
Innovative leadership

CLASSIC MISTAKES



Mistakes are vital for learning, innovation, and growth. To learn from them, leaders must first acknowledge which these are.

The **7 mistakes** leaders make to stifle innovation...





No vision, no clear direction

When the tide wave is coming the captains should know first and communicate it to their crew. Without a plan and clear directions even the best ships are lost at sea.

2 **Failing to define the actual problem**

They look at the symptoms and not at the root causes of a problem. They don't talk with the ones directly involved (team, customers, etc.).



Siloed stakeholders

The people whose decisions impact customers the **MOST** are the ones who interact with customers the **LEAST**.



**Innovation =
“more work”**

They make innovation part of their organisation's DNA by adding “innovation responsibilities” on top of people's daily job.



**View new ideas
as “criticism to
current state”**

They don't acknowledge or
celebrate past successes and
view all new ideas as a criticism
to the old ones.



**No process to
actually do
innovation**

Just like sales, marketing, or any other business operations which follow a process, innovation should also have a clear process and governance.



**No resources,
no authority**

Too often, even in large organisations, innovation teams are small, under staffed and cannot make business decisions.

**But nothing sets back
innovation more than a
blame culture, lack of
courage, and false
assumptions.**

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