

**working
with gen x
bosses**



**who is
gen x?**







born 1965 to 1981

49 million

Half have a post-secondary degree

43% have bachelor's degree
(46% women; 40% men)

79% of Gen X women work outside the home

62% white

reality bit



latch-key



challenger



economic loss



divorce



AIDS



scandal

**INDEPENDENT
PRACTICAL
SKEPTICAL**

**COLLABORATIVE
ADAPTABLE
TRANSLATORS**

COMPETENCE

RESULTS

ACCOUNTABILITY

TRADITIONALISTS

BOOMERS

GENX

MILLENNIALS

**BOOMERS ARE
RETIRING AT A
RATE OF 10,000
PER DAY**

**BY 2020, 65% OF
THE WORKFORCE
WILL BE GENX AND
MILLENNIALS**

A woman with long, straight blonde hair is shown from the chest up, wearing a bright blue blazer over a black top. She is looking slightly to her left with a neutral expression. The background is dark blue with the words "WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM" repeated in a light, sans-serif font. The text "who is gen x?" is overlaid in white, bold, lowercase letters on the right side of the image.

**who is
gen x?**

x marks the boss



barack obama
president



sheryl sandberg
facebook



jeff bezos
amazon



michael dell
dell



sarah blakely
spanx

gen x boss v. boomer boss

More collaborative.

Less hierarchical.

More altruistic.

More comfortable with diversity.

More skilled in management.

More tech-savvy.

More work-life balance.

Candid in their communications.

Self-reliant.

Rule-challengers.

how genx works

some ways different, others not really

Action-oriented.

Committed to family.

Expect work-life balance.

At ease with diversity.

Good managers and communicators.

Independent, sometimes fiercely so.

Multi-taskers.

Time most valuable commodity.

Tech adopters and translators.

Practical.

Results-oriented.

what x expects

a lot, of ourselves and our team

Initiative.

Ideas.

Innovation.

Follow-through.

Honesty and respect.

Acknowledgement of experience.

Taking responsibility.

how to get help

mentoring, guidance, answers

Ask.

But be specific.

And make it easy.

Mind your boss's time.

how to be noticed

impress your gen x boss

Accept feedback well.

Bring new ideas and insights.

Handle issues.

Be positive about our work.

Get to know clients and colleagues.

See problems and solve them.

Bring yourself to work.

what not to do

at least too much

Whine.

Dress inappropriately.

Disregard the chain of command.

Waste time.

Fail to adjust to work styles around you.

Be late.

Make excuses.

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