

What is Professionalism?

Hi, I'm Emily, I'm a consultant with D Jungle People. In my line of work I have discovered that different people have different perceptions on what professionalism is. However, what is universally similar is that we all agree that it is an important aspect of our working life.

Let me name you a few encounters where there is a lack of professionalism.

1. Missing deadlines

Some people just have no sense of urgency.

2. Back stabbing

People who put others down for their own personal gains.

3. Walking in to meetings unprepared

Ending up wasting everybody's time.

I could name you a whole list of them and you'll be nodding your head in agreement. Let's take a look at what this big word **professionalism** means. It is certainly not just a smart looking profile on LinkedIn with a long list of achievements. What it is, is a reflection of yourself and the organisation that you work with.

We will now fastforward in to the more intrinsic, less obvious aspects of professionalism. Here is my take on being professional :

1. Having respect

Not just for your bosses or colleagues but everyone that you meet.

2. Having ownership

Being effective and organised.

3. Focusing on results

It is not about being the last person to leave the office or spending long hours at work. It is about producing results and adding value.

4. Communicate well.

It is about being articulate and conveying your messages well. Also about inspiring and engaging others. It is the number one skill that most people look for when promotions are on the table,

Sometimes lifestyles and habits formed through the years can cast a gray area on what professionalism is and is not.

Write to us on the feedback below on some of this unsure areas and we will assess them for you. Have fun crafting your professional image.