

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence

By Richard L. Daft



The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft

Lessons for leaders on resolving the ongoing struggle between instinct and the creative mind

Kings, heads of government, and corporate executives lead thousands of people and manage endless resources, but may not have mastery over themselves. Often leaders know that right action is important, but have little (if any) understanding of what prevents them from acting in accordance with their intentions. In this important book, leadership expert Richard Daft portrays this dilemma as a struggle between instinct (elephant) and intention (the executive) using the most current research on the intentional vs. the habitual mind to explain how this phenomenon occurs.

- Based on current research and real-life examples
- Offers leaders a method for directing themselves more productively
- Written by an expert in leadership, organizational performance, and change management

Through real-life examples and recent studies in psychology, management and Eastern spirituality Daft provides guidance to all of us who struggle finding our own balance and cultivating the behavior of others.





The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence

By Richard L. Daft

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft

Lessons for leaders on resolving the ongoing struggle between instinct and the creative mind

Kings, heads of government, and corporate executives lead thousands of people and manage endless resources, but may not have mastery over themselves. Often leaders know that right action is important, but have little (if any) understanding of what prevents them from acting in accordance with their intentions. In this important book, leadership expert Richard Daft portrays this dilemma as a struggle between instinct (elephant) and intention (the executive) using the most current research on the intentional vs. the habitual mind to explain how this phenomenon occurs.

- Based on current research and real-life examples
- Offers leaders a method for directing themselves more productively
- Written by an expert in leadership, organizational performance, and change management

Through real-life examples and recent studies in psychology, management and Eastern spirituality Daft provides guidance to all of us who struggle finding our own balance and cultivating the behavior of others.

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft Bibliography

Sales Rank: #891426 in Books
Published on: 2010-08-02
Original language: English

• Number of items: 1

• Dimensions: 9.40" h x 1.20" w x 6.30" l, 1.15 pounds

• Binding: Hardcover

• 336 pages

Download The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Gu ...pdf

Read Online The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's ...pdf

Download and Read Free Online The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft

Editorial Review

Review

"The book is terrific – it identifies an important issue for leaders, and tackles it in a very practical way, with plenty of techniques to choose from and many examples of them being used successfully. We all struggle with our inner elephant, and if you want to help get more control by your inner executive, this book would definitely help." (*Globe and Mail*, September 2010)

From the Inside Flap

"Kings, heads of government, and corporate executives have control over thousands of people and endless resources, but often do not have mastery over themselves. From a distance, larger-than-life leaders may look firmly in control of their businesses and their personal behavior. What about up close? Personal mastery is a difficult thing."

—FROM CHAPTER ONE

LEADERS KNOW WHAT they should be doing, so why aren't they doing it? When a leader knows the preferable behavior, why stick to an old pattern and fail to perform as desired? The answer is that each of us has two selves: one self is thoughtful, circumspect, and rational (the inner executive), and the other self is habit bound, impulsive, and emotion driven (the inner elephant). In this groundbreaking book, leadership expert Richard Daft reveals how leaders can recognize the two parts of themselves and learn to calm down, train, and guide their inner elephant toward the desired successful behavior.

Inner excellence means removing the personal flaw that is holding you back as a leader—such as procrastination, avoiding confrontation, a short attention span, perfectionism, tactless remarks, weak resolve, overreacting, criticizing, chasing the wrong gratifications, or not following though. This important book is filled with lessons for leaders on resolving the inner struggle between impulse and self-discipline, between blind reaction and big picture wisdom.

Dozens of proven exercises will empower you to direct yourself and others more productively. With a little practice, your inner executive will learn to choose correct actions rather than let your unwanted behaviors have their way.

Through compelling real-life coaching examples of dramatic personal changes, along with recent findings in psychology, management, neuroscience, and Eastern spirituality, Richard Daft provides guidance to all of us who want to follow our best intentions when leading ourselves and others.

From the Back Cover

Praise for The Executive and the Elephant

"Wow, what a book! I started to breeze through it, and I ended up reading and thinking about every chapter.... *The Executive and the Elephant* touches both my brain and my heart, and the effect is at once humbling and energizing. I'm going to send copies to everyone I care about who is under pressure, working hard, and in a leadership position."

—WILLIAM OUCHI, Sanford and Betty Sigoloff Distinguished Professor in Corporate Renewal, UCLA; author of $Theory\ Z$

- "Outstanding! Dick Daft has shed a whole new light on what it takes to set you apart as an effective leader. If I had read this book earlier in my career, I would have arrived sooner to the chairmanship of Bridgestone Americas."
- —MARK A. EMKES, retired chairman, CEO, and president, Bridgestone Americas, Inc.
- "Filled with practical suggestions and novel insights, *The Executive and the Elephant* will transform anyone into a more effective leader."
- —**JEFFREY PFEFFER**, Thomas D. Dee II Professor of Organizational Behavior, Stanford Graduate School of Business; author of *Power: Why Some People Have It—And Others Don't*
- "For thousands of years we have been programmed to think that leading change means doing things 'to' other people. In this wonderful book, Dick Daft helps us successfully transform ourselves into the leader—and person— we want to become."
- —**ROBERT E. QUINN**, M.E. Tracy Collegiate Professor, Ross School of Business, University of Michigan; author of *Deep Change and Change the World*
- "This magnificent book contains a tapestry of wisdom from around the world that shows leaders how to begin serious self-transformation by someone who has been there, done that."
- —**PETER VAILL**, senior scholar and emeritus professor of management, Antioch University
- "This book is a 'bible' for [leadership] self-development."
- —**RONALD E. RIGGIO**, Henry R. Kravis Professor of Leadership and Organizational Psychology, Claremont McKenna College

Users Review

From reader reviews:

David Browning:

Have you spare time for any day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity for spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to take a wander, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or even read a book called The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You recognize beside you can spend your time together with your favorite's book, you can cleverer than before. Do you agree with it is opinion or you have other opinion?

Jennifer Yost:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent they will free time just watching TV, or playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity honestly, that is look different you can read any book. It is really fun for you. If you enjoy the book which you read you can spent 24 hours a day to reading a e-book. The book The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to develop this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore effortlessly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book offers high quality.

Robert Lindsey:

Do you have something that you prefer such as book? The e-book lovers usually prefer to pick book like comic, quick story and the biggest you are novel. Now, why not attempting The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied simply by reading this book. Reading routine all over the world can be said as the opportunity for people to know world better then how they react towards the world. It can't be claimed constantly that reading practice only for the geeky particular person but for all of you who wants to be success person. So , for all of you who want to start reading through as your good habit, it is possible to pick The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence become your own starter.

Mark Brainerd:

Many people spending their time period by playing outside together with friends, fun activity having family or just watching TV the entire day. You can have new activity to shell out your whole day by examining a book. Ugh, do you think reading a book can definitely hard because you have to bring the book everywhere? It ok you can have the e-book, having everywhere you want in your Cell phone. Like The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence which is obtaining the e-book version. So, try out this book? Let's notice.

Download and Read Online The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft #HKDC1T4S2AF

Read The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft for online ebook

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft books to read online.

Online The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft ebook PDF download

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft Doc

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft Mobipocket

The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft EPub

HKDC1T4S2AF: The Executive and the Elephant: A Leader's Guide for Building Inner Excellence By Richard L. Daft