

Designed for Success!

You are designed for success.

- Natural Gifts
- Passions
- Personality

Natural Gifts: Talents, abilities or skills - Some people to be born with natural traits and abilities:

- Athlete
- Craftsman
- Writing
- Decorating
- Music
- People skills

What are your NATURAL abilities? What are your God-given talents that you can just do?

Passions: "Passion is the starting point of all achievement...Passion is the energy of the soul.

Passions will:

- Shape your priorities
- Adjust your schedule
- Direct you life
- Cause you, at times, to do the unexpected
- Shape your convictions

Reveal your core values

What are you passionate about?

What activities, needs ministries or causes do you enjoy thinking, reading or talking to others about?

What activities, causes or people groups (children, elderly, special needs) personally energize you?

What activities do you truly enjoy doing so much that you tend to lose track of time in the process?

What causes, activities or people group would you like to personally make a positive impact upon?

Based on your response to the previous questions, make a list of specific areas of personal passions or interests:

Personality: We have a unique personality – unique in many ways, we behave in different ways, respond to people, pressures and problems differently and tend to see life from our own unique perspective. As we explore our design for life it is vital that we look, not only to the external needs around us, but also internally at who we are and what we have to offer. We all have something to learn and appreciate about our own personality and the personalities of others. Better understanding our own personality will not only help us build on our own strengths but also acknowledge the weaknesses of our personality design.

There are 4 specific personality types-

Let's take a quick look at the **D I S C** personalities:

D: Dominant, Direct, Decisive - LION

Strong-willed, born leader, organized, delegates work, goal oriented, always striving to achieve, determined, thrives on change, has little need for close friends

I: Inspiring, Influential, Impressing - OTTER

Appealing personality makes friends easily, enthusiastic, expressive, talkative, life of the party, storyteller, influencing, interactive socializer, colorful and creative

S: Submissive, Steady, stable - GOLDEN RETRIEVER

Low-key but happy, patient, calm and cool, many fiends, easy to get along with, good listener, peace-maker, has administrative ability, well-balanced, steady

C: Competent, Compliant, Cautious - BEAVER

Deep, thoughtful, analytical, organized, very orderly, likes charts, lists and graphs, perfectionist, detailed conscious, quiet, cautious thinker, pessimistic nature, serious and purposeful

Being aware of our personalities isn't a tool to help us change or personalities BUT it will become a tool to help us control them. It won't hurt us BUT it will help us, especially with our relationships. It will especially help us improve our task and/or people skills.

Let take a closer look at who we are 1st and then our family members:

"D" Strengths

Asserting	Persuading
Firm Strong	Convincing
Bold	Serious
Daring	Unwavering
Convinced	Powerful
Decisive	Unconquerable
Sure	Industrious
Certain	Hard working
Risk-taking	Driving
Courageous	Determined
Brave	Direct
Adventurous	To the point
Positive	Devoted
Optimistic	Dedicated
Winner	Outspoken
Competitive	Opinionated
Challenging	Zealous
Motivating	Eager
Confident	Bottom line
Self-reliant	Straight-forward

"D" Weaknesses

Under pressure and stress we tend to lean toward our strengths because that is where we are most confident and comfortable. But the over use of our strengths become our abuses. The very things that initially draw people to us may repel them eventually so we must be careful.

"D" types should recognize their need to temper their personalities. D's want to control everyone, but sometimes they cannot control themselves. The "weak" side of D and be demanding, domineering, cocky, impatient, rude and forceful.

They tend to be fighters, rather than lovers. Their immediate response under pressure is to intimidate and threaten. "D's" need to learn to calmly respond, rather than rudely react. D's need to count to 100, rather than 10 before getting mad. It's o.k. to get mad, but not to do wrong with your anger.

LET'S DO IT NOW!

"I" Strengths

Outgoing	Elegant
Active	Joyful
Playful	Jovial
Fun loving	Talkative
Delightful	Verbal
Pleasant	Animated
Trusting	Expressive
Gullible	Persuading
Open	Convincing
Friendly	Sociable
Cordial	Interactive merry
Popular	Cheerful
Promoting	Smiling
Encouraging	Happy
Hyper	Dynamic
Energetic	Impressing
Enthusiastic	Sharp
Influencing	Appealing
Smooth talker	Peppy
Articulate	Inducing
Entertaining	Charming
Clowning	Responsive
Admirable	Reacting

"I" Weaknesses

Overusing their strengths, "I's" tend to be to self-centered. They often steal the limelight and seek too much attention.

