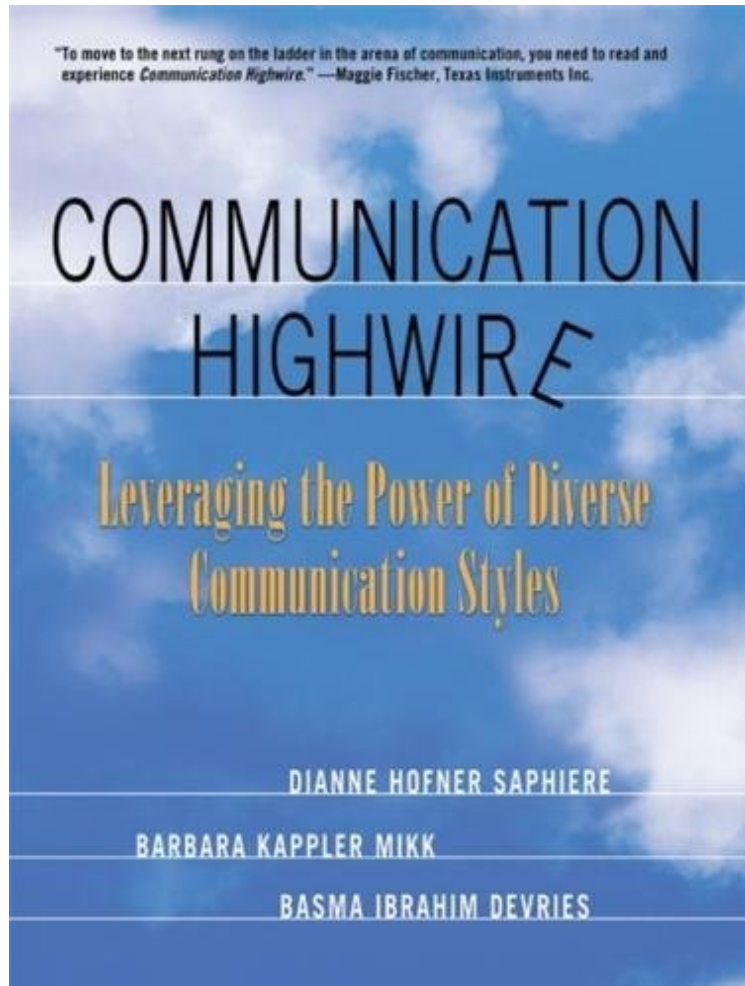


# Communication Highwire: Leveraging the Power of Diverse Communication Styles

*Dianne Hofner Saphiere, Barbara Kappler Mikk, Basma Ibrahim Devries*  
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**Dianne Hofner Saphiere, Barbara Kappler Mikk, Basma Ibrahim Devries : Communication Highwire: Leveraging the Power of Diverse Communication Styles** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Communication Highwire: Leveraging the Power of Diverse Communication Styles:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A Real ContributionBy Gary AlthenI think this book makes an important contribution to the field of intercultural communication. It fleshes out the concept of communication style and emphasizes its importance in face-to-face intercultural interactions. The book's concepts are illustrated with interesting and detailed case studies from the authors' extensive experience with multicultural organizations. The concepts might be a bit complicated, but not so much so that serious readers can't absorb and use them. The authors use

the engaging metaphor of a circus to tie their ideas together and help the reader follow the flow. This keeps the book from reading like a textbook; rather, it is engaging and thought-provoking throughout. Finally, I couldn't tell from the writing that this was a book written by three different individuals. It has a uniform style and tone that's not common in books written by more than one person.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Make The Highwire a Less Scary Place to Be By Kevin Eikenberry There are many books written about communications styles, but none quite like this one. Written by intercultural experts who are also educators, this book goes far beyond the basics of differences in how people communicate. It provides an organizational yet personal roadmap to get a real handle on diversity and how to create greater value from the collaboration of a diverse group of people. The book uses some unique observation tools to help the reader use the concepts being learned, and it is sprinkled full of stories that illustrate their points exceptionally well. Perhaps most unique though are the 26 exercises designed for use by individuals or groups to help them do what the subtitle of the book promises - Leverage the power of diverse communication styles. The authors, in the introduction say more about the very appropriate subtitle, "the subtitle ... reflects our conviction that individuals and groups can benefit greatly when communication style differences are understood, respected, and utilized appropriately." If you are a leader of diverse groups or a trainer of facilitator, this book belongs in your library. If you are individual ever striving to communicate more effectively with everyone you come in contact with, this book will help you on this journey as well.

5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. A new dimension to styles and values By Anne P. Copeland I put this book to immediate use with an intercultural consult I did, with a company whose [mostly American] employees work with a very international clientele. The structure of adding contextual factors to the analysis of styles and values added a lot of depth to the discussion and people could really get it.

No matter where we live or what we do, we deal with people using a wide variety of communication styles every day. At work, in the marketplace and at home, diversity in communication styles presents rich opportunities, yet too often people misunderstand each other. Communication Highwire is an important breakthrough for managers, team leaders, community leaders, educators, trainers and facilitators as they help individuals and teams overcome frustration, prevent mistakes and save time and money. World-class intercultural trainers and educators share their strategies and techniques-and, most importantly, their tools-to leverage diversity in the modern world. Twenty-six powerful activities are ready to go with little preparation. Developed for the first time in this book, the 5-Factor model (Context, Goals, Values, Self-Concept, Communication Style Repertoire) is presented in an easy-to-use Star Chart approach. A 4-Step process puts it all together: combining Factors and Descriptors to enhance communication. Dozens of examples-stories from international business to politics to community development to family life-make the concepts real and applicable. Communicating across a variety of styles requires the skills of a tightrope walker, but the rewards to the performers are immense.

An ultimate approach for discussing global diversity, using communication styles as the numerator for human capital. Curtis Mathews Jr., CIGNA To move to the next rung on the ladder in the arena of communication, you need to read and experience Communication Highwire. Maggie Fischer, Texas Instruments Inc. I am so glad to finally find a book that goes beyond the well-meaning, often used phrase of valuing diversity, and offers simple explanations and practical ideas on improving communication to leverage diversity??a much more valuable concept in effectively working together. Grounded in theory, and richly elaborated through experience, this book provides a much-needed overview for business professionals, educators, trainers and anyone else who is currently curious!

Janet Bennett, Intercultural Communication Institute About the Author Dianne Hofner Saphiere (M.S.) is founder and Principal of Nipporica Associates LLC, an intercultural consulting and training firm, and creator of the Cultural Detective.com series. Barbara Kappler Mikk (Ph.D.) is Assistant Director of International Student and Scholar Services at the University of Minnesota, where she is responsible for intercultural training and programs. Basma Ibrahim DeVries (Ph.D.) is Assistant Professor of Communication Studies at Concordia University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and conducts intercultural training workshops for educational and community groups.