence. The team collectively owns their results.
- **Goals & Strategies:** The team has clear, challenging objectives; there is alignment on strategies and priorities. Objectives are linked to recognition, rewards and compensation. The team is highly resilient and not easily defeated in its goals.
- **Accountability:** There is clarity of roles and responsibilities with high follow through. When problems arise the team responds. Team members actively hold each other accountable for team agreements.
- **Proactive:** Change is embraced and seen as vital to this team and to the larger organization. The team is nimble and flexible in addressing opportunities for change, responding positively and creatively.
- **Decision Making:** The team has clear and efficient decision-making processes, which have proven effective over time.
- **Resources:** The team manages adequate resources to meet its objectives. There is sufficient expertise to accomplish the team’s objectives.
- **Team Leadership:** The team leader’s role is clear and supportive of the team as a whole. There is a strong sense of team leadership; team members take initiative to provide leadership as the need for initiative arises.
The Model — Productivity Strengths

Productivity Strengths

- Proactive
- Goals & Strategies
- Leadership
- Accountability
- Decision Making
- Alignment
- Resources
The Model — Positivity

Positivity Strengths focus on the interrelationships between team members and the spirit or tone of the team as a system. The seven strengths in the Team Diagnostic™ model are drawn from a number of research sources including Emotional Intelligence, Positive Psychology, and academic research into relationships that work.

- **Trust:** It is safe on this team to speak your mind, openly. We can count on each other; we are reliable. The team does not operate in a fear-based environment.
- **Respect:** There is an atmosphere of mutual respect and genuine positive regard. Contempt and hostility are not tolerated. We empower other members of the team to contribute.
- **Camaraderie:** There is a strong sense of belonging to the team. The team celebrates and acknowledges accomplishments. Empathy, playfulness and humor are present.
- **Communication:** Clear and efficient communication is valued over less direct approaches such as politicizing, gossiping, or consistently avoiding necessary conversation.
- **Constructive Interaction:** Conflict is seen as an opportunity for discovery, growth and creativity. The team avoids criticizing, defensiveness and finger pointing. We give and receive feedback well.
- **Values Diversity:** The team is open-minded and values differences in ideas, backgrounds, perspectives, personalities, approaches and lifestyles. Diversity is considered vital.
- **Optimism:** The team has an inspiring shared vision. They are enthusiastic, forward looking and appreciative of each other. There are low levels of cynicism, pessimism, helplessness, hopelessness or dwelling in the past.
The Model — Positivity Strengths

7 Positivity Strengths

- Trust
- Respect
- Optimism
- Values Diversity
- Constructive Interaction
- Camaraderie
- Communication
“Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.”

— Andrew Carnegie

The fuel that Carnegie refers to is a high-energy mixture of equal parts Productivity Strengths and Positivity Strengths. Typically, organizations focus on the Productivity measures; they are a clear, direct way to impact results. Research continues to show however, that organizations that focus on Positivity, improve Productivity.
Multiple Views

The Team Diagnostic™ provides multiple views of the team created from the collected data. Each view adds to the total picture of the team; the different layers allow the team to mine deeply from the instrument.

**Quad Diagram. The “Footprint”**

Shows the range of the highest and lowest scores on statements in the diagnostic: Productivity on one axis and Positivity on the other. The box created by this selection shows the orientation of the team on this matrix.

**Polar Diagram**

The Polar Diagram provides the first composite view of the team using scores from seven Productivity Strengths and seven Positivity Strengths. In this visual, team members can easily see their strongest and weakest areas and see the potential for improvement. The ideal team would score at “9” all around the outer circumference. The various shapes that appear often start the early conversation.
Bar Charts

The bar charts break out the seven Productivity Strengths and seven Positivity Strengths and put them in rank order from highest score to lowest. The bar charts are also a quick visual reference to “the gap” — the distance between the team scores of today and the “9” that is the ideal and goal to strive for.

High 5 and Low 5 for Productivity and Positivity

This table shows the five items from the diagnostic that received the highest team score and the five items with the lowest team score in both the Productivity and Positivity categories.

Comparing the top 5 and bottom 5: on the left or “high” scoring side are the strengths and reputation of the organization. This is what the team is known for.

