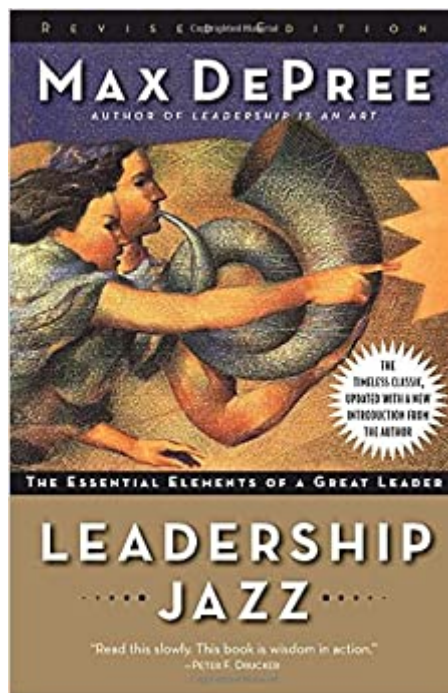




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# Leadership Jazz - Revised Edition: The Essential Elements Of A Great Leader



## Synopsis

Since it was first published to wide acclaim in 1992, the bestselling *Leadership Jazz* has firmly placed itself among the great business classics. Former President Bill Clinton called it “astonishing,” and the late Peter Drucker advised, “Read this slowly. This book is wisdom in action.” Now updated for first time in well over a decade, this powerful book reveals why today, more than ever, leadership is more an art than a science. Today’s best leaders, De Pree says, are attuned to the needs and ideas of their followers, and even step aside at times to be followers themselves. Filled with insightful stories from De Pree’s experience as the chairman of Herman Miller and from people he’s met along the way, *Leadership Jazz* reveals how to:

- Hold people accountable and give them space to reach their potential
- See the needs of employees and those of the company as the same
- Inspire change and innovation
- Work effectively with creative people

Complete with an extensive new introduction from De Pree on why his philosophy is more relevant now than ever before, *Leadership Jazz* gives you an entirely new way to look at the difficult job of leader.

## Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Crown Business; Revised ed. edition (November 4, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 038552630X

ISBN-13: 978-0385526302

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 45 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #70,055 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Books > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Mentoring & Coaching #67 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > Leadership #154 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Elections & Political Process > General

## Customer Reviews

MAX DePREE is the author of *Leadership Is an Art*. He was CEO and chairman of the board of directors of Herman Miller Inc., and was recently elected by Fortune to the National Business Hall of Fame.

Jazz is the right metaphor for business today. I have long thought that the popular metaphor for business leadership of an orchestra conductor is wrong in the rapidly changing conditions of today. To say that a CEO's job is like an orchestra conductor's -- to keep every one at the same place on the same page -- assumes there is a score that all of the musicians have to follow. There isn't. Jazz demands improvisation. It gives individual musicians the freedom to create and to respond to each others creations. Max De Pree recognizes this and states this metaphor accurately at the beginning of his book. "We have much to learn from jazz-band leaders, for jazz, like leadership, combines the unpredictability of the future with the gifts of individuals." (page 9) But, De Pree doesn't develop this metaphor further. The title of the book, "Leadership Jazz", implies more than the book delivers in development of the metaphor. The book does deliver very good advice on leadership. It is an excellent description of the power of "servant leadership" which is the real metaphor of the book, and, judging from the many stories De Pree relates from his years as the CEO and Chairman of Herman Miller, Inc., it is the metaphor for his life. Leaders do need to read this book. I just wish De Pree had developed the richness of the jazz metaphor.

Great easy read with applications. Loved the writing style and vulnerability of the author

The biggest complaint a person can give is if they will listen to the CD again and I will definitely do that. I listened to the CD when I was driving so I garnered some good insights but I think I also missed some. Throughout the book Depree loosely uses the analogy of a band director to leadership which was intriguing. I wish he would have furthered developed the analogy but then again maybe I missed it when I was changing lanes!

I had to purchase this book for a class and ended up enjoying it! And as I read it, I kept thinking of various people I wanted to lend it to because it can be applied to all aspects of leadership: business, church, family, & more.

Max de Pree has the experience and the will to use it; and then write about it. It compares with his best book *Leading Without Power*

Every aspiring leader or one in an administrative position should read and own two books. Books I continue to keep and give away are: *LEADERSHIP JAZZ* and *LEADERSHIP AS AN ART*. Both

books are still available.

Wonderful concepts on leadership. Worth the read.

If you really wish to understand the true "spirit" of leadership, this is a simple, from-the-heart book that will lift your commitment to those you serve, so you can lift their spirits in turn. Mr. DePree's wisdom is profound. The notion of "Jazz" may be confusing to some. This book is not "jazzy." It's about the process of leading others in a way that encourages them to improvise and harmonize as jazz musicians do.

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