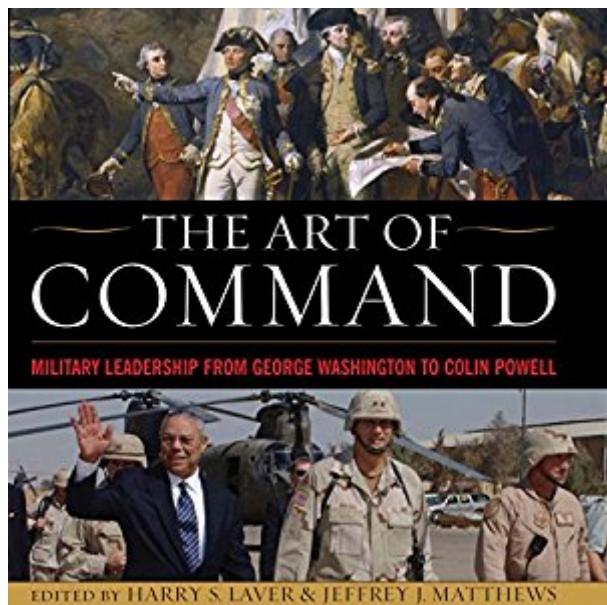


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# The Art Of Command: Military Leadership From George Washington To Colin Powell



## **Synopsis**

What essential leadership lessons do we learn by distilling the actions and ideas of great military commanders such as George Washington, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Colin Powell? That is the fundamental question underlying *The Art of Command: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell*. The book illustrates that great leaders become great through conscious effort - a commitment not only to develop vital skills but also to surmount personal shortcomings. Harry S. Laver, Jeffrey J. Matthews, and the other contributing authors identify nine core characteristics of highly effective leadership, such as integrity, determination, vision, and charisma, and nine significant figures in American military history whose careers embody those qualities. *The Art of Command* examines each figure's strengths and weaknesses and how those attributes affected their leadership abilities, offering a unique perspective of military leadership in American history. Laver and Matthews have assembled a list of contributors from military, academic, and professional circles, which allows the book to encompass diverse approaches to the study of leadership.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

The book is a good book to help military officers study successful leaders, and possibly motivate these officers to grow, but that's about the extent of its utility. The book is based on the trait theory of leadership, and each chapter illustrates a trait through the story of a general. Two problems; one, most in behavioral science have moved past the trait theory of leadership (about 70 years ago), and two, the bios sometimes feel shoe-horned to fit the trait being described. Not a bad book, but not

great either.

Perfect price, quality, addition!

I bought this book for a graduate class in leadership, and I have enjoyed reading it. As opposed to other 'texts', it is simply written, so it is easy and pleasant to sit through. The only negative is it does go into a lot of detail about the middle years of each person's careers, which became somewhat monotonous. If the author had summarized these years a bit more, it would have kept my interest better. That being said, learning of each military leaders' early years and development was interesting and worth reading.

A well organized collection on 9 specific aspects of leadership as embodied by historical figures (Chesty Puller, Eisenhower, Powell, etc.). Strong analysis with support and some counterarguments make this read move swiftly and fully supporting the theme for each chapter.

The Art of Command highlights specific leader traits from various United States military leaders, dating back to George Washington. This is a simple book; a great read if you've never read a history book, or are unfamiliar with the leaders that are used as examples in the book.

This is a required read for the US Army Command and General Staff College. The reader is provided a unique opportunity to look at specific qualities and characteristics of nine key US military leaders from a historical perspective. WHE

Excellent material and well written. However, most of the authors chose to indulge the readers with only the shiny days in these great American's days. I would like to learn more from their mistakes. Not to tarnish their reputations. But to better appreciate their resilience and how they overcame adversity.

Using book for military school.

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