

DO YOU PLAY THE OFFICE POLITICS GAME?

You may not consider yourself to be a major player in office politics, but you might be surprised. Respond to the following nine comments:

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I always keep my cool, and never take personal attacks to heart. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I communicate effectively and am able to always respond appropriately to office politics and gossip, whether or not it is aimed at me. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I stay calm and do not get angry when I hear others talking about people or maligning the company. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | No matter what others say or do, I remain courteous and civil. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I can easily stay on issue, no matter how personal or unjust it may seem at the time. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | After a negative incident and ugly rumors are heard, I can stay realistic and upbeat. I shift my negative thinking to positive. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I never gossip or pass on rumors at work or at home, and I establish a clear path away from the negative grapevine. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I understand that office politics will always be present; I just choose not to be part of it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I understand that the grapevine and office politics can be a positive communication tool and know how to use it. |

If you said “yes” to the nine questions, then you can skip this chapter and move on.

Even if you did say “yes” you may want to freshen up your toolbox with some new ideas. If you had even one “no”—keep reading this chapter. And I’m glad you’re here!

