Develop a Dynamic Voice: Four Essential Tips

Use your voice to take your professional communication to the next level! Research has shown that the quality of your voice can have an even stronger impact on how you are perceived than the content of your message. In order to project the most effective professional image possible, you need to have a voice that is strong, clear and commanding, while also being versatile, dynamic and engaging.

1. **Maintain a strong, confident voice with good vocal hygiene**
Vocal strain and fatigue can result in a weak voice with poor quality. By practicing good vocal hygiene, you can keep your voice healthy and strong, no matter how often you use it. Make sure to drink plenty of water, use a microphone or minimize background noise when speaking in a noisy environment, and warm up your voice before a speaking engagement with simple exercises like humming, tongue trills, and facial stretches.

2. **Use breath support for greater volume and energy**
Projecting your voice is essential to projecting confidence! Remember: your breath is the power behind your voice. Sit or stand up straight, and breathe deeply from your diaphragm (your abdomen) rather than your chest. Try to gradually increase the number of words you can say in a single breath without losing vocal strength or quality.

3. **Keep it interesting by varying your pace and intonation**
Nothing is more boring than listening to someone drone on and on in a monotone voice. Vocal variety helps keep your audience invested and can drive home key points of your message. Vary your pitch and tone of voice to reflect the mood and message of what you’re saying. Also change the pace of your speech as you talk to keep things interesting.

4. **Harness the power of the pause**
Sometimes silence can speak more powerfully than words. A well-timed pause can improve vocal variety, highlight an important point, or build tension. Regularly pausing also makes your speech easier to understand and allows your audience to take a moment to absorb your message. Before giving a speech or presentation, take a moment to go through your notes and find places to pause that will maximize the power of your speech. Want help? Contact us to learn about our Strategic Marking System™!

Are you looking for more help? Check out our free e-book on communicating with clarity & confidence. You can also check us out at www.corporatespeechsolutions.com