

Ask SCORE

6 SIMPLE STEPS FOR GETTING THINGS DONE AT YOUR SMALL BUSINESS

Whether you are running a for-profit or nonprofit business, an ability to organize efforts and initiatives is a necessary skill to achieve success. Effectively executing efforts and accomplishing goals requires planning and coordination among team members (which may be a combination of employees, vendors, suppliers, contractors, etc.).

While some small business owners seem to have a natural knack for project management, it is not everyone's strength. Do not feel defeated if it is not yours and you do not have the resources to hire a professional project manager.

With a process in place to guide you, you — or a designated person from your team — will become more adept at moving projects from start to finish.

The following tips will help you create a roadmap that you can follow whenever embarking on any new project.

Your 6-Step Guide to Successful Project Management

1. Define your goal and get buy-in from all project team members. As you do this, you will want to determine each team member's role and responsibilities. In this step, also consider how the project will affect your company and how you will measure the project's impact.

2. Determine the project deliverables. What key tasks do team members need to accomplish to move the project along the path to completion? You will also need to identify which deliverables depend on other deliverables, so you can establish a timeline that puts tasks in a logical order.

3. List the resources you will need. Assess what you will need regarding budget, person-hours and tools to complete the project.

(Continued on page 14)

Sheryl Williams
HAIR REPLACEMENT MED SPA

Transforming Lives with Confidence



Services

- Professional Hair Styling.
- Hair Coloring.
- Scalp and Hair Treatments.
- Extensions.
- Medical-Grade Hair Restoration.

484.236.4600

955 Benjamin Franklin Hwy, Douglassville, PA 19518



**CHESTER PERFETTO
AGENCY, INC.**



We Are Your One Stop Insurance Agency Since 1971

- 401k & IRA Rollovers
- Annuities
- Auto
- Business Insurance
- Dental
- Group
- Health (Pennie)
- Homeowners
- Life & Financial Expenses
- Medicare Plans
- Part D Prescription Plans
- Travel Insurance

40 Commerce Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610 (610) 678-0373

6081 Hamilton Blvd. Suite 600, Allentown, PA 18106 (610) 743-7823

www.travelsafe.com • www.perfettoinsurance.com

Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM



SCAN ME



Geyer Auction Companies AY-000243-L
484-239-3273 • www.geyerauctions.com

Do you have vehicles or equipment to sell? Give us a call today.

New 8-Acre Location: 724 Route 100 Bechtelsville, PA 19505

We are the area's leading commercial auction company specializing in Vehicles, Trucks, Heavy Equipment, Tools and Business Liquidations.

We can sell 1 piece to 100 at your location or our auction facility on Rte 100.



Now accepting consignments for trucks, vehicles, trailers, heavy equipment, contractor tools and landscape equipment.



Reach thousands of buyers with our nationwide advertising, social media marketing and on-line bidding platform. We offer competitive commission rates and payment within 10 days.



Do you have vehicles or equipment to sell?
Give us a call today.

484-239-3273

www.geyerauctions.com

Is Your Website Optimized for AEO?



**Learn How
To Get Ready
for Voice
and
AI Search.**



**Interlace
Communications**

DESIGN | MARKETING | SOLUTIONS

iciconnect.com | yourteam@iciconnect.com

484-709-6564

Ask SCORE

(Continued from page 13)

4. Set a timeline and identify milestones to mark your progress. After knowing what needs to be done and by whom, create target completion dates for your project deliverables. In your timeline, identify interim goals ("milestones") that can serve as major landmarks along the way. As the project progresses, your ability to reach milestones will help you know if you'll need to adjust your scope, budget or expectations. Milestones also help boost morale as they help project team members see the progress they have made.

5. Define the collaborative process. Determine how often your team members will meet as a group to report their progress and share any challenges that might prevent them from fulfilling their deadlines. Schedule your meetings well in advance, so everyone on your team can reserve the dates and times on their calendars.

6. Select a tool to help you stay organized and keep all project documentation in a single place accessible to all team members. A variety of online tools exist that can help you manage projects. Some are more intuitive than others, so assess your team members' comfort level with the technology involved before

choosing what you will use. A few examples that might be a good fit for your business include Trello, Evernote, Asana, Dropbox, and Google Drive.

Although you might try to save time by skipping some of the initial steps in the process, you should resist that temptation. Successful project management begins with thorough planning. Shortcuts in the beginning could lead to misunderstandings among team members — and missed deadlines.

If you need suggestions on how to manage your projects more efficiently, consider reaching out to SCORE. SCORE mentors have expertise in all aspects of starting and growing a small business, and they can provide you with free guidance as you hone your project management skills.

Since 1964, SCORE "Mentors to America's Small Business" has helped more than 10 million aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through mentoring and business workshops. More than 11,000 volunteer business mentors in over 320 chapters serve their communities through entrepreneur education dedicated to the formation, growth and success of small businesses. For more information about starting or operating a small business, contact SCORE TriCounty. You can call 610.327.2673 or visit the website at www.score.org/tricounty.



**VISIT US AT OUR
NEW LOCATION >>>**

MG
 MUHLENBERG GREENE
 ARCHITECTS
 ESTABLISHED 1920



MG-ARCHITECTS.COM
 ARCHITECTURE | DESIGN | PLANNING

Commercial Remodeling Offices • Retail • Apartments

HYDIER BUILDERS, INC.

Design • Build • Remodel
 Project Management Services

*Projects range from single offices
to multi-unit buildings.*

Local Contractor Since 1968

Call Brian at 610-724-6104

www.hydierebuilders.com

