

# Leadership Skills for Dentists



**Strategic Success. Delivered.**

How to Lead Your Team Without Losing Clinical Focus

[www.dentalwealthbuilder.com](http://www.dentalwealthbuilder.com)

# Why the Tension Feels So Constant

You still want your hands in the mouth and your eyes on the margins.  
But the diary needs covering, the new nurse needs training, and two team members haven't spoken since Tuesday.

Leadership skills for dentists rarely arrive with the qualification. They get built under pressure, while the clinical work still has to happen.

# Managing a Team vs Leading One

## MANAGING

- Reacts to problems as they land
- Focuses attention on mistakes
- Runs on command and instruction

## LEADING

- Comes from vision and influence
- Coaches people ahead of problems
- Builds accountability people choose

# Leadership Starts With You

## Credibility

Doing what you say you will do.

## Consistency

The same version of you on a hard Friday as a quiet Monday.

## Self-management

Noticing you're irritated, and choosing your words anyway.

## Self-awareness

Knowing which mode, managing or leading, you're in right now.

# The Conversations That Build Trust

*“Why did you let this happen?”*

becomes → “What can we learn from this?”

*“That won’t work.”*

becomes → “I see it differently, can I share why?”

Leadership work protects clinical time.  
It doesn't compete with it.



# Three Habits That Protect Clinical Time

1

Say the vision out loud

More often than feels necessary — in meetings and one-to-ones.

2

Coach over instruct

“What do you think we should do?” builds a team member who solves the next problem alone.

3

Protect a fixed weekly slot

One that doesn't move when the diary gets busy.

# Where to Start This Month

Pick one conversation you've been avoiding, with one team member, and have it using a question instead of a verdict.

Book a Practice Coaching Call with DWB

[form.typeform.com/to/sEwUUhsp](https://form.typeform.com/to/sEwUUhsp)



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