The right or “low” scoring side reveals prime areas for ongoing development.
Multiple Views

Examples

Least Agreement/Most Agreement

These two graphs show where the team is having very different perceptions and where there is general agreement. The Least Agreement graph shows the widest range of divergent opinion on a short selection of questions. The second graph, Most Agreement, shows a high level of congruence on a short selection of questions. On this second graph, even if the scores are low there is more nearly consensus about the team’s opinion in these areas. The statements on these two graphs reveal another layer of information about the team.

Open-Ended Questions

We have now moved from the high-altitude meta view of this team to hearing from individual voices. The identity of the voices is still hidden but individual voices are represented — and because they are anonymous, each voice is given equal weight.

Q: What are the Top 3 strengths of this team?

The different views provide different angles on the system, and different lenses to view that system. Combined, these elements create an extraordinarily deep portrait of the team.
Team Matrix Position

- High Positivity
- High Productivity
- Low Productivity
- Low Positivity
Polar Diagram
Productivity Strengths Rating

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alignment</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team Leadership</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goals &amp; Strategies</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resources</td>
<td>6.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proactive</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Making</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“1” = Does Not At All Describe Our Team

“9” = Completely Describes Our Team

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# Measuring the System

## Highest and Lowest Productivity Ratings

Team goal is a score of “9” = Completely Describes Our Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Highest</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On our team, people do not tend to say, “It’s not my job,” when problems arise.</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the going gets tough, we tend to come together as a team.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting one’s job and work territory is not prevalent on the team.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do not make excuses when the job doesn’t get done.</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is a spirit of cooperation on our team.</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lowest</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We have adequate resources to succeed.</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We tailor our decision-making process to the situation.</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symptoms of burnout are not present on our team.</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have an efficient decision-making process.</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We revisit bad decisions to explore alternatives.</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Positivity Strengths Rating

- Camaraderie: 7.0
- Respect: 6.4
- Optimism: 6.3
- Values Diversity: 6.1
- Communication: 6.0
- Constructive Interaction: 5.8
- Trust: 5.7

"1" = Does Not At All Describe Our Team  
"9" = Completely Describes Our Team
# Measuring the System

## Highest and Lowest Positivity Ratings

Team goal is a score of “9” = Completely Describes Our Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIGHEST</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Playfulness and humor are present in our relationships.</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I enjoy working with the members of this team.</td>
<td>7.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New or controversial ideas are encouraged.</td>
<td>7.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We are not frequently frustrated with each other.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do not criticize and blame each other.</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWEST</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We regularly provide each other with constructive feedback.</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We promptly and directly address conflicts.</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We communicate clearly and efficiently.</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We draw out all opinions on our team, even the unpopular opinions.</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have team agreements regarding how we interact when conflict arises.</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Least Agreement

1. Exhaustion is not an issue on our team.
2. We do not tend to dwell on our team’s past difficulties.
3. Team members do not criticize others behind their backs.
4. Symptoms of burnout are not present on our team.
5. We promptly and directly address conflicts.
1. Playfulness and humor are present in our relationships.
2. We have had adequate training to be as effective as we need to be.
3. Our team leader exercises a broad range of appropriate leadership styles depending on the situation.
4. There is tremendous enthusiasm and optimism on our team.
5. We are not frequently frustrated with each other.
For us to be really successful, what do we need to get better at? Do more of?

Create structures and accountability; clearer work plans

1. Cohesive strategy for generating internal sales leads doesn’t exist - makes use solely dependent on referrals from clients and/or industry contacts

2. Not as pro-active with some clients – can lead to client dissatisfaction and being viewed as only useful in a sticky situation

3. Implement more efficient processes/systems

communicate more often

Learn more how to build from conflict
Improve communication streamline
Have a better reward system

taking more risks, don’t be afraid to fail, stay vulnerable and ask for help

-working with change

Communication

Have more respect and treat each other fairly and equally
Open-Ended Questions

Responses to the Team Diagnostic™ open-ended questions appear below. Please note: Due to the number and length of responses, answers may display on multiple pages.

For us to be really successful, what do we need to get better at? Do more of?

- value of diversity and various strengths
What are the top three strengths of this team?

