

“The Lucky Leader”

In my first article on luck [link to article 14](#) I started to explore Richard Wiseman’s four principles to creating good fortune in our lives and careers.

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The **first principle** is concerned with “**Maximising your chance opportunities.**” This and the remaining principles can be applied by all those wanting to create more luck in their lives.

The **2nd principle - Listen to your lucky hunches** – is about lucky people making successful decisions by using their intuition and gut feelings - so they listen to their hunches.

They also take steps to boost their intuition; steps that anyone can apply, such as

- clearing your mind
- finding a quiet place
- meditating or returning to the problem later.

Principle 3 - Expect good fortune – is about how lucky people’s expectations about the future help them fulfil their dreams and ambitions. This is because they expect their good fortune to continue in the future; and they expect their interactions with others to be lucky and successful.

They also attempt to achieve their goals, even if their chances of success are slim, and they persevere in the face of failure. To apply this principle as a leader you need to be committed to taking action on a consistent basis; to regularly reviewing how well it’s going, and to adjusting course and changing your actions where necessary

Principle 4 - Turn your bad luck into good – is about how lucky people are able to transform their bad luck into good by seeing the positive side of their bad luck; by not dwelling on their ill fortune; and by taking constructive steps to prevent more bad luck in the future. They are also convinced that any bad luck will, in the long run, work out for the best.

The steps to applying this principle therefore, are to always return to and focus on the positives in any given situation. I’m not saying here that you should ignore the negatives, or the things that aren’t working, but that you should think about these things differently.

You can discipline yourself to always ask “what are positives I can take from this?” and “What can I do to prevent this happening again in the future?”

If you can do this for yourself on a consistent basis and also help your team do the same, and you can follow this up with **action**, you’ll be in a much better position going forward.

In addition, this will help you to believe that in the long run, the bad luck, or failure, was actually for the best!

So, how lucky or unlucky are you?

Make some notes about the part you feel luck has played in your life to date, then analyse yourself across each of these 4 principles and score yourself on a scale of 1 – 10 in terms of how well you use these principles (10 being extremely well & 1 not at all.)

- What does that look like?
- Where do you fall down?
- Do you score low across every area, or just one?

When you analyse each principle can you see where you're weak? Use the suggestions I've given for action you can take to improve your score.

If you'd like to explore this more, then Professor Wiseman in his book "The Luck Factor," highlights a range of exercises and techniques for increasing the luck in your life. I'd recommend it if you're serious about making changes.

'Good luck', or should I say 'good thinking, planning and actioning', wherever you are on the luck scale?

Luck's obviously got a lot to do with it, but isn't it good to know you can always improve your good fortune if you want to?

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About The Author:

Julie Johnson, formerly a manager and development specialist, created The Leadership Coaching Company to help managers solve one of their biggest business problems: how to get the most from themselves and their staff. She is now a leadership success specialist and has attracted a loyal following who praise her down to earth yet inspiring approach.

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