

# A M E R I C A N CAREERS<sup>®</sup> INTEREST INVENTORY

## Discover a Good Career for You!

Don't worry if you're not sure about what you want to do for a career. A lot of people wonder the same thing. But determining what careers you might really enjoy is easier than you think. The first step is to identify what sorts of things you like to do.

Simple career assessments like the one that begins on the next page can help you discover jobs that fit your interests and personality. After you've taken the quiz, consider the results. Do they fit with your interests?

Share the results with your family, teachers and school counselor to see what they think. They can make suggestions and help you create a plan to achieve a career that fits your personality and interests.

### Getting started is easy. Simply follow these four steps:

#### 1 Take an inventory of your interests.

You like some activities better than others, right? Read through the list of activities on page 2 and check the ones that interest you.

#### 2 Add up your scores.

As you total your results in part 2, you'll begin to see a "career personality" emerge. It's important to consider your career personality when planning for a future career.

#### 3 Evaluate yourself.

Once you've completed part 3, you may discover that you have more than one career personality. That's okay. Most people do.

#### 4 Think about the future.

In part 4, on pages 4-6, you will find careers related to your career personality. Don't worry or think you're limited solely to jobs within your career personality. For example, if you're a social person with an interest in "Health Services," check out health services career options within the other career personality types. You might be surprised at your career options.

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# 1 Take an Inventory of Your Interests.

Place a check by the activities that interest you. Don't worry if you don't know much about them. Right now it's just important to identify the activities that capture your imagination.

- 1. Save a rainforest or grow organic vegetables
- 2. Solve complicated math problems
- 3. Act in a movie, play or television show
- 4. Learn about people in different cultures and societies
- 5. Research news stories and do interviews for the evening news
- 6. Study the economy and predict economic trends
- 7. Read and use "how-to" manuals
- 8. Perform science experiments in a laboratory
- 9. Manage an art gallery
- 10. Conduct a religious service
- 11. Bargain with vendors at a flea market
- 12. Analyze and create statistical graphs and charts
- 13. Build cabinets or furniture
- 14. Study the environmental impact of pollution or global warming
- 15. Write a movie or television script
- 16. Volunteer to lead a club or scout troop
- 17. Choose and purchase merchandise to sell in a store
- 18. Work in a corporate office
- 19. Operate heavy machinery
- 20. Play chess or games of strategy
- 21. Write articles for music, art or entertainment magazines
- 22. Organize an event for a charity or community organization
- 23. Compete with other salespeople in a fast-paced, high-pressure company
- 24. Design computer programs and/or games
- 25. Work outdoors patrolling or maintaining a national park
- 26. Research legal statutes for a lawsuit
- 27. Play a musical instrument
- 28. Work with infants or children
- 29. Run for political office
- 30. Work an after-school job to save money
- 31. Set up a home theater system or install a car stereo system
- 32. Read science fiction
- 33. Write a short story, play or novel
- 34. Host and entertain guests at a party
- 35. Work in a politician's office
- 36. Enter information into a computer spreadsheet
- 37. Build a model of a jet aircraft
- 38. Study bacteria using an electron microscope and other high-tech equipment
- 39. Design a new line of clothes
- 40. Read and discuss a book or poem
- 41. Sit on a television panel to discuss political or social issues
- 42. Keep accurate accounting and sales records for a business
- 43. Repair a car or motorcycle motor
- 44. Identify different planets, stars and constellations
- 45. Create and fire a ceramic pot or vase
- 46. Work with the elderly
- 47. Sell products for a portion of the profit
- 48. Create and oversee a budget for a large company or government agency

## 2

## Add Up Your Scores.

On the grid below, circle the numbers you checked off. Count the number of circles in each row, and write that total in the blank space at the end of each line. These are your scores for each career personality type.

### PERSONALITY TYPES

TOTAL

a. REALISTIC	1	7	13	19	25	31	37	43	<input type="text"/>
b. INVESTIGATIVE	2	8	14	20	26	32	38	44	<input type="text"/>
c. ARTISTIC	3	9	15	21	27	33	39	45	<input type="text"/>
d. SOCIAL	4	10	16	22	28	34	40	46	<input type="text"/>
e. ENTERPRISING	5	11	17	23	29	35	41	47	<input type="text"/>
f. CONVENTIONAL	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	<input type="text"/>

## 3

## Evaluate Yourself.

In the spaces below, write the names of the two career personality types in which you received the highest scores.



