

## **Finding the Sweet Spot - Christine Seward**

This list has been personalized for you based on the results of your VIA reports. Your strengths are color-coded: Signature strengths (top 7) - dark green; Middle strengths - light green; Lesser strengths (bottom 5) - yellow. **Directions:** Please highlight the overuse definitions of your signature strengths and the underuse definitions of your lesser strengths.

|    | strength                             | underuse                                   | optimal use   | overuse   |
|----|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1  | Humor                                | grim; unapproachable                       | healthy levity; group-oriented                            | excessive teasing; belittling                     |
| 2  | Fairness                             | bias; partial treatment                    | equitable decisions; impartial justice                    | inflexible adherence to rules over context        |
| 3  | Kindness                             | aloof; selfish                             | compassion; empathy in action                             | martyrdom; compassion fatigue                     |
| 4  | Social Intelligence                  | clueless about social cues;<br>insensitive | aware of social dynamics;<br>empathetic communication     | manipulative; overthinking interactions           |
| 5  | Teamwork                             | isolated; lacking group synergy            | cooperative effort; shared goals                          | groupthink; conformity                            |
| 6  | Honesty                              | deception; lack of authenticity            | authentic self-expression;<br>responsibility              | bluntness; ignoring tact or empathy               |
| 7  | Love Of Learning                     | disengaged with knowledge                  | intentional learning; open minded                         | analysis paralysis; ignoring practicality         |
| 8  | Gratitude                            | entitled; unappreciative                   | positive expectations; optimistic                         | dependent; blind acceptance/loss of individuality |
| 9  | Норе                                 | apathy; pessimistic despair                | positive expectations; optimistic                         | delusional positivity; ignoring problems          |
| 10 | Forgiveness                          | resentful; vengeful                        | letting go of grudges;<br>understanding                   | enabling repeated harm; ignoring boundaries       |
| 11 | Zest                                 | low energy; indifferent                    | enthusiasm; active engagement                             | impulsivity; burnout from overcommitment          |
| 12 | Judgment                             | uncritical acceptance; naive               | thoughtful consideration;<br>balanced reasoning           | hypercritical; indecisive                         |
| 13 | Humility                             | arrogance; self-centeredness               | accurate self-view; respectful of others                  | self-effacing; inability to accept credit         |
| 14 | Appreciation Of<br>Beauty Excellence | oblivious; uninterested in excellence      | valuing artistry, skill, or beauty                        | hyperfocus on perfection;<br>aesthetic snobbery   |
| 15 | Curiosity                            | uninterested; apathetic                    | information seeking; exploration                          | scattered focus; superficial dabbling             |
| 16 | Perseverance                         | easily give up; no follow-<br>through      | steadfast pursuit of goals;<br>resilience                 | stubbornness; ignoring<br>diminishing returns     |
| 17 | Bravery                              | fear-driven; easily intimidated            | standing up for beliefs;<br>persevering through adversity | reckless risk-taking                              |
| 18 | Perspective                          | unaware; limited viewpoint                 | wisdom-based insight; broad perspective                   | overthinking; constant re-<br>evaluation          |
| 19 | Creativity                           | uninspired; stuck thinking                 | imaginative solutions; innovative                         | unrealistic; ignoring constraints                 |
| 20 | Self-Regulation                      | indulgent; lacking discipline              | balanced habits; emotional control                        | rigidity; denying basic needs                     |



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| 21 | Leadership   | lack of direction; passive group involvement | guiding vision; collaborative organization                    | domineering; micromanagement           |
|----|--------------|--|---|--|
| 22 | Prudence     | impulsive; risky decisions                   | thoughtful planning; caution                                  | overly cautious; fear of risk          |
| 23 | Spirituality | lack of purpose; disconnected from sacred    | finding purpose; pursuing life meaning/connecting with sacred | fanatical; preachy/rigid beliefs       |
| 24 | Love         | disconnected; lonely                         | warmth and closeness with others                              | clinging; ignoring personal boundaries |

Adapted from Niemec, Ryan M. Character Strengths Interventions. Boston, MA: Hogrefe Publishing, 2018. p.96-97