

Tips and Tricks for Building Workplace Bonds

1. Use your Camera!

- Don't be shy! If you were in person, you wouldn't be behind a black screen or name icon. People connect more easily when they can see body language and facial expressions. It also helps to prevent people from interrupting one another causing a disruption in a natural conversation flow.

2. Use Breakout Rooms to your Advantage

- Many video conference tools have a feature to break large groups into multiple small groups. People are more likely to communicate in a smaller group.
- In small breakouts try:
 - Icebreakers
 - Team competitions
 - Brainstorming and idea formation
 - Meet and greet sessions

3. Create Non-Work Conversation Spaces

- Create a running chat board in Teams or other collaborative platforms. Creating an open space creates opportunities to share life updates, jokes, and more.
- Spontaneous calls:
 - Try calling someone to catch up. Due to the nature of a phone call as opposed to a "meeting," the environment is more open and inviting.
- Add five minutes for fun at the top of your work-related meeting:
 - Bake five minutes into your agendas for an icebreaker, general catchup, or quick breakout room.

4. Encourage Engagement and Inspire Others

- Share inspirational videos.
- Adopt a learning series on a work-related topic.
- Launch a team-wide personal development assessment.
- Begin a personal-growth focused book club.

5. Ask the Why?

- Provide context to help staff understand why activities or projects are taking place:
 - Why are we meeting?
 - Why is this project a priority?
 - Why are we using this tool?
 - Why is this operational assignment valuable?

Printable Cards

The next page contains cards that can be printed and placed in your badge holder or attached to a business card for use as a quick reference.

<p>Workplace Bonds</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use your Camera 2. Use Breakout Rooms to your advantage 3. Create Non-Work Conversation Spaces 4. Encourage Engagement and Inspire Others 5. Ask the “Why?” 	<p>Workplace Bonds</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use your Camera 2. Use Breakout Rooms to your advantage 3. Create Non-Work Conversation Spaces 4. Encourage Engagement and Inspire Others 5. Ask the “Why?”
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