HOW CAN KNOWING YOUR CAREER PERSONALITY TYPE LEAD YOU TO A SATISFYING CAREER FUTURE? READ ON ...

## 4

## Think About the Future.

Look at the headlines at the top of pages 4-6. Circle the ones that match your top two personality types above. Now, look at the career clusters and job titles listed below your personality types. Circle jobs you find interesting. Don't think you're limited only to jobs within your career personality. For example, if you're a "Helper" with an interest in "Health Services," check out Health Services career options within the other career personality types. You might be surprised at what you find.

## a. REALISTIC

Realists typically are focused, rugged, mechanical and direct. Often athletic, they enjoy working outdoors with tools, animals and plants. Famous “realists” include primatologist Jane Goodall, hair stylist Vidal Sassoon and architect Paul Williams.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Animal care technician  
Farmer, grower  
Food processor (baker, meatcutter, food batch-maker, etc.)  
Forestry worker

### **Architecture & Construction**

Builder, carpenter  
Construction equipment operator  
Electrician  
Plumbing, heating, air conditioning installer

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Audio/video equipment technician  
Broadcast technician  
Camera operator, photojournalist  
Set designer  
Performer

### **Business Management & Administration**

Accountant  
Business manager, entrepreneur  
Customer support specialist  
Purchasing agent

### **Education & Training**

Biology teacher  
Elementary teacher  
Coach  
Technology teacher

### **Finance**

Claims investigator  
Loan officer  
Stockbroker

### **Government & Public Administration**

Elected official  
Legislative aide  
Military officer

### **Health Science**

Dentist, dental hygienist, other  
Home health aide  
Nurse, nursing assistant  
Ophthalmologist  
Physical, respiratory, other therapist  
Physician, surgeon, veterinarian

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Food service worker  
Recreation worker  
Tour guide

### **Human Services**

Hair stylist  
Home care aide  
Social services worker

### **Information Technology**

Computer information systems manager  
Network systems engineer, technician  
Telecommunications technician

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Crime scene investigator  
Firefighter  
Hazardous materials removal specialist  
Police officer

### **Manufacturing**

Assembler, fabricator  
Industrial maintenance technician  
Machine operator  
Welder

### **Marketing**

Production planning and expediting clerk  
Promotion director  
Retail salesperson  
Shipping, receiving clerk

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Electrical, electronic installer, repairer  
Engineer (multiple options from aerospace to petroleum)  
Engineering technician

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Body repairer – aircraft, automotive, heavy equipment, other  
Driver, pilot, other vehicle operator  
Inspector – aviation, environmental, freight, other  
Material mover  
Mechanic, technician – vehicle, heavy equipment, other

## b. INVESTIGATIVE

Investigators are curious, observant and like to research, analyze and solve problems. Many enjoy science and math – working independently and in teams. famous “investigators” include Marie Curie, forensic scientist Dr. Henry Lee and anthropologist Margaret Mead.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Agricultural technician  
Food inspector  
Food scientist  
Forest ranger  
Wildlife manager

### **Architecture & Construction**

Building inspector  
Code inspector  
Installer, repairer  
Preservationist

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Journalist  
Playwright  
Producer (film, television, theater)  
Researcher

### **Business Management & Administration**

Acquisitions manager  
Business analyst  
Collections clerk  
Management analyst

### **Education & Training**

Curriculum developer  
Educational researcher  
Librarian  
School psychologist

### **Finance**

Accountant/auditor  
Claims examiner  
Contract administrator  
Financial officer

### **Government & Public Administration**

Military intelligence officer  
Policy advisor  
Tax examiner

### **Health Science**

Biomedical engineer or technician  
Hospital maintenance engineer  
Medical assistant  
Nuclear diagnostic, other technician  
Pharmacist  
Physician  
Radiologic technologist  
Research scientist

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Forest ranger  
Hotel security officer  
Night auditor

### **Human Services**

Consumer advocate  
Credit counselor  
Patient accounts representative

### **Information Technology**

Computer security specialist  
Data, systems analyst  
Information systems architect  
Programmer  
Test engineer

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Detective  
Forensics examiner, technician  
Fraud investigator  
Private detective  
Security officer

### **Manufacturing**

Inspector, tester, sorter, sampler, weigher  
Instrument, process control technician  
Quality control specialist

### **Marketing**

Computer and information systems manager  
Manager – brand, database, forecasting, other  
Market researcher  
Merchandise buyer

