

characterfirst

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The inward values
that determine
outward actions

Character Quality Guide

Alertness vs. Carelessness

Being aware of what is taking place around me so I can have the right responses

Attentiveness vs. Distraction

Showing the worth of a person or task by giving my undivided concentration

Availability vs. Self-Centeredness

Making my schedule and priorities secondary to the wishes of those I serve

Benevolence vs. Selfishness

Giving to others' basic needs without having as my motive personal reward

Boldness vs. Fear

Confidence to say or do what is true, right, and just

Cautiousness vs. Rashness

Knowing the importance of right timing in accomplishing right actions

Compassion vs. Indifference

Investing whatever is necessary to heal the hurts of others

Contentment vs. Covetousness

Realizing that true happiness does not depend on material conditions

Creativity vs. Underachievement

Approaching a need, a task, or an idea from a new perspective

Decisiveness vs. Procrastination

The ability to recognize key factors and finalize difficult decisions

Deference vs. Rudeness

Limiting my freedom so I do not offend the tastes of those around me

Dependability vs. Inconsistency

Fulfilling what I consented to do, even if it means unexpected sacrifice

Determination vs. Faintheartedness

Purposing to accomplish right goals at the right time, regardless of the opposition

Diligence vs. Laziness

Investing all my energy to complete the tasks assigned to me

Discernment vs. Shortsightedness

Understanding the deeper reasons why things happen

Discretion vs. Recklessness

Recognizing and avoiding words, actions, and attitudes that could bring undesirable consequences

Endurance vs. Despair

The inward strength to withstand stress and do my best

Enthusiasm vs. Apathy

Expressing joy in each task as I give it my best effort

Faith vs. Ignorance

Confidence that actions rooted in good character will yield the best outcome, even when I cannot see how

Flexibility vs. Stubbornness

Willingness to change plans or ideas without getting upset

Forgiveness vs. Bitterness

Clearing the record of those who have wronged me and not holding a grudge

Generosity vs. Stinginess

Carefully managing my resources so I can freely give to those in need

Gentleness vs. Harshness

Showing consideration and personal concern for others

Gratefulness vs. Presumption

Letting others know by my words and actions how they have benefited my life

Honor vs. Disrespect

Respecting others because of their worth as human beings

Hospitality vs. Loneliness

Cheerfully sharing food, shelter, and friendship with others

Humility vs. Arrogance

Acknowledging that achievement results from the investment of others in my life

Initiative vs. Idleness

Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it

Joyfulness vs. Self-Pity

Maintaining a good attitude, even when faced with unpleasant conditions

Justice vs. Corruption

Taking personal responsibility to uphold what is pure, right, and true

Loyalty vs. Unfaithfulness

Using difficult times to demonstrate my commitment to those I serve

Meekness vs. Rage

Yielding my personal rights and expectations with a desire to serve

Obedience vs. Rebellion

Quickly and cheerfully carrying out the direction of those who are responsible for me

Orderliness vs. Confusion

Arranging myself and my surroundings to achieve greater efficiency

Patience vs. Restlessness

Accepting a difficult situation without giving a deadline to remove it

Persuasiveness vs. Contentiousness

Guiding vital truths around another's mental roadblocks

Punctuality vs. Tardiness

Showing esteem for others by doing the right thing at the right time

Resourcefulness vs. Wastefulness

Making wise use of what others might overlook or discard

Responsibility vs. Unreliability

Knowing and doing what is expected of me

Security vs. Worry

Structuring my life around that which cannot be destroyed or taken away

Self-Control vs. Self-Indulgence

Rejecting wrong desires and doing what is right

Sensitivity vs. Callousness

Using my senses to perceive the true attitudes and emotions of others

Sincerity vs. Hypocrisy

Eagerly doing what is right with transparent motives

Thoroughness vs. Incompleteness

Knowing what factors will diminish the effectiveness of my work or words, if neglected

Thriftiness vs. Extravagance

Allowing myself and others to spend only what is necessary

Tolerance vs. Hostility

Accepting others at different levels of maturity

Truthfulness vs. Dishonesty

Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts

Virtue vs. Vice

The moral excellence evident in my life as I consistently do what is right

Wisdom vs. Foolishness

Making practical applications of truth in daily decisions

Why Character First?

Character touches everything you do. It takes character to live with integrity, build healthy relationships, and improve your work and world.

Character First focuses on character-based leadership developments at work, in school, at home, and in the community.

Character-Building Tips:

- **Emphasize** character by studying one quality each week or month. Discuss it with coworkers, friends, and family members.
- **Recognize** character by catching people doing good and pointing out the character qualities they demonstrated.
- **Require** character by evaluating daily decisions. Ask yourself, "Is this the right thing to do?"