



HE SAID, SHE SAID

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HOW MEN AND WOMEN COMMUNICATE

Series: Effective Communication is the most important issue for lot owners
Part 3 of 12: He Said, She Said—The difference between how men and women communicate

In order to communicate successfully with others, we should be aware of the differences in communication skills between women and men.

Taking gender differences into consideration when communicating with individual residents or committee members will contribute to understanding on both sides.

Generally speaking, women communicate to understand others, while men communicate to accomplish tasks. While women are more comfortable exposing their feelings, men try to hide them. Women tend to use an indirect way of getting others to do things, while men can be more to the point. These are broad generalisations but keeping the conceptual differences in mind during committee and general meetings can significantly improve the outcome of the meetings.

Men	Women
Talk to accomplish a task	Talk to understand others
Talk to give information	Talk to get information and connect
Talk about things	Talk about people
Talk about facts	Talk about feelings
Talk to support hierarchy	Talk to achieve consensus
Avoid details	Focus on details
Compete	Cooperate

Next week: Written Communication Skills