Your Temperament Type: Idealist - Champion(ENFP)

Donor, 4576

Introduction

In a world filled with unique individuals, when it comes to personality there are only four different temperaments and 16 types of people. Understanding these personality types and mastering your own can be the keys to achieving your goals.

Your temperament is the Idealist (NF). Idealists are rare, making up no more than 15 to 20 percent of the population. Yet their ability to inspire people with their enthusiasm and idealism has given them influence far beyond their numbers. Your particular personality type, the Champion (ENFP), is even scarcer. Individuals of your type make up only 3-4 percent of the total population.

About Your Idealist Temperament

There are four types of Idealists (NFs): Healers, Counselors, Champions, and Teachers. These four personality types share several core characteristics. Firstly, Idealists are seekers focused on both personal journeys and human potentials. MORE >>

Being A Champion (ENFP)

Champions (ENFPs) like you often see life as an exciting drama filled with possibilities. As a

Love and Relationships

You belong to the most optimistic of all the types. For Champions like you, life can be an unfolding series of adventures that each offers new opportunities for growth, expansion, and joy. Loving relationships likely represent the pinnacle of such adventures. MORE >>

Famous Champions

Find out which well-known individuals are ENFPs just like you. MORE >>

What Each Letter Means

The letter names of the sixteen personality
result, you usually like to remain in the mix rather than risk letting meaningful events or fascinating people pass you by.  

Work and Career

As a Champion, you can perceive even your work environment as a living tapestry. Existing ideas, individuals and groups of people, products, services, and the relationships between these things can trigger flashes of insight about how "what is" might unfold into "what could be."

Frequently Asked Questions

What is temperament...?  
How can the Temperament Sorter help me...?

About Your Idealist Temperament

Idealists are spiritual, intuitive people who can enjoy spending a great deal of time and energy working toward a better understanding of who they are. The ultimate hope of this group is to attain true wisdom. For the most part, Idealists are enthusiastic individuals who can find joy meaningful relationships as well as the world around them. People of this temperament can pride themselves on being loving, kindhearted, and authentic. Other fine traits include being more giving and trusting than many around them. An often-passionate temperament that yearns for romance, Idealists can make intense mates, nurturing parents, and inspirational leaders.

Being a Champion (ENFP)

Champions often possess both a wide range of emotions and a great passion for novelty. As a result, you likely consider intense emotional experiences as being vital to a full life. Also, because Champions tend to be the most outgoing of the Idealists, you probably can't wait to tell others about the extraordinary - and even ordinary -- things that you do. In fact, others may know you as a tireless talker. However you're not simply a gossip running off at the mouth or even just a storyteller. On the contrary, you may tend to speak or write in the hope of either revealing some truth about human experience or motivating others with your convictions. You can also have a strong drive to speak out on issues and events. When you couple these things with your usual enthusiasm and natural talent for language, Champions like you can be the most vivacious and inspiring of all the types.

As a Champion, you can be fiercely individualistic as you strive to reach a level of personal authenticity. This intention always to be yourself can be quite attractive to others. Another unique and special quality is your intuitive power. Being able to read what is going on inside of others and react accordingly can give special significance to your words and actions. Far more than the other
Idealists, you tend to be a keen and probing observer of the people around you. You can also be capable of intense concentration on another individual. This sensitivity and alertness makes sure that you're almost always there when needed, especially in emergencies. Additionally, because you've constantly scanning your social environment, no intriguing character or silent motive is likely to escape your attention.

Because you can be so good with people, you probably retain a wide range of personal relationships. At times when you show your trademark warmth and energy, you're a very likeable, easygoing person. This is true in professional situations as well as personal ones. Not only do you usually make a good first impression, but you can possess a brand of spontaneity and exuberance that draws people in. As a result, a wide variety of people may vie for your company. Use your positivity and confidence in the goodness of life as much as you can. Such a nature makes good things happen.

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**Work and Career**

You live in anticipation of an exciting future, one you may see even more vividly than your present. As a result, in your ideal job you would likely be asked to stretch your imagination on a continual basis. You would also be comfortable taking on a leadership role, so long as it didn't place you in an arbitrary hierarchy. You typically feel rewarded by being asked to share your insights with people who encourage your creativity. On the flip side, it can feel insulting to you to have your innovations or ideas questioned. More so than for many people, your ideas are alive; they're your "babies." Because of this fact, you can sometimes be offended by the notion that you must justify them.

