# How To Be Your Own Best Advocate



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#### **Women & Imposter Syndrome**



"A psychological condition that is characterised by persistent doubt concerning one's abilities or accomplishments accompanied by the fear of being exposed as a fraud despite evidence of one's ongoing success"

Men apply for jobs when they meet 60%

of the criteria

Women only apply when they meet 100%

(HBR, 2014)

- High-achieving women experienced imposter syndrome in its most intense form
- The relationship between imposter syndrome and women was far closer than with men
- Over two-thirds of women experience imposter syndrome (compared to just over half of men)

#### The Imposter Cycle Anxiety, Achievementself-doubt, related tasks worry **Over-preparation Procrastination ACCOMPLISHMENT** Perceived fraudulene, increased self-doubt. LUCK **EFFORT** of relief depression, anxiety POSITIVE FEEDBACK **Discount** positive feedback Figure 1. Diagram illustrating the Imposter Cycle based on Clance (1985). The cycle begins with the assignment of achievement related tasks.

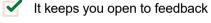
### Turn Imposter Syndrome into your Signature Strength!



It keeps you in a learner mindset



It increases adaptability



It protects you from "de-railing"



## Which Imposter Syndrome Profile Are You?



You feel that to be worthy of success, you must know more. You often compare yourself with others, causing you to freeze up and take no action in fear of being "caught out".



You believe that any success you've achieved up until this point isn't because you're capable, clever, or even deserving. You hold yourself back and don't apply for opportunities, thinking that your best days are behind you.



The Perfectionist

You believe that to experience success, everything must be perfect. This presents itself in your business as procrastination. You believe that once the plan is perfect, your action will achieve perfection. The problem is, often the action doesn't come.

### **Master this Sneaky Syndrome**

We experience imposter syndrome:



in times of transition when we're outside

of our comfort zones

Know yourself and your VALUES

How can you overcome imposter syndrome?

**CELEBRATE** your successes

of perfectionism

Play to your STRENGTHS

4





