

INTJ



INTJs are analytical problem-solvers, eager to improve systems and processes with their innovative ideas. They have a talent for seeing possibilities for improvement, whether at work, at home, or in themselves.

Often intellectual, INTJs enjoy logical reasoning and complex problem-solving. They approach life by analyzing the theory behind what they see, and are typically focused inward, on their own thoughtful study of the world around them. INTJs are drawn to logical systems and are much less comfortable with the unpredictable nature of other people and their emotions. They are typically independent and selective about their relationships, preferring to associate with people who they find intellectually stimulating.

What Makes the INTJ Tick

INTJs are perceptive about systems and strategy, and often understand the world as a chess board to be navigated. They want to understand how systems work, and how events proceed: the INTJ often has a unique ability to foresee logical outcomes. They enjoy applying themselves to a project or idea in depth, and putting in concentrated effort to achieve their goals.

INTJs have a hunger for knowledge and strive to constantly increase their competence; they are often perfectionists with extremely high standards of performance for themselves and others. They tend to have a keen interest in self-improvement and are lifelong learners, always looking to add to their base of information and awareness.

Recognizing the INTJ

INTJs are typically reserved and serious, and seem to spend a lot of time thinking. They are curious about the world around them and often want to know the principle behind what they see. They thoroughly examine the information they receive, and if asked a question, will typically consider it at length before presenting a careful, complex answer. INTJs think critically and clearly, and often have an idea about how to do something more efficiently. They can be blunt in their presentation, and often communicate in terms of the larger strategy, leaving out the details.

Although INTJs aren't usually warm or particularly gregarious, they tend to have a self-assured manner with people based on their own security in their intelligence. They relate their ideas with confidence, and once they have arrived at a conclusion they fully expect others to see the wisdom in their perceptions. They are typically perfectionists and appreciate an environment of intellectual challenge. They enjoy discussing interesting ideas, and may get themselves into trouble because of their take-no-prisoners attitude: if someone's beliefs don't make logical sense, the Mastermind typically has no qualms about pointing that out.

Popular Hobbies for the INTJ

Popular hobbies for the INTJ include reading, cultural events, taking classes, appreciating art, computers and video games, and independent sports such as swimming, backpacking, or running marathons.

Quotes About INTJ

"INTJs are the most independent of all the sixteen types and take more or less conscious pride in that independence."

- Isabel Briggs Myers, [Gifts Differing](#)

"Difficulties are highly stimulating to INTJs, who love responding to a problem that requires a creative solution."

- David Keirsey, [Please Understand Me II](#)

"Their capacity for intellectual and conceptual clarity gives INTJs both vision and the will to see it through to completion—leadership qualities that are prized in our society."

- Otto Kroeger, [Type Talk at Work](#)

Facts About INTJ

Interesting [facts about the INTJ](#):

- On personality trait measures, score as Discreet, Industrious, Logical, Deliberate, Self-Confident, and Methodical
- Among types least likely to suffer heart disease and cardiac problems
- Least likely of all the types to believe in a higher spiritual power
- One of two types with highest college GPA
- Among types with highest income
- Personal values include Achievement
- Of all types, least likely to state that they value Home/family, Financial security, Relationships & friendships, and Community service
- Overrepresented among MBA students and female small business owners
- Commonly found in scientific or technical fields, computer occupations, and legal professions

INTJ at Work

At work, the INTJ excels at creating and implementing innovative solutions to analytical problems. They naturally see possibilities for improvement within complex systems and are organized and determined in implementing their ideas for change.

INTJs are comfortable with abstraction and theory but gain the most satisfaction from turning their ideas into reality. They often enjoy working independently or with a small team, taking measured, strategic steps to implement change.

INTJs enjoy working with logical systems that they can understand in depth. They enjoy the challenge of comprehending complex ideas, and want to understand how they can improve the way things work.

The ideal work environment for an INTJ is logical, efficient, structured, and analytical, with colleagues that are competent, intelligent, and productive. The ideal job for a Mastermind allows them to use their analytical skills to problem-solve in a challenging environment, and to take responsibility for implementing their ideas to create efficient, innovative systems.

