

Vision –vs- Personal Mission

What is the difference between a vision and a mission?

Vision:

Vision communicates an ideal end result, a vision. It reflects values and beliefs, and should inspire and challenge.

Perhaps the best example of a public Mission Statement was made back in 1960, when John F. Kennedy, referring to the U.S. space program, said that we would put a man on the moon by the end of the decade — a clear goal with a specific timeline for its achievement. And, despite enormous challenges, by mid-1969, Neil Armstrong had taken that "one large step for mankind."

Another is a young aspiring teacher: I want to be selected as Alaska's Teacher of the Year in my first five years of teaching.

Personal Mission Statement:

A personal mission statement is a brief description of what is important to you, what you want to focus on, what you want to accomplish and who you want to become in a particular area of your life in the near to long term future. It is a way to focus your energy, actions, behaviors and decisions towards the things that are most important to you.

A personal mission statement is a purposeful promise that carries you towards your goals.

A personal mission statement is a tightly focused explanation of how to achieve your personal vision.

Over the years, your circumstances will change. Your priorities will change. Your goals and dreams will change. That's okay - because change means growth. As you grow, transform, and broaden your horizons, allow yourself the freedom to expand and refine your mission statement.

Personal Mission Statement Template

Feel free to combine these sentences in any way so that your personal mission statement reads as you would like it to. You may shorten it, change the order, add something..... you decide, it's your mission statement

"To ... [what you want to achieve, do or become] ... so that ... [reasons why it is important]. I will do this by ... [specific behaviors or actions you can use to get there]."

"I value (choose 1-3 values important to you) because ...[reasons why these values are important to you]. Accordingly, I will ...[what you can do to live by these values]."

"To develop and cultivate the qualities of ... (2-3 values or character traits) ... that I admire in ...[an influential person in your life]... so that ...[why you want to develop these qualities]."

"To live each day with ...[choose one to three values or principles]... so that ...[what living by these values will give you]. I will do this by ...[specific behaviors you will use to live by these values]."

"To appreciate and enjoy ...[things you want to appreciate and enjoy more] by ...[what you can do to appreciate/enjoy these things]."

"To treasure above all else ...[most important things to you] by ...[what you can do to live your priorities]."

"To be known by ...[an important person/group]... as someone who is ...[qualities you want to have]...; by ...[some other person/group]... as someone who is ...[other qualities]...; ..."

Elements of a Personal Mission Statement

Part One:

To: What you want to achieve, do or become?
So that: Why is this important to you?
I will do this by: Specific behaviors or actions you plan to take to get there

Part Two:

I value: Choose 1-3 values important to you.
Because: Reasons why these values are important to you.
Accordingly I will: What you are doing (or can do) to live by these values.

Part Three:

To develop and cultivate the qualities of: 2-3 values or character traits
That I admire in: An influential person in your life
So that: Why you want to develop these qualities

Part Four:

To appreciate and enjoy: Things you want to appreciate and enjoy more
By: What you can do to appreciate/enjoy these things

Part Five

To treasure above all else: Most important things to you
By: What you can do to live your priorities

Part Six:

To be known by: An important person/group
As someone who is: Qualities you want to
have
By: Some other person/group
As someone who is: Other qualities you want to
have

Values List

Accomplishment
Achievement
Adventure
Balance
Beauty
Belonging
Challenge
Change
Charity
Comfort
Community
Compassion
Competence
Competitiveness
Control
Cooperation
Creativity
Culture
Democracy
Diversity
Loyalty
Economic Stability
Education
Efficiency
Environment
Ethical Behavior
Fairness
Fame
Family
Freedom
Friendship
Fun
Health
Hobbies
Honesty
Honor
Inclusiveness
Independence
Influence
Inner Harmony Relationships
Integrity
Intellectual Status
Intelligence
Involvement
Job Security
Joy
Knowledge

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Leadership Skills
Learning
Love
Loyalty
Money
Nature
New Experiences
Openness
Order
Originality
Peace
Personal Development
Power
Prestige
Privacy
Professional Growth
Public Service
Purity
Purpose
Quality
Recognition
Respect
Responsibility
Security
Self-awareness
Self-esteem
Self-respect
Serenity
Social Justice
Spirituality
Stability
Status
Team Work
Time
Tradition
Trust
Truth
Vision
Wealth
Wisdom

Others:

Circle your top 10 values from the list above.

Narrow down this list to your top 5 values. Record them below.

1.

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2.

3.

4.

5

Vision Action Planning Worksheet

"The victory of success is half won when one gains the habit of setting goals and achieving them. Even the most tedious chore will become endurable as you parade through each day convinced that every task, no matter how menial or boring, brings you closer to fulfilling your dreams."

Og Mandino: Author, *The Greatest Salesman in the World*.

Write a clear statement of your personal vision below:

What practical steps will you need to take to achieve your personal vision?

What obstacles or barriers may prevent you from achieving your personal vision?

What steps will you need to take to address these barriers?

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Once these barriers are identified, develop your plan into an action plan using the attached template

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