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Anthropologist  
Biochemist  
Engineer, engineering technician – environmental, facility maintenance, industrial, other  
Microbiologist

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Inspector – aviation, environmental, freight, other  
Logistics analyst  
Mechanic, technician – vehicle, heavy equipment, other  
Transportation inspector

## c. ARTISTIC

Creative and imaginative, artists often work best in unstructured environments where they use words, pictures, music and dance to create products and communicate ideas. Famous “artists” include Gregory Hines, Salvador Dali and William Shakespeare.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Agricultural journalist  
Florist  
Floral designer  
Gardener, landscaper

### **Architecture & Construction**

CAD operator, drafter, designer  
Interior designer  
Landscape architect  
Painter, paper hanger

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Copywriter  
Creative director  
Graphic designer  
Illustrator  
Media specialist

### **Business Management & Administration**

Advertising manager  
Director – advertising, marketing communications, public relations  
Meeting planner

### **Education & Training**

Art teacher  
Early childhood, elementary teacher  
Instructional media specialist  
Language arts teacher

### **Finance**

Business/financial writer  
Direct marketing media specialist  
Fund-raiser  
Marketing manager

### **Government & Public Administration**

Charitable organization executive  
Constituent services representative  
Lobbyist  
Public relations specialist

### **Health Science**

Art, dance, music therapist  
Dental laboratory technician  
Hospital, health agency public relations director  
Medical editor or reporter  
Orthodontist  
Plastic surgeon  
Prosthetist  
Prosthodontist

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Cake decorator  
Catering director  
Chef  
Restaurant concept developer, designer

### **Human Services**

Activities director  
Child care facility director, assistant  
Cosmetologist  
Recreation director

### **Information Technology**

Animator  
Audiovisual technician  
Web designer, site developer  
Webmaster

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Grant writer, coordinator  
Public affairs officer

### **Manufacturing**

Design engineer  
CAD operator, drafter, designer  
Product developer, designer

### **Marketing**

Catalog developer  
Designer – fashion, floral, interior, packaging  
Direct marketing specialist  
Fashion coordinator, model  
Manager – e-merchandising, sales promotion, visual merchandising  
Retail store decorator, window trimmer

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Audio/video equipment technician  
Engineer, engineering technician – broadcast, packaging, sound, robotics  
Medical illustrator  
Technical writer

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Facility architect, designer  
Urban, regional planner  
Urban, transportation geographer

## d. SOCIAL

Do you enjoy helping others learn new skills or counseling them about personal problems? Most social people enjoy working with others, individually and in groups. Famous social people include Martin Luther King, Jr., Mother Teresa and Nelson Mandela.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Agricultural sales agent  
Animal care technician  
Farm manager  
Food, drug inspector

### **Architecture & Construction**

Construction foreman, manager  
General maintenance contractor  
Installer, repairer  
Interior designer

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Audio/video equipment installer, repairer  
Interior decorator  
Performing arts coach, conductor, director

### **Business Management & Administration**

Administrative assistant  
Fund-raising director  
Human resources manager, recruiter, labor specialist  
Real estate associate

### **Education & Training**

Audiologist  
Child care specialist  
Coach  
School counselor  
Teacher

### **Finance**

Customer service representative  
Debt counselor  
Financial advisor  
Investment planner  
Loan officer

### **Government & Public Administration**

Constituent services representative  
Elected official  
Legislative aide  
Military officer

### **Health Science**

Admitting clerk  
Athletic trainer  
Health educator  
Home health aide  
Nutritionist  
Patient advocate  
Physical, respiratory or other therapist  
Psychiatrist  
Psychologist  
Social worker

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Food service worker  
Hotel worker  
Recreation worker  
Park ranger  
Tour guide

### **Human Services**

Counselor – family, mental health, rehabilitation, substance abuse, other  
Fitness trainer  
Psychologist  
Social worker

### **Information Technology**

Computer support specialist  
Help desk technician  
Instructional designer  
Interactive media developer

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Corrections educator, counselor  
Hazardous materials responder  
Paramedic, EMT  
Probation officer

### **Manufacturing**

Dispatcher  
First-line manager, supervisor  
Material mover  
Occupational health and safety technician  
Quality control specialist

### **Marketing**

Client relationship manager  
Customer support specialist  
Field representative  
Regional sales manager

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Environmental scientist  
Maintenance, repair technician  
Laboratory technician  
Medical researcher  
Oceanographer

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Cashier, counter clerk  
Customer service representative  
Driver  
Flight attendant  
Manager – health and safety, logistics, warehouse, other

