Primers in Building Helping Relationships

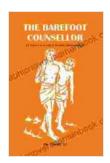
A primer is a substance that is applied to a surface to prepare it for painting. In the context of helping relationships, a primer is a set of behaviors or strategies that can be used to create a positive and supportive environment for growth and change.

There are many different types of primers that can be used to build helping relationships. Some of the most common types include:

- Active listening: Active listening is a technique that involves paying close attention to what someone is saying, both verbally and nonverbally. It also involves asking questions to clarify what they are saying and to show that you are interested in what they have to say.
- Empathy: Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person. It is important to be empathetic when working with someone who is in need of help because it can help them to feel understood and supported.
- Unconditional positive regard: Unconditional positive regard is the ability to accept someone for who they are, regardless of their flaws or mistakes. It is important to show unconditional positive regard when working with someone who is in need of help because it can help them to feel valued and accepted.
- Respect: Respect is the ability to treat someone with dignity and consideration. It is important to show respect when working with someone who is in need of help because it can help them to feel safe and respected.

 Confidentiality: Confidentiality is the ability to keep someone's information private. It is important to maintain confidentiality when working with someone who is in need of help because it can help them to feel safe and secure.

Primers can be used in a variety of ways to build helping relationships. Some of the most common ways include:



THE BAREFOOT COUNSELLOR: A PRIMER IN BUILDING HELPING RELATIONSHIPS by Antonia Salomon

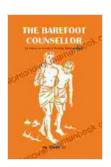
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- Creating a positive environment: Primers can be used to create a positive and supportive environment for growth and change. This can involve using active listening, empathy, unconditional positive regard, and respect.
- Building trust: Primers can be used to build trust between the helper and the person in need of help. This can involve being honest, reliable, and consistent.

- **Establishing goals:** Primers can be used to help the person in need of help to establish goals for themselves. This can involve working with the person to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and to develop a plan for achieving their goals.
- Providing support: Primers can be used to provide support to the person in need of help. This can involve offering emotional support, practical assistance, and resources.
- Evaluating progress: Primers can be used to evaluate the progress of the helping relationship. This can involve assessing the person's progress towards their goals, and making adjustments to the plan as needed.

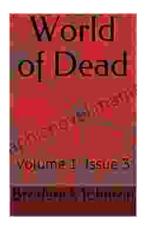
Primers are essential for building and maintaining helping relationships. By using primers, helpers can create a positive and supportive environment for growth and change. They can also build trust, establish goals, provide support, and evaluate progress.



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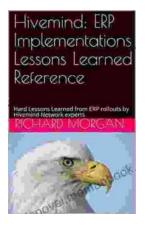
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