- Camaraderie
- Trust
- Resilience

-quality of employees
-family atmosphere
-education

-trust, positivity and shared common goals

-skill
-humor
-commitment

-Creativity
-Enthusiasm
-Work Ethic
Open-Ended Questions

Responses to the Team Diagnostic™ open-ended questions appear below. Please note: Due to the number and length of responses, answers may display on multiple pages.

What are the top three strengths of this team?

1. Our knowledge base – we are recognized as subject matter experts and trusted advisors who provide answers and solutions to clients’ questions and problems.

2. Our commitment to service; clients can pass an issue along to us and know it is taken care of – key driver for client retention and referrals.

3. Our assessment tools – provides increase revenue; allows us to operate at the epicenter of value creation; are a key differentiator.

1. Enthusiasm
2. Commitment to support the client
3. Capabilities of team members
Open-Ended Questions

Responses to the Team Diagnostic™ open-ended questions appear below. Please note: Due to the number and length of responses, answers may display on multiple pages.

What are the top three challenges facing this team?

- complexity of program
- distance
- politics

- 

1. Lack of clear work plans
2. Unclear assumptions

Communication

Processes

Accepting Change

resources
ability to advance
motivation

creating new challenges, not plateauing, staying motivated

Some negativity
Open-Ended Questions

Responses to the Team Diagnostic™ open-ended questions appear below. Please note: Due to the number and length of responses, answers may display on multiple pages.

What are the top three challenges facing this team?

Scarcy mentality
How to deal with less efficient people

1. Improve the effectiveness of current processes and systems for data retrieval and knowledge management.

2. Develop a cohesive strategy for generating internal sales leads.

3. Increase internal capacity to facilitate organizational development activities with clients.
Open-Ended Questions

Responses to the Team Diagnostic™ open-ended questions appear below. Please note: Due to the number and length of responses, answers may display on multiple pages.

What business result is this team responsible for improving?

Turn around death penalty and make profit.

Achieve targets for client retention, loyalty and profitability.

Better service to the University and to our communities.

Supporting the client

pipeline of future leaders

sales

difjpoadm

marketing, new product launches and customer retention and acquisition
Ongoing Coaching

The most successful teams are characterized by an effective balance of Productivity and Positivity:

**Productivity**
- Team Leadership
- Alignment
- Decision Making
- Goals & Strategies
- Accountability
- Resources
- Proactive

**Positivity**
- Trust
- Respect
- Constructive Interaction
- Camaraderie
- Communication
- Optimism
- Values Diversity

The result is a team that is high performing and sustainable.

The essential strengths of Positivity, combined with the important strengths of Productivity create teams that get results; just as important, these are teams that are creative, adaptable and resilient over time.
Next Steps
The Team Diagnostic™ process has provided metrics to paint a portrait of the team as a system and given you detailed ways to measure and describe that system. What you have in your hands is an in-depth profile and an excellent baseline, but as of now it is just data. It is what you and your team development professional do with it together that will make all the difference.

The profile and interpretation are enormously valuable in building awareness of the team’s strengths and opportunities, and they are the means for creating stronger relationship for the road ahead. As a team you now have a shared picture and common language for the conversations that will follow. But the analysis and the insight will be wasted unless there is action for change and accountability for that change. The real impact of this process will be seen in new or different behavior. In a sense, the fundamental question at the end of all the analysis is, “Where do we go from here?”
Your Actions
Team Action Plan

Please use this action plan to identify action steps you will take as a result of your team training and Team Diagnostic™ results. Team Challenges represent areas of improvement for the team. The Actions/Changes should be specific steps you will take to address the team challenges. Action Outcomes are the results you will look for as a measurement of the effectiveness of the action steps. Evaluating the progress of your Team Action Plan will be a critical component of the Follow Up phone calls scheduled for your team.

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<th>ACTIONS/CHANGES</th>
<th>ACTION OUTCOMES</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEAM CHALLENGES (That you identified from the Team Exercises and Team Diagnostic™)</th>
<th>ACTIONS/CHANGES (That you are planning to implement derived from your key challenges. Be specific.)</th>
<th>ACTION OUTCOMES (How will you know your actions have made an impact? What will be different?)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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