## e. ENTERPRISING

Do you have strong leadership qualities? You probably like to compete, persuade others and take personal or financial risks. Enterprisers have both social and hands-on skills. Famous “enterprisers” include Bill Gates, Ted Turner and Rachael Ray.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Agricultural equipment dealer  
Agricultural sales agent  
Farm manager  
Food broker  
Food, livestock producer

### **Architecture & Construction**

Architectural firm owner, consultant  
Contractor – general, maintenance, specialty craft  
Golf course superintendent  
Interior designer  
Landscape contractor

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Advertising, design, marketing, publishing company owner  
Events, performing arts, trade show producer  
Freelance writer, designer

### **Business Management & Administration**

Business owner, entrepreneur  
Company president, general manager  
Economic development director  
Marketing manager

### **Education & Training**

Acting, dance, music studio owner, operator  
Charter school founder, operator  
Educational consultant  
Test preparation, learning center franchise owner, operator

### **Finance**

Banker  
Financial planner  
Financial manager  
Treasurer

### **Government & Public Administration**

Elected official  
Military combat operations specialist  
Policy advisor

### **Health Science**

Hospital, health agency, laboratory executive director, owner, operator  
Medical, veterinary practice owner

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Amusement park, tourist attraction developer  
Hotel, motel franchise owner, operator  
Restaurateur

### **Human Services**

Counseling, psychology practice owner  
Day-care center operator  
Funeral home director  
Nonprofit agency executive director

### **Information Technology**

E-merchandiser  
Information support services provider  
Interactive media  
Programmer/software developer

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Corporate security manager  
Law firm partner  
Police patrol officer  
Private detective, security service

### **Manufacturing**

Labor relations manager  
Manufacturing executive, supervisor  
Medical appliance, optical goods maker

### **Marketing**

Business development manager  
Buyer  
Merchandising manager  
Product developer

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Computer systems sales manager  
Engineering firm owner, consultant  
Medical research laboratory operator

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Consultant – airfield operations, logistics, other  
Government executive  
Manager – customer service, logistics, warehouse, other

## f. CONVENTIONAL

Conventional people are detail-oriented and orderly. They like to analyze facts and numbers. Famous “detailers” include J. Edgar Hoover, Alexander Graham Bell and Lillian Gilbreth, the first female engineer.

### **Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources**

Bacteriologist, biochemist  
Diesel mechanic  
Food products processor  
Food, fiber engineer  
Land surveyor

### **Architecture & Construction**

Building inspector  
Cost estimator  
Drafter, CAD operator  
Electrical, power transmission installer  
Safety director

### **Arts, A/V Technology & Communications**

Animator  
Audio/video systems technician  
Graphics, printing equipment operator  
Web designer

### **Business Management & Administration**

Administrative assistant  
Billing supervisor  
Business analyst  
Data processor  
Payroll clerk  
Purchasing agent

### **Education & Training**

Educational researcher  
Librarian  
Speech-language pathologist, audiologist  
Test measurement specialist

### **Finance**

Accountant/auditor  
Actuary  
Financial manager  
Insurance appraiser

### **Government & Public Administration**

Census enumerator  
Emergency planner  
Military intelligence officer  
Vital statistics clerk  
Zoning administrator

### **Health Science**

Biomedical engineer, technician  
Laboratory technician  
Medical records manager, coder  
Pathologist  
Pharmacist, technician

### **Hospitality & Tourism**

Banquet manager  
Hotel executive  
Supervisor – housekeeping, laundry, maintenance, etc.

### **Human Services**

Emergency management specialist  
Insurance sales agent  
Nutrition counselor

### **Information Technology**

Computer programmer  
Computer security specialist  
Data processing, documentation specialist  
Network security, systems analyst

### **Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security**

Criminal investigator  
Forensic technician  
Immigration, customs inspector  
Lawyer, paralegal, legal secretary

### **Manufacturing**

Failure analyst  
Industrial maintenance technician  
Machine tool operator  
Quality engineer

### **Marketing**

Manager – forecasting, fulfillment, inventory, other  
Logistics analyst  
Marketing researcher  
Statistician

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics**

Biochemist  
Electrical, electronic installer, repairer, technician  
Engineer – industrial, health and safety, maintenance, other  
Microbiologist

### **Transportation, Distribution & Logistics**

Air traffic controller  
Dispatcher – air, rail, road, transit, water  
Inspector – aviation, environmental, freight, other  
Packer