

# Form A Mastermind Group

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Masterminding is a strategy introduced in the 1930's by Napoleon Hill who was commissioned by Andrew Carnegie to study the patterns of extremely successful people. To learn more read Hill's *Think and Grow Rich*. Many people have discovered that a

"It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed."

Napoleon Hill

like-minded, goal-oriented group can dramatically leverage personal and business success. The group ideally creates a safe place to solve problems, to brainstorm ideas, to provide ideas, support and encouragement, and to celebrate.

## Structure to Create Accountability, Safety and Momentum:

- **Goals:** Be clear about what you want to gain and what you have to offer to the group.
- **Participate:** Decide as a group how often and how long you want to meet. Be as active as you can without monopolizing. Remember to listen.
- **Confidentiality:** Sharing what you learn and gain can be exciting and useful. However, please keep other group members' sharing confidential. Feel free to tell the world your own story.
- **Take Equal Turns:** Give each person your full attention. No side talking. Keep to agreed time allotments.
- **Be Consistent:** Attend all meetings and stay to the end.

## Meeting Process:

1. **Check in.** Share one success since last meeting.
2. **Divide meeting time** equally less 5 minutes for the close.  
Time per member is \_\_\_\_\_ Take turns as timer.
3. Focus person states **issue or request** giving some background information.
4. Group asks **clarifying questions**.
5. Group asks: "How can we help?"
6. Focus person states clearly, "**I want** you to . . ." and then listens. (Note taking is highly recommended). If brainstorming ideas are requested see below.
7. Focus person **summarizes** insights and action item(s) to be taken.

8. **Repeat** for each member.
9. **Close.** Each member commits to **at least one action item** to be accomplished before the next meeting. Confirm time, date and location of next meeting.

**Brainstorm:**

- **All:** Agree to a time frame for completion
- **Focus person:** Clearly identify what problem or desire you want addressed.
- **Group:** Generate new ideas. Keep the energy going. No judging or interrupting idea sharing.
- **Focus person:** All ideas are valid and should be acknowledged. Merely say, "Thank you," and write ideas down or ask someone to record for you.
- **Focus person:** Avoid using up valuable time discussing why some ideas won't work. Choose the idea that is the best fit and commit to reporting back.

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