

Put Your Ego to the Test

Score one point for every “yes” answer. If your final tally is 1–3, congratulations, your ego is in check. If your score totals 4–6, beware, possible danger ahead. If your score total is 7 or higher, your business is in danger of being destroyed by a super-sized ego.

10 Questions for Business Leaders

1. Is this company the major part of my identity?
2. Do I have photos of myself with celebrities, politicians, and famous people on my walls and desk?
3. When disagreements or setbacks happen, is it hard not to take things personally?
4. Does anyone else care about this company as much as I do?
5. Am I usually the most knowledgeable person in the room?
6. Is loyalty more important to me than experience or skill?
7. If I left, would this company fold?
8. When problems happen, is someone else usually at fault?
9. Do I tend to ignore advice if it conflicts with my views?
10. Is trial and error the best way for this company to grow?

10 Questions for Employees

1. Does my boss usually talk down to me?
2. Do I wish my boss would quit micromanaging and just let me do my job?
3. Does my boss tend to turn discussions into win-lose arguments?
4. Is it rare that my boss takes the blame for something?
5. Does my boss know what's really going on at this company?
6. Does my boss know much about my life outside of work?
7. Does this company care more about image than results?
8. Does my boss take things too personally?
9. Does my boss seem to change goals and strategies without input?
10. Does my boss tend to ignore feedback that conflicts with his/her views?