John Kotter's Change Model



Step	Key Activities
Increase Urgency	 Examine internal conditions and competitive realities Identify major opportunities, risks, or potential crisis Provide external evidence that change is necessary
Build the Guiding Team	 Assemble the right group to lead the change effort; attract key change leaders Ensure the group has the appropriate level of power Show enthusiasm and commitment
Get the Vision Right	 Create the right vision to direct the change effort Develop strategies for achieving the vision
Communicate for Buy-in	 Use every vehicle possible to communicate the new vision and strategies Keep communication simple and heartfelt; tell stories to engage others Teach new behaviors by the example of the guiding team and of key leaders
Empower Action	 Remove obstacles that prevent the change Change organizational structures and systems that may be working against the change vision
Create Short Term Wins	 Identify short-term wins and ensure they are visible Recognize and reward those involved in creating the short-term wins
Do Not Let Up	 Continue to create visible performance improvements Recognize and reward personnel involved in the improvements Reinforce the key behaviors that led to the improvements
Make Change Stick	Clearly communicate the connections between the new behaviors and corporate success

Adapted from: Kotter, John P. Leading Change. Boston, MA: Harvard Business School Press, 1996.