

We all face a situation in our life where we have to deal with an incredibly difficult person. That situation can be irritating, infuriating, and sometimes even terrifying. There is absolutely no simple explanation for why some people are challenging to work with. Just like the people, the factors responsible are diverse. The fact that we get along well enough despite our differences oftentimes astounds me. As I reminisce on my professional and academic journey so far, I have met numerous people directly and indirectly and learned a lot of lessons for my professional as well as personal life. While working as a software engineer at Wipro, I encountered a challenging situation that played a major role in developing my professional outlook for future endeavors. Throughout this job, I have met many people and even discovered my strengths and weaknesses. But what I admire the most is that I got the opportunity to encounter different circumstances and learned to be prepared to face all types of situations anytime. All these experiences have made me more confident not only in a professional setting but also in my personal life. At Wipro, I was assigned to work with a team of software engineers when we were allotted a crucial project. I felt fortunate to work with a team of experts on a project that could evolve me. One of my team members was hard to work with. Whenever he asked for something from my end, he didn't keep any patience for it and wanted it immediately. But it was not possible practically as my domain of developing software is very technical and any mistake in that could lead to big errors. Many of the similar instances between him and me and thus, I tried to take a step further and make him understand this thing he was too stubborn to listen to any of it as I am younger than him and possess less experience. Initially, I thought of taking this matter to upper management but when I conferred with some acquaintances, they suggested me handle it at my level only. The actual challenge came when our client asked us for a major change just a few days before when we were scheduled to submit the project. The change they requested was not an easy one but we as a team decided to conquer this challenge. The same person tried to sideline me in this project even when I was the one who suggested a strategy to incorporate the change suggested by our client and even finish the project on time. Whenever I got emails from that tough fellow whose only goal seems to be to complicate everything. The instinctive response when dealing with tough people like him is to be harsh which I became to some extent. My initial comeback was to defend myself whenever I felt like he is attacking me. What I have discovered in almost every challenging circumstance is that kindness goes a lot further than being confrontational. When two people are tough on each other, the problem frequently worsens until it becomes impossible to resolve. On the other side, when you repeatedly show compassion to a complex and difficult individual, the situation becomes less tense and you end up having more of what you desire. Thus, if I face a similar situation in future employment, I would rather be more kind and compassionate in such circumstances and try to handle everything with patience and good behavior. Also, I will try to build more cordial relationships with my team members

to ensure that there is no scope for such situations to develop. Even at my workplace, I wish to decipher my across-the-board attitude with my colleagues and help us in fostering a friendly and open work atmosphere. Initially, I believed that having technical expertise made one competent to be a team player. However, I was proved wrong when I picked up that role. I understood that it was more about establishing effective communication and extending coordination among the divisions for smooth functioning. In the process, a team member has to set the right expectations for another member, empower everyone to be the best version, and build a foundation for a new transformation. Furthermore, all my life, I am propelled by two core values in both personal and professional backdrops, which are perseverance and acknowledgment of my mistakes. Hailing from a mediocre background, I have witnessed how much effort is mandated as success doesn't come easily. I conceded that perseverance has limitations as well because too much perseverance towards an activity makes us emotionally imbued with it. As we invest more, it becomes more complicated to stroll away from it. Therefore, I try to preserve a balance between attachment and endeavor in everything. And no matter how perfect we try to become, it is in human nature to commit blunders. The thing lies in acknowledging where we went wrong, and progress is when we never repeat that mistake again.