Creating Your Mastermind Group Planning Guide

By Cheryl K. Callighan, MVA, Mentor/Coach
eOffice-Virtual Assistants LLC
University of Virtual Assistants
Introduction
How to Assemble a Mastermind Group

Choose people who are already where you would like to be in your life or business. Seek people who are a level above where you are.

Start by creating a list of at least 12 people you would like to invite to your Mastermind Group. (see the Phone Script below).

Chances are you will be introducing these people to something new. Once you explain the objective of the Mastermind Group, to support and assist all those involved to achieve the success in life and business that they dream of, you will have no trouble signing people up. Who doesn’t want to succeed? And who doesn’t need support?

The Ideal Size for a Mastermind Group

The ideal size for a Mastermind Group is 5-6 people. Beyond this size the group dynamics are unwieldy and below this number you could lose momentum.

The larger the group the more time needed for everyone to speak, brainstorm and review. The smaller groups allows for better time management and more interaction.

Phone Call Script

Example:

Hi ______________, my name is ______________________.

I’m a software developer with a new product for AS/400 systems that helps e-commerce companies handled multiple billing and subscriptions. Though I’m just starting out, I’ve gotten some interest from a number of people in forming a mastermind group that would help all of us access new resources and discover new solutions and perspectives that we probably haven’t thought of before.

I especially wanted you to be in the group. I believe you’d get a lot of value out of it and I’m not sure that you have your own mastermind group yet. Can I put you down on my list?
The group would meet every other week to brainstorm on each other’s challenges. We can do it in person, or the group might decide to meet by phone instead.

If you could have 5-6 other prominent CEO’s working on your company’s challenges or even your personal ones, would that be something you would set aside an hour a week for? _____________ has already agreed to be involved. I’m not sure if you know him.

Assembling Your Mastermind Group

Your personal goals for planning this group:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

List 12 People You Will Call to Join the Group:
(rank in order of preference; stop calling after the first 6 who join)

1. ___________________________________________________
2. ___________________________________________________
3. ___________________________________________________
4. ___________________________________________________
5. ___________________________________________________
6. ___________________________________________________
7. ___________________________________________________
8. ___________________________________________________
9. ___________________________________________________
10. ______________________________________________
11. ______________________________________________
12. ______________________________________________
Steps to Conducting Your Mastermind Meeting

#1 Ask for guidance

Ask for guidance from God or a higher power. A sample invocation might be: “We open our hearts to receive your guidance.”

#2 Share the good news and positives

Share your success stories with the group since the last time you met. This will help you to bond with the group members and show just how well the mastermind process is working in your life and business.

#3 Negotiate for time

Establish a time allotment for each member. Members can negotiate for more time if necessary.

#4 Individuals speak, listen and brainstorm

In your first session decide on the ground rules for discussions. Will you allow personal or only professional discussions? What is off-limits, what is acceptable to everyone.

#5 Make a commitment to stretch

Once everyone has had a turn to speak, get feedback and brainstorm, the appointed timekeeper will ask each person to make a verbal to commitment to something they will do before the next meeting.

#6 End with gratitude

You might end your meeting as you started with, express gratitude to God or higher power and express your appreciation of everyone in the group.
Personal Mastermind Plan for this week –

Invocation to Share:

News to Share:

I need extra time for:

I plan to talk about:

My commitment to stretch:
### Mastermind Journal –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges or projects to share with the group:</th>
<th>Suggestions from the group:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contacts/People/Resources suggested by the group:</th>
<th>Areas to take action on:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>