Art of Claiming CREDIT

Mozhgan Kabiri Chimeh

University of Sheffield







- How should you handle these situations?
- Is it okay to speak up right then and there?
- Or should you keep quiet?
- And how can you make sure that you get the credit you deserve in the future?

How to respond to credit stealers?

- Take time to calm down
 - But don't leave it too long
- Assess the severity of the situation
 - Could be unintentional
- Ask why
 - Use passive-aggressive strategy
- Remedy the situation
 - Set the record right
 - Find any opportunity to demonstrate your involvement
 - Find an ally
- When the problem doesn't go away
 - Talk to your boss or another manager
 - Try not come off as a complainer
 - Frame it to create a good working relationship
- Be proactive about preventing it next time
 - Allocate credits upfront in collaborative projects
 - Revisit the agreement after any changes
- Model good credit sharing
 - Be generous and intentional about sharing credit
 - Don't go overboard
 - Recognize those who truly deserve

It's not bragging if you can back it up.

Principles to Remember

Do:

- Give yourself time to calm down and assess the situation
- Be clear about your contributions whenever you get an opportunity
- Ask colleagues to mention your name when the idea or project comes up in conversation

Don't:

- Feel like you need to get credit for every single thing you do
- Presume that the person had malicious intentions credit stealing is often an accident
- Make any accusations instead ask the person questions to try to figure out why it happened

Policies to consider

- Keep people honest
- Recognize those who recognize others
- Look out for and elevate the quiet performers
 - Identify and reward quieter heroes
- Remember: there is plenty of credit to go around
- Credit is indefinitely divisible
 - Don't give credit quickly → it loses its meaning

