

# Solution to How to Succeed in Business

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## Step 1: Identify the elements and find their atomic number on the Periodic Table

1. Just because it is senior management's job to **lead**, don't expect them to know where they're going. [82]
2. Only the secretary is permitted to organize a party. He keeps the balloons, **helium** tank, streamers, and noisemakers locked up like Fort Knox. Try to bring your own party favors and you will feel his wrath. [2]
3. Working with others in an office atmosphere has been known to drive many employees into fits of insanity and rage. As a preventative measure, you should keep alcohol and a bottle of **lithium** pills on hand in case of emergency. [3]
4. Don't work too hard. There are no **gold** stars in business. [79]
5. Middle managers have large yet delicate egos; do not upstage them. When it comes to style, think 'Nice Enough.' Wear Dockers, not Brooks Brothers. Drive a **Mercury**, not a Cadillac. Eat a burger, not a lobster. [80]
6. It is inappropriate to have strobe lights or **neon** beer signs in your cubicle; however, flashing pins are acceptable provided that they are worn in a discreet manner on your shirt or blouse and in an area that is below the neck and above the ribcage. [10]
7. If a coworker complains about you over email, it is considered polite to **carbon**-copy the rest of us for maximum entertainment. [6]
8. Buy some Gladware. Don't ruin the microwave for the rest of us. (Little known fact: Arby's sandwiches are indeed wrapped in **aluminum** foil. Take it out!) [13]
9. You don't have to work in **Silicon** Valley to work on great technology. You do, however, need to work somewhere other than JoTech. [14]
10. Don't drink from the water fountain. One day it tastes like rotten eggs, and the next day it tastes like **chlorine**. They are trying to poison us. [17]
11. Learn to sleep with your eyes open. Trust me - if you had a **nickel** for every boring meeting you will have to attend, you would not need this job. [28]
12. Some managers rule with an **iron** fist; others believe in a more *laissez-faire* approach. Try to work for the latter. [26]
13. If you are working productively on your project for more than one hour, immediately stop what you are doing, go into the kitchenette, and strike up a banal conversation. Efficiency is like **kryptonite** in the business world - no good. (Note that the conversation should *not* occur in someone's cubicle in order to reduce the likelihood of work resuming in a timely manner.) [36]
14. Make use of your sick days. Management is as heartless as the **Tin** Man when it comes to taking personal days otherwise. [50]

## Step 2: Connect the pins like Connect-the-Dots, using the atomic numbers as a guide

2 → 3 → 6 → 10 → 13 → 14 → 17 →  
26 → 28 → 36 → 50 → 79 → 80 → 82

The resulting picture is the answer, **KEY**.