Like other Idealists, you are wired to pursue personal growth, authenticity, and integrity. You yearn to develop yourself fully as an individual and to facilitate that growth in others. You tend to thrive when you can turn your attention to the personal concerns of your coworkers, clients, and customers - as well as to your own personal growth.

**At Work with the Four Temperaments**

**At Work with Artisans:** Artisans (SPs) are wired to seize freedom and spontaneity. They hunger for the liberty to act on their impulses, to play, and to create. They make up about 35% of the population.

In business, Artisans are crisis managers and troubleshooters. They can be expert at solving problems and doing what is necessary, whether they are expressly permitted to or not. They are practical, resourceful, flexible, and risk-taking individuals. Coworkers are apt to enjoy their creativity and verbal wit,
but may perceive Artisans as indecisive or even as troublemakers.

**At Work with Guardians:** Guardians (SJs) are wired to seek belonging to a group or community. They often stabilize relationships and institutions through their responsible, conventional behavior. They make up about 40-45% of the population.

At work, Guardians tend to be administrators and managers. They can be expert at doing what needs to be done, and in the manner is must be done. They are dependable, accountable, realistic, and service-oriented. Coworkers likely appreciate their desire to belong and contribute, but may perceive Guardians as being either slave drivers or sticks-in-the-mud.

**At Work with Rationals:** Rationals (NTs) are wired to acquire competence and intelligence. Ordinarily, they strive to learn, know, predict, and control the resources and ideas in their environment. They make up less than 10% of the population.

In the workplace, Rationals are often the researchers and strategists. They can be expert at conceptualizing and seeing the big picture, as well as architecting and implementing the necessary systems. They are logical, precise independent individuals who usually are responsive to new ideas. Coworkers often appreciate their ingenuity and competence, but may perceive Rationals as being impersonal and not good with follow-through.

**At Work with Idealists:** Idealists (NFs) are wired to pursue personal growth, authenticity, and integrity. They can yearn both to develop fully as individuals and to facilitate growth in others. Idealists make up little more than 15% of the population.
In work environments, Idealists are usually positive, helpful, and people-oriented. They can be expert at dealing with the human resource concerns of an organization, whether these issues are part of their job description or not. Idealists are warm, idealistic, caring individuals. Coworkers are apt to appreciate their authenticity and loyalty to the human side of the business, but may perceive Idealists as not being effective enough or even of being flaky.

**Tips to Help You Find the Right Workplace**

- Try to seek out an aesthetically pleasing, personal, and democratic environment in which you and your co-workers are free to be yourselves and to build friendships.
- Be wary of career moves that take you away from the core of what you love or compromise your strong ideals.
- Don't underestimate the value of life experience you picked up outside the parameters of formal schooling or paid work. Give yourself credit for all of your talents.
- Consider creating your own job.

In general, as an Idealist, you're part of a pretty satisfied bunch when it comes to work. About 75% of Idealists are either extremely or somewhat satisfied in their current positions. This contentment doesn't appear to be related to flexible schedules, lucrative stock options, altruistic practices, allowing pets in the workplace, or even company-sponsored parties on Fridays. Having challenging work seems to tip the scales a little bit. However overall, Idealists like you simply seem to like what they do. With this statistic in mind, it appears that career choice in itself will be the key to your workplace happiness and success.

**Famous Champions**

Did you know that Oliver Stone and "the unsinkable Molly Brown" were both ENFPs too? It's not so surprising when you think about it. As the director of numerous films including Platoon, Born on the Fourth of July, and Wall Street, Oliver Stone is known for using film as a vehicle to reexamine America's history and culture. He is a Champion of his own cinematic visions. Molly Brown, while now most famous for being a passenger on the Titanic, is also known for her tireless charity work. As an early and vocal advocate for women's rights, she indeed proved herself a Champion in her own right.
In Keirsey's Temperament Sorter, there are 4 question scales used to detect one's behavioral preferences. The scales are E-I, S-N, T-F, and P-J. No single letter should be taken as naming a "type" of person. For example, you should not label yourself or others as "Expressives" or "E's". Each letter merely suggests stronger or weaker tendencies in a person's overall makeup, and the letters are not factors independent of each other. The pairs of letters indicate the following opposite qualities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E = Expressive</th>
<th>I = Attentive</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S = Observant</td>
<td>N = Introspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T = Tough-Minded</td>
<td>F = Friendly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P = Probing</td>
<td>J = Scheduled</td>
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The terms **Expressive** (E) and **Attentive** (I) describe two vastly different social styles. People who score highly Expressive on the Temperament Sorter tend to be gregarious and expressive; those scoring highly Attentive tend to be private and reserved.

