

Tools for Knowledge Workers

Eight Elements of Achievement



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Eight Elements of Achievement come into play in achieving an objective. First, is the **Structure** or network of variables making up the situation in which you find yourself. Embedded in that structure is the **Target**, a variable with a value you wish to change. Your **Objective** is to bring the value of that variable to a specified level. If your **Actions** bring about appropriate changes in the structure, you achieve your objective. To do that, the **Effects** of your actions – direct and indirect – must travel along a **Path**, a set of linkages that runs from you through other variables to the Target. **Feedback** – information about the current state of affairs – enables you to gauge progress and make adjustments. **Disturbances** are unwanted, disruptive effects of other actors and factors that, on occasion, can prevent you from achieving the objective. For more information, see [“An Achievement Manifesto.”](#)

