



# Complete Executive: The 10-Step System to Powering Up Peak Performance

By Karen Wright, Michael Bungay Stanier

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Being a leader requires much more than just understanding how to run a business. Today's executive is under a unique set of demands, coming from multiple stakeholders. In *The Complete Executive*, long-time executive coach Karen Wright introduces a unique 10-step system that takes all of these aspects of leadership development into account. Leaders not only need incredible physical energy and stamina, they need a support system, philosophy, plan, business acumen, a social network, and a brand and reputation that will ensure they achieve their vision. Backed by an assessment tool, giving each leader a personal "report card," this book provides aspiring leaders with a framework to address all aspects of leadership that translates to peak performance. Wright knows from experience that even when everything is going well for leaders, high achievers don't stop there, which is why *The Complete Executive* is designed as a resource to return to again and again for continuous improvement.

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"Karen Wright cuts to the chase. No time wasted. She tells you what to do and why to do it, then lays out the road map to get you there. Brilliant!" (Marcia Conner, co-author of "The New Social Learning"; consultant to some of the world's largest organizations)

"A powerful synthesis of the 100 key practices that have fueled the journeys of countless world-class business leaders. Wright's rare ability to see and integrate 'life beyond the office' as a key enabler in professional excellence makes this a must-read. Don't just buy it, live it!" (Jonathan Fields, author of "Uncertainty"; founder "GoodLifeProject.com")"

"One piece at a time or all in one go, this is the holistic must-read manual for any exec who needs to take his or her performance to the next level." (Mark Bowden, communication coach to the Fortune 500 C-suite and G8 Leaders and author of "Winning Body Language")

"There are many guides to self-improvement on the market, but this is one of the only books I've ever seen that addresses the myriad ways to become a 'complete executive' from an evidence-based perspective. Based on real-world experience, the author has gathered fresh stories and paired them with scientific data to support her 100-point plan to be effective in life and business. If you don't own this book and study it carefully, you will be doing yourself a grave disservice because it has become a must-read for my clients." (Caroline Adams Miller, MAPP, coach; author of "Creating Your Best Life")

"Speaking from years of experience witnessing extraordinary successes (and failures), Karen Wright solidly debunks the myth that a highly successful career and a fulfilling, balanced life are mutually exclusive." (Eric Berlow, PhD, TED Senior Fellow)

"The key word is 'complete.' Karen's extensive experience working with leaders at all levels has allowed her to craft the best guide to executive success that I've read." (Gavin Brown, Executive Director, Executive Development, Richard Ivey School of Business)

"Karen Wright delivers a fun, compact, and relevant guide for the "everyday executive" to become the "complete executive". Her refreshing style and practical recommendations keep the reader focused on their day job, while easily improving their leadership skills in real-time. Finally, a can-do book that gives executives a chance to integrate a triple-bottom line approach (work, life, and making a difference in people's lives), bringing leadership standards up to where they need to be in the 21st century. This book is a new starting point for executive transformation and will drive a revolution in North America's boardrooms!" (David Ahrens, SAP Americas, Competitive and Market Intelligence Executive, Palo Alto, California)

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*"There are plenty of romanticized theories about what it takes to build and lead a successful start-up, specifically in the digital media space. The truth is, I've worked many aspects of Karen Wright's 10 steps as my leadership journey unfolded. Our company's success is attributed to our dedication to core values and principles. However, my personal pursuit of success as a leader and executive had no playbook. **The Complete Executive** is an exceptional resource that documents the levels of development and dedication being a great CEO requires. There are no shortcuts—and the journey continues."* (**Shawn Riegsecker, founder & CEO, Centro**)

"Karen Wright delivers a fun, compact, and relevant guide for the *everyday executive* to become the *complete executive*. Her refreshing style and practical recommendations keep the reader focused on their day job, while easily improving their leadership skills in real-time. Finally, a can-do book that gives executives a chance to integrate a triple-bottom line approach (work, life, and making a difference in people's lives), bringing leadership standards up to where they need to be in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This book is a new starting point for executive transformation and will drive a revolution in North America's boardrooms!" (**David Ahrens, SAP Americas, Competitive and Market Intelligence Executive, Palo Alto, California**)

"Speaking from years of experience witnessing extraordinary successes (and failures), Karen Wright solidly debunks the myth that a highly successful career and a fulfilling, balanced life are mutually exclusive." (**Eric Berlow, PhD, TED Senior Fellow**)

#### About the Author

**Karen Wright** has coached top business leaders and helped individuals and teams from Fortune 500 companies manage change, increase productivity, integrate their personal and professional lives, and achieve their own definitions of success. Karen founded Parachute Executive Coaching, a coaching and consulting firm, in 1996. She is frequently in the media, including on CTV News, CBC Radio One, *The Globe & Mail*, CFRA Radio Ottawa, TalkRadio U.K., *The Toronto Star*, *Kiplinger's*, and *Computer World Magazine*. Karen has an MBA from the Ivey School and an undergraduate degree in Economics from the University of Western Ontario. The first Professional Certified Coach (PCC) in Canada and now one of an elite group of Master Certified Coaches, Karen is a leader in the field of corporate coaching. Core to her coaching philosophy is the belief that personal happiness and professional fulfillment can be achieved all at once. Karen resides in Toronto, Canada.

**Michael Bungay Stanier** is Senior Partner at Box of Crayons and author of *Do More Great Work*.

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