They seek approval and praise which tends to make "I's" boastful and proud. Humility is seldom one of their virtues.

"I's" struggle with quietness and stillness and are often labeled as hyperactive children because of their short attention span. "I's" just prefer to have fun! They need to especially guard how they respond to people and tasks. Their strengths are seen when working with people, while their weaknesses tend to be accomplishing tasks. In short, they would much rather talk about doing things, rather than actually doing them.

TRUST ME! IT WILL WORK OUT!

"S" Strengths

Kind	Peacemaking
Nice	Flexible
Caring	Adaptable
Gentle	Agreeable
Soft	Steady
Humble	Dependable stable
Loyal	balanced merciful
True Blue	Sensitive
Peaceful	Sweet
Calm	Tender
Obedient	Compassionate gen-
Submissive	erous
Pleasing	Giving timid
Good-natured	Soft-spoken
Considerate	Tolerant
Thoughtful	Patient
Contented	Serving
Satisfied	Sacrificing
Loving	Courteous
Sincere	Polite
Honest	Hospitality
Shy	Enjoys company
Diplomatic	Assisting

"C" Strengths

Proper	Sees clearly
Formal	Pondering
Law-abiding	Wondering
Conscientious	Guarded
Calculating	Masked
Analytical	Protective
Conservative	Preparing
Inflexible	Researching
Careful	Systematic
Cautious	Follows plan
Straight	Inquisitive
Conforming	Questioning
Complaint	Original
Goes by the book	Creative
Right	Strict
Correct	Unbending
Competent	Inventive
Does right	Imaginative
Contemplative	Organized
Thinker	Orderly
Deep	Faithful
Intense	Consistent
Perceptive	

"S" Weaknesses

Others often take advantage of "S's" merciful demeanor. They are easily manipulated and need to be more resistant to those who try to use them. "S" types can also become "codependent."

"S" types become dependent on others and this dependency can be crippling. They do not want to make major decisions.

"S's" must learn to be more outgoing. This will be very unnatural for them. 'S's' need to jump into conversations and share what they think or feel about the subject being discussed. They are quite listeners and let others dominate the conversations.

They need to curb their desire to please and be more aggressive. "S" types need to contemplate and think things through asking "Am I do this because it makes sense or am I doing this just to please someone?"

LET'S KEEP THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE

"C" Weaknesses

Their desire for perfection often makes them difficult people to relate to. They tend to care more about their priorities than people.

People are often threatened by "C's" because they seem to be arrogant and quick to judge. They tend to be more right than wrong, but they need to be more forgiving and understanding. "C's" can be too hard and unkind.

They tend to be cold and unapproachable. Being warm and friendly does not come naturally to "C" types.

They need to loosen up and be more upbeat, looking for the good and not the bad in things is recommended for most "C's".

"C" types strive to go-by-the-book. They are hardest on those closest to them and often struggle with intimate relationships.

HOW WAS IT DONE IN THE PAST?

Understanding the People in Your Life!

	D	I	S	C
Value to the Team	Takes initiative.	Influences people.	Builds relationships.	Focuses on details.
Major Strength	Strength of purpose; oriented; gets things done.	Enthusiasm; gets people motivated, involved.	Good people skills; good team player or leader.	Thoroughness; accuracy in analyzing all the data.
Major Weakness	Can be insensitive to the feelings of others; impatient.	Impulsiveness; may not focus on detail/facts.	May sacrifice results for harmony; reluctant to initiate.	Overly cautious; can be too thorough and lose sight of time.
Motivated By	Results; challenge; action.	Recognition; approval; visibility.	Relationships; appreciation.	Being right; quality.
Time Management	Focus: Now; efficient use of time; likes to get to the point.	Focus: Future; tends to rush to the next exciting thing.	Focus: Present; spends time in personal interaction, sometimes to the detriment of the task.	Focus: Past; works more slowly to ensure accuracy.
Communication	One-way—not a good listener, better at initiating communication.	Enthusiastic; stimulating; often one-way; can inspire others.	Two-way flow; a good listener.	Good listener, especially in relation to tasks.
Emotional Response	Detached; independent.	High and low; excitable.	Warm; friendly.	Sensitive; careful.
Decision Making	Impulsive; always makes decisions with goal in mind.	Intuitive; quick; lots of wins and losses.	Relational; makes decisions more slowly due the input of others.	Reluctant; thorough; needs lots of evidence.
Behavior Under Tension	Autocratic	Attacks	Acquiesces	Avoids
Would Improve Effectiveness By	Listening	Pausing	Initiating	Declaring