Expressive people tend to talk and do first, more than listen and react to others. People who are strongly Expressive are typically more comfortable socializing with groups than being alone. They often report that they are energized by contact with other people. These individuals usually have a large circle of friends and are happy to approach others, even strangers, to talk. For people who are strongly Expressive, social banter is usually an easy and pleasant thing. Interaction is something that makes them feel alive. As a result, too much quiet and seclusion can actually exhaust such persons; they tend to report feelings of loneliness or power drain when not in contact with others.

On the other hand, Attentive people tend to listen and react first, rather than talk and do. People who tend toward Attentiveness often seem more comfortable alone than in a crowd. They tend to draw energy from private, solitary activities, including reading, listening to music, and working by themselves on their latest project or favorite hobby. Attentive people usually have a few, long-time friends, and can remain in contact with larger groups only so long before their energies are depleted. If their job, family, or social responsibilities require them to be outgoing or take center stage, they can soon become exhausted and need down time in quiet places to rest and recharge their batteries.

Remember, however, that no one is simply an "Expressive" type or an "Attentive" type. These terms are merely end points on the E-I preference scale, with most everyone falling somewhere in between. Most individuals embody a mixture of these two social styles. Also, different tasks or roles at work or in the family can bring out more Expressive or Attentive behavior in a person. This dimension of personality, more than the other three scales is fluid and situational.
The **Observant/Introspective** (S-N) preference scale on the Keirsey Temperament Sorter differentiates between two distinct kinds of human focus. People with high Observant scores tend to pay more attention to what is going on outside themselves in the world of concrete things, whereas people with high Introspective preference scores pay more attention to what is going on inside themselves in the abstract world of ideas. The S-N scale measures the most fundamental of the four dimensions of personality.

Observant people make up the majority of the population -- upwards of 65%. These people seem more at home in the material world, where they spend their time looking after the business of everyday living: food and clothing, transportation and shelter, job and family, recreation and social life. With their eye on physical realities, they tend to see all the particulars of what is right in front of them. They typically focus on what is happening in the here-and-now, or what has happened in the past, rather than speculating about future possibilities. These are practical, down-to-earth people who want facts, trust facts, and remember facts. They believe in common sense and usually trust that experience is the best teacher.

In contrast, people who are strongly introspective seem more at home in the abstract, conceptual world of ideas. Introspective people deal in inferences, theories, musings, speculations, and symbols -- things that can only be seen with the mind's eye. In fact, because they are so often focused on their internal world, these individuals can sometimes miss a great deal of what is going on around them. For highly introspective people, reality is not a solid, present thing, but is more a mental image or a stage of development toward some future ideal. The possible almost always looms large for Introspective people: whatever "is" can be better. They can be fascinated by hypotheses and potentials. They are also often absorbed by their vivid and complex imaginations.

No one can introspect and observe at the same time. However, this delineation does not mean that being Introspective or Observant is an "either-or" proposition. Since neither type can occupy both worlds at once, each person will usually show a clear preference for one. Introspective individuals certainly turn
outward at times and pay attention to the world at large; they are just far more inclined to become preoccupied with their own ideas. So too, Observant people do sometimes look inward to ponder and to dream. However, for the most part, real world observation tends to dominate their flights of imagination.

The **Tough-Minded/Friendly (T-F)** preference scale indicates how people govern themselves and make decisions. Everyone can be both tough-minded and friendly. However those who score high on Tough-Mindedness tend to use their head more when making choices, while those scoring high on Friendliness tend to follow their hearts.

People falling on the Tough-Minded end of the scale tend to be more comfortable basing their actions on impersonal, objective factors. Tough-Minded people can be critical and exacting, both with themselves and others. They are often convinced only by hard data and sound reasoning. Individuals who scored highly Tough-Minded tend to be frank and straightforward. They are the kind of people who are usually willing to speak their minds and stick to their opinions, even if it causes conflict with others. They are known for being tough-minded in their decisions, preferring to keep emotions and desires out of the process as much as possible. Tough-Minded types do have powerful feelings, but a strong show of emotion can embarrasses them. As a result, they'll usually keep their feelings in check rather than appearing to lose self-control, even at the risk of seeming hard-nosed or cold.

