

Leading Change: A Look At The 8 Step Process

John Kotter's 8-step Process is as follows:

- 1. Establish a sense of urgency
 - Examine market and competitive realities.
 - Identify and discuss crises, potential crises or opportunities.
 - Create the catalyst for change.

2. Form a powerful coalition

- Assemble a group with enough power to lead the change effort.
- Develop strategies for achieving that vision.

3. Create a Vision

- Create a vision to help direct the change effort.
- Develop strategies for achieving that vision.

4. Communicating the Vision

- Using every channel and vehicle of communication possible to communicate the new vision and strategies.
- The guiding coalition teaching new behaviors and leading by example.
- 5. Empowering others to act on the vision
 - Removing obstacles to change.
 - Changing systems or structures that seriously undermine the vision.
 - Encouraging risk taking and non-traditional ideas, activities and actions.

6. Planning for and creating short-term wins

Planning for visible performance improvement
Recognizing and rewarding employees involved in these improvements.

7. Consolidating improvements and producing still more change

- Using increased credibility to change systems, structures and policies that don't fit the vision.
- Hiring, promoting, and developing employees who can implement the vision.
- Reinvigorating the processes with new projects, themes and change agents.

8. Institutionalizing new approaches

- Creating the connections between new behaviors and corporate successes.
- Developing channels to ensure Leadership development and succession.

Reference: Leading Change and Our Iceberg Is Melting! By John P. Kotter