

# about The Six Pillars of Character<sup>®</sup>

Six ethical values that are easy to understand, easy to teach,  
and are critical to showing good character.

## Trustworthiness

- Be honest. Don't deceive, cheat or steal.
- Be reliable. Do what you say you'll do.
- Have the courage to do the right thing.
- Build a good reputation.
- Be loyal. Stand by your family, friends and country.

## Respect

- Treat others with respect. Follow the Golden Rule.
- Be tolerant of differences.
- Use good manners, not bad language.
- Be considerate of the feelings of others.
- Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone.
- Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

## Responsibility

- Do what you are supposed to do.
- Persevere. Keep on trying.
- Always do your best.
- Use self-control. Be self-disciplined.
- Think before you act. Consider the consequences.
- Be accountable for your choices.

## Fairness

- Play by the rules.
- Take turns and share.
- Be open-minded. Listen to others.
- Don't take advantage of others.
- Don't blame others carelessly.

## Caring

- Be kind.
- Be compassionate and show you care.
- Express gratitude.
- Forgive others.
- Help people in need.

## Citizenship

- Do your share to make your community better.
- Cooperate.
- Stay informed. Vote.
- Be a good neighbor.
- Obey laws and rules. Respect authority.
- Protect the environment. Recycle.

Learn more about using the Six Pillars of Character at home, work,  
school or in your community at [CharacterCountsInIowa.org](http://CharacterCountsInIowa.org).



*Everywhere, all of the time.*

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