In contrast, people on the Friendly end of the scale are typically more comfortable basing their actions on personal, emotional factors. When considering their course, this type will consult their feelings first and will almost always show concern for others. For the most part, these individuals are sympathetic and sentimental. As a result, many times they can be swayed by powerful desire or a touching appeal. Friendly people tend to be softhearted when making decisions. They do not like to hurt anyone's feelings. It is not that Friendly individuals necessarily have more or deeper emotions than those on the Tough-Minded end of the scale; they simply let their feelings show more easily. This tendency makes them seem warmer and friendlier, which in turn can give them an easier time getting along with others.
The **Probing/Scheduled** (P-J) preference scale indicates how people handle decision-making. Those who score high on Scheduling tend to make up their minds quickly and commit to schedules, while those scoring high on Probing prefer to keep their options open and their timetables flexible.

People strong in Scheduling waste no time forming opinions or drawing conclusions. They often report feeling a sense of urgency until a decision is made, and can rest only after everything is settled. Closure and finality are important to these individuals, as is orderly procedure. As a result, they can be quick to make schedules, agendas, or timetables for themselves and others to follow. People strong in Scheduling will establish deadlines and take them seriously, expecting others will do the same. They're usually comfortable with routines and can be willing to do all sorts of maintenance and cleaning up after a task, feeling that these are necessary steps for a job's completion. They usually feel unhappy or unsettled when their personal space is a mess. Straightening things up is often near the top of their list.

For their part, people given to Probing keep their eyes open to what is around them, gathering information and looking for opportunities and alternatives that might be available. They usually feel no hurry to nail things down or settle on a finished product. Instead, they tend to prefer to keep their options open. These individuals are often playful and spontaneous in action. Schedules can make them feel hurried and over-controlled; they tend to look upon deadlines as mere reminders to get on with the job. Also, people high in Probing prefer their work to be enjoyable and meaningful. If a task of routine maintenance or clean up falls to them, they may balk at doing it, or may leave it to someone else. Easy-going, even somewhat impulsive, these people are usually quite tolerant of mess. Their personal spaces are often cluttered with an assortment of things they've picked up, used, then dropped and forgotten about.
Frequently Asked Questions

What is temperament?

There are two sides to personality: One is temperament and the other is character. Temperament is a set of inclinations we are born with, while character is a set of habits we acquire as we grow and mature. Character is disposition, developed over a lifetime; temperament is predisposition, hardwired in from birth. Thus, those of the Artisan temperament are predisposed to impulsive action, those of the Guardian temperament to responsible service, those of the Idealist temperament to personal development, and those of the Rational temperament to objective analysis. Each type of person, unless blocked or deflected by an unfavorable environment, will develop the habits of character appropriate to his or her temperament.

Put another way, our brain is a sort of computer that has temperament for its hardware and character for its software. Our hardware is the physical base of our personality, placing on each of us an unmistakable temperament signature, some facets of which can be observed from a very early age. Our software on the other hand, is made up of our individual experience and social environment -- the forces around us that, with time and occasion, give shape to our individual character.

Thus temperament is the inborn form of human nature and character is the emergent form that develops through the interaction of temperament and environment. Personality, your unique personal style, is a combination of the two.

How can the Temperament Sorter help me?

Fundamentally, the Temperament Sorter helps you to do two things: Understand your own temperament, and gain insight to other peoples'. Possessing this valuable knowledge of human nature can have a variety of far-reaching effects.
In the work world, being savvy about your temperament can lead you to a clearer understanding of your natural role and functions within an organization. It can also help you better capitalize on your personal strengths to build your success. By comprehending your coworkers' temperaments and how each temperament relates, you can begin to master your interactions with supervisors and staff. In addition, being able to interpret others' innate styles can help you to meet their implicit expectations, as well as increasing your own leadership abilities.

In your personal life, being knowledgeable about temperament can help you build strong, lasting ties with others. This is true because it aids you in anticipating your loved ones' needs and respecting their different ways of dealing with life. When you are responsive to others, you will naturally be looked upon as dependable, responsible, helpful, and empathetic. These are all wonderful qualities to bring to your personal relationships. In addition, coming to terms with your own temperament and innate tendencies can bring new levels of wisdom and self-knowledge to all of your interactions, as well as identifying how your particular temperament impacts and influences others.