

Exploring Core Values: Activity #6

What Kind of a Decision Maker Are You?

Try each of the following tests to find out what kind of decision maker you are. Once you have taken the tests, reflect on the following:

How does knowing my decision-making style improve my understanding of who I am as a person?

Test #1:

<https://www.kent.edu/career/discover-your-decision-making-style>

Test #2:

DIRECTIONS: Rate each statement as a 1, 2, or 3:

1 = This statement is **false**.

2 = This statement is **sometimes true**. It depends on the situation.

3 = This statement is **true**.

1. I make sure that I have all the facts before I make a decision.
2. When I make a decision, I do what feels right.
3. I often ask other people to help me make important decisions.
4. I don't like making decisions, so I try to avoid it.
5. I make decisions quickly.
6. I make decisions in a slow, logical way.
7. When I make a decision, I rely on my instincts.
8. I don't make big decisions without talking to other people first.
9. I usually won't make an important decision until I'm forced to do so.
10. I don't think too much about the decisions that I make.

11. Making decisions requires careful thought.
12. A decision doesn't need to make sense – it just needs to feel right.
13. When I need to make an important decision, I like to have someone point me in the right direction.
14. I try to put off making important decisions because thinking about them makes me feel uneasy.
15. When I need to make an important decision, I just do what seems natural at the moment.
16. I consider all of my options before making a decision.
17. I rely on my inner feelings when making decisions.
18. When I make a decision, I rely on other people's advice.
19. I usually make important decisions at the last minute.
20. I often make impulsive decisions.

SCORING:

Within each box, indicate the number (1, 2, or 3) that you assigned to the statements on the questionnaire. Then add those numbers up to get a total.

A

1 = _____

6 = _____

11 = _____

16 = _____

Total = _____

B

2 = _____

7 = _____

12 = _____

17 = _____

Total = _____

C

3 = _____

8 = _____

13 = _____

18 = _____

Total = _____

D

4 = _____

9 = _____

14 = _____

19 = _____

Total = _____

E

5 = _____

10 = _____

15 = _____

20 = _____

Total = _____

Sources:

Scott, S. G. & Bruce, R. A. (1995). Decision-making style: The development and assessment of a new measure. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 55(5), 818–831.

Grutzek, Sasha. (2014, October 6). What Kind of Decision Maker Are You? *My Learning Solutions*. <https://mylearningsolutions.org/2014/10/06/what-kind-of-decision-maker-are-you/>

RESULTS:

Take a look at your total scores.

- If A is your highest number, you're **systematic**.
- If B is your highest number, you're **intuitive**.
- If C is your highest number, you're **dependent**.
- If D is your highest number, you're **avoidant**.
- If E is your highest number, you're **spontaneous**.
- If you have equally high scores in more than one area, it means that you regularly use more than one decision-making style.

A – **Systematic**

You make decisions slowly and carefully. You make sure that you have all the facts before you proceed. You carefully consider all of your options in order to make the best choice.

B – **Intuitive**

When you need to make a decision, you tend to rely on your feelings. You make decisions based on “hunches” and instinct. You do what feels right at the moment.

C – **Dependent**

You find it hard to make decisions without other people's support. When you need to make an important decision, you ask other people for advice and direction. You're uncomfortable making decisions alone.

D – **Avoidant**

You don't like making important decisions. They make you feel uneasy and uncomfortable. So you try to avoid making decisions as much as possible. You only make important decisions when you're pressured to do so.

E – **Spontaneous**

You make important decisions quickly and easily. You're often impulsive. You don't spend much time thinking or worrying about your decisions. You just make a choice and see what happens.