



Group Decision Tip

E-mailed every two weeks to help groups make good decisions

Incrementally

In principle, the best things are always built in tiny stages. Often there is the illusion of dramatic change, but even seemingly miraculous changes result from thousands of small steps. Taking small steps forward on a project lets us learn as we go and adjust. Big steps are risky. Small steps are sure-footed. Nature builds in very small increments and achieves very great things.

Practical Tip: Do things small before you do them big, on small stages before big stages. Make use of pilot projects, test cases, and trial runs. Make commitments incrementally. Proceed with many small steps rather than a few giant leaps. When your group wants to rush ahead asking, "What's the biggest step we can take to achieve our objective?" ask also, "What's the smallest step we can take?"

It is better to take a small step in what we know is the right direction than to take a large step in what might be the wrong direction.

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