INTJ CAREER FACTS

- Earn more, on average, when [self-employed](#)
- Second [least likely](#) of all types to report being a stay-at-home parent

Top Careers for the INTJ

Top [careers for the INTJ](#) include:

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL

- [Accountant or Auditor](#)
- [Budget Analyst](#)
- [Cost Estimator](#)
- [Financial Analyst](#)
- [Insurance Underwriter](#)
- [Loan Officer](#)
- [Logistician](#)
- [Management Consultant](#)
- [Market Research Analyst](#)
- [Personal Financial Advisor](#)
- [Tax Examiner](#)
- [Financial Manager](#)
- [Top Executive](#)
- [Sales Engineer](#)

MATH

- [Actuary](#)
- [Mathematician](#)
- [Operations Research Analyst](#)
- [Statistician](#)

ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING

- [Aerospace Engineer](#)
- [Agricultural Engineer](#)
- [Architect](#)
- [Biomedical Engineer](#)
- [Chemical Engineer](#)
- [Civil Engineer](#)
- [Computer Hardware Engineer](#)
- [Electrical or Electronics Engineer](#)
- [Environmental Engineer](#)
- [Health and Safety Engineer](#)
- [Industrial Engineer](#)
- [Mechanical Engineer](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering Technician](#)
- [Mining or Geological Engineer](#)
- [Nuclear Engineer](#)
- [Petroleum Engineer](#)
- [Surveyor](#)
- [Architectural or Engineering Manager](#)

SCIENCES

- [Atmospheric Scientist](#)
- [Biochemist or Biophysicist](#)
- [Chemist or Materials Scientist](#)
- [Economist](#)
- [Environmental Scientist](#)
- [Geoscientist](#)
- [Historian](#)
- [Hydrologist](#)
- [Medical Scientist](#)
- [Microbiologist](#)
- [Political Scientist](#)

ARTS, DESIGN, AND COMMUNICATIONS

- [Art Director](#)
- [Industrial Designer](#)
- [Editor](#)
- [Translator](#)
- [Photographer](#)
- [Reporter](#)
- [Technical Writer](#)
- [Writer](#)

HEALTHCARE

- [Optometrist](#)
- [Pharmacist](#)
- [Physician or Surgeon](#)
- [Podiatrist](#)

EDUCATION

- [Technical Education Teacher](#)
- [Professor](#)
- [College Administrator](#)

COMPUTERS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- [Computer Programmer](#)
- [Computer Support Specialist](#)
- [Computer Systems Analyst](#)
- [Database Administrator](#)
- [Information Security Analyst](#)
- [Network Administrator](#)
- [Software Developer](#)
- [Web Developer](#)
- [Computer and IS Manager](#)
- [Computer Network Architect](#)
- [Computer Scientist](#)

CONSTRUCTION

- [Construction Manager](#)
- [Building Inspector](#)

LEGAL

- [Judge or Hearing Officer](#)

- [Lawyer](#)
- [Paralegal or Legal Assistant](#)

PROTECTIVE SERVICE

- [Police Detective](#)
- [Private Investigator](#)

Least Popular Careers for INTJ

It is important to note that any personality type can be successful in any occupation. However, some occupations are well suited to the natural talents and preferred work style of the INTJ, while other occupations demand modes of thinking and behavior that do not come as naturally to this type. Occupations that require the Mastermind to operate outside their natural preferences may prove stressful or draining, and often sound unappealing to INTJs who are choosing a career.

The following occupations have been found to be unpopular among INTJs, based on data gathered from surveys of the general population.

[Receptionist](#)

Hotel Clerk

Secretary

Telemarketer

[Recreation Worker](#)

[Teacher's Aide](#)

Preschool Teacher

Home Health Aide

Production Worker

Advertising Sales Agent

[Dental Hygienist](#)

[Licensed Practical Nurse](#)

[Medical Assistant](#)

[Nurse's Aide](#)

Social Worker