

Top Ten Ways to Send Your Collaboration Over the Cliff

10. Never say Please. Ditto for Thank You.
9. Don't bother discussing your expectations of one another at the beginning, but reserve the right to be upset when they aren't met.
8. In those moments of frustration and disappointment, don't discuss it with your partner in a kind and respectful way. Stew about it, then send an unedited, emotional stream of consciousness email (or a text!) dumping all the responsibility for your disappointment onto him or her. (Have a glass of wine before you sit down to write this tirade - the effect of alcohol will add an extra special zing to whatever you want to say!)
7. Be hard to reach. Take days to respond to your partner's messages (just as long as you don't let up on your twelve-times-a-day Facebook posts), and when you finally do, use a different mode of communication than the original message. If your partner sent you a text, respond with an email. If she sent you an email, respond with a Facebook message.
6. Don't apologize for your mistakes. Ever.
5. Re-schedule your appointments, meetings and events. Be late for them. Or - my personal favorite - just forget them. A lot. Ditto for any deadlines you set for yourselves and each other. You'll finish your work when you're darn good and ready! If your partner gets upset that you aren't true to your word then, puh-leeze, she needs to *lighten up already*.
4. Don't plan ahead and put as much work as possible off until the last minute, then when time is running out and you really start to panic, FREAK OUT.
3. Whenever possible, make any finance and money-related transactions as murky and vague as possible. If you don't say, "Oh, my check must have gotten lost in the mail. I will send another one," at least once, you're not doing your job.
2. Never ever EVER take any responsibility for any problems, issues, mishaps, miscommunication, errors or catastrophes. ALWAYS blame something or someone else. If this can be your partner - BONUS!
1. In times of intense conflict, rant about your partner on Facebook. Nothing says "I love and respect you as my partner and as a human being" more than going out of your way to try to shame him or her on social media.