

Checklist: Empower your employees to innovate

Empowering your employees to innovate is a great way to develop new ideas, gain a competitive edge and drive your business forward. While a culture of innovation doesn't happen overnight, there are steps you can take right now to start building your employees' confidence and fostering creativity.



Build an inclusive environment

- Establish lines of communication so employees have an easy way to share feedback. This could be a dedicated chat channel or monthly meeting
- Welcome input from all corners of the business and consider the merits of everyone's opinions, even if they differ from your own
- Give employees ownership over projects to build confidence in their ability to turn plans into action



Provide time to experiment

- Recognise that innovation needs to be prioritised as a business-critical task, rather than a side project that's done when there's free time
- Reserve time each month that employees can use to learn, get inspired and explore new possibilities
- Accept that failure is part of the process. Reassure employees that if an idea doesn't work out, it's still a positive effort and valuable learning process



Lead by example

- Show that you're willing to take risks and embrace different ideas, even if they go against the grain of what's always been done
- Provide training and mentoring opportunities to help employees develop skills and test the potential of emerging technologies
- Get excited! Innovation offers limitless possibilities. Be ambitious about what your startup could achieve in the future – excitement is contagious