



DREAM TEAM CHEAT SHEET

The A-Team, The Avengers, The Beatles, nothing beats a great team.

In fact, there's an argument to be made that the very essence of what makes these groups great is the sum of their various skills and flaws meshed into one entity. This dynamic doesn't just work for superheroes and musicians, it's something you should consider as well.

Trying to tackle the challenges of life on your own is not only time-consuming, but often renders a less-than-desirable result. In addition, having a great team ensures you're growing with other perspectives in mind, gaining more self-awareness, and filtering your decisions through trusted people. We aren't great at everything, so having life collaborators that fill the gaps in your skillset is essential.

"But I work solo. I'm great at solving my own problems. Why do I need a Dream Team?"

Well, the bottom-line is this; we all need a Dream Team around us, no matter what our lifestyle looks like. As that old, cliché adage goes: "Faster alone, further together". Don't we all want to go a little further?

Sourcing collaborators for your individual growth isn't an easy process, and you may not get it right on the first try. Here I'd like to paint a picture of what each role should look like so you have a simple roadmap when trying to find your Dream Team. Each role has a specific purpose, and I've offered a stand-in "alternative" for seasons of life where that role, for one reason or another, can't be filled.



The Icon

This is, by far, the easiest role to fill. Pick someone you idolize.

A celebrity, a great thinker, a true icon. Now study them. Buy their biography, listen to their podcast, watch documentaries about them.

What made them great? What did their process look like? What did they regret, and what can I learn from that?

Write it all down.

Bonus points if they work in the same field as you, or come from a similar background.

Alternative:

Can't think of a great icon?

Try starting with some tried-and-true philosophers.

Socrates, Confucius, Martin Luther King Jr. or Lady Diana



The Mentor

Icon + Access = Mentor. This is someone who you admire deeply.

They live a lifestyle and display a perspective that you almost envy. They've achieved what you could only hope to one day achieve yourself, and they are willing to tell it like it is. This role is possibly the hardest to fill. Individuals that you would consider "mentor material" are probably incredibly busy. In order for this role to work you must have consistent access to this person.

That access looks different in every situation; regular coffee meetings, a monthly phone call, etc. To get this mentor interested in your growth try offering them something of value. Can you do a little work for them on the side? Do you have a skill or talent that would benefit them?

Keep the relationship mutual.

Alternative:

Can't find that perfect mentor just yet? Start small with an older family member or a respected person in your community. They may not be a business tycoon or a world-shifting artist, but get in the habit of meeting with people who have a little life experience under their belt.



The Peer

This is almost always the most overlooked member of your dream team.

Networking shouldn't always be vertical. There is immense value in connecting to people who are on the same path that you are walking.

Does someone in your social sphere have similar dreams?

Find them, swap notes, and learn together.

Who knows, when they have a great opportunity you may be the first person they call?

Alternative:

Don't have friends with similar interests yet?

The internet is perfect for this.

Find the online communities that are centered around your passion and get active.

FINAL NOTES: *It's going to take time to find your Dream Team, you may not fill every role perfectly, and people will always let you down. **It's a process, but that process has to start now.***

Focus on financial, fitness, family, faith and fun... or make your own categories!

Who will be my Icon in this season?



Pick 2 people that can fill this role.

Who will be my target mentors? People I can meet with in person or virtually?



Pick 2 people that can fill this role.

Who will I target for a peer?



Pick 2 people that can fill this role.



About the author:

Co-founder of Capacity7, influencer, author and speaker to Fortune 500, armed services and not for profit organizations. Andy's passion is to serve and equip the next generation of millennial and centennial leaders. He is a leading authority and pioneer of the modern mentoring movement and founded two leading communications organizations, leadershipbd.com and capacity7.com. Prior to Capacity7, Andy worked in the beverage industry. He invented a national beverage brand called Fruit2O. He loves adventure and will be hiking Mount Kilimanjaro in 2021. Andy is married to Nikki and has three children.



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