

TEST YOUR SKILL AT BUILDING TRUST

How does your current ability to build trust rate? Trust is a youth leader's most valuable asset. How often do the following statements apply to your current situation? Select **T** (true) or **F** (false) for each statement you believe best describes your situation.



Adapted from **Secrets of Leadership** by Vineyard and Lynch, 1991

- _____ 1. I ask for input sincerely and not as a ploy to make youth feel involved.
- _____ 2. I do not keep score of favours done and paybacks received.
- _____ 3. I try to be ethical at all times.
- _____ 4. I get all the facts before evaluating.
- _____ 5. I do not play favourites.
- _____ 6. My words are reflected in my actions.
- _____ 7. I share information openly.
- _____ 8. I take the time to explain "why."
- _____ 9. I clearly define expectations up front.
- _____ 10. I do not encourage rivalry among the members.
- _____ 11. I am fair and consistent.
- _____ 12. I keep my promises.
- _____ 13. I keep confidences.
- _____ 14. I listen honestly and consider what is being said.
- _____ 15. I do not promise what I cannot deliver.

(See over for rating scale)

Exercise 2

Give yourself a point for every **T** (true) answer. Subtract a point for every **F** (false) answer. The higher the number, the more the youth in your care will trust you as their leader.

Make those statements you answered **F** (false) personal goals.