# MYERS-BRIGGS TYPE INDICATOR® Interpretive Report



# report prepared for **DOE JANE**

June 2, 2001





### **INTRODUCTION**

This report is designed to help you understand your results on the *Myers-Briggs Type* Indicator® that you completed. The MBTI® indicates 16 personality types among people. Your answers to the MBTI questions indicate that your four-letter type is INTP. This is also known as Introverted Thinking with Intuition.

ISTJ	ISFJ	INFJ	INTJ
ISTP	ISFP	INFP	INTP
ESTP	ESFP	ENFP	ENTP
ESTJ	ESFJ	ENFJ	ENTJ

#### INTROVERTED THINKING WITH INTUITION

#### Where Do Types Come From?

The MBTI instrument is based on years of observations by the psychologist Carl Jung and by the instrument's authors, Isabel Briggs Myers and her mother, Katharine Cook Briggs. Their ideas help explain why different kinds of people are interested in different things, are good at different kinds of work, and sometimes find it hard to understand each other. The MBTI instrument was developed with great care and has been used by people around the world for more than 20 years. Family members use it to understand each other better. Teachers and students use it to make learning more interesting and efficient. Young people and adults use it to choose careers that are likely to hold their interest and use their gifts. Organizations use type information to improve communication, teamwork, and leadership.

Isabel Briggs Myers wrote a description of each of the 16 types. Page 3 of your report describes type INTP. The remaining pages give reasons why the 16 types are different from one another and tell more about your answers. Be sure to read all the pages to see your full report.

A clear understanding of the basics of your type and type development will be helpful throughout the rest of your life. Type development is a life-long process of gaining greater command over the powers of perception and judgment.

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#### **INTP** Introverted Thinking with Intuition

People with INTP preferences are independent problem-solvers who excel at providing a detached, concise analysis of an idea or situation. They ask the hard questions, challenging others and themselves to find new logical approaches.

INTPs use their Thinking primarily internally to find or develop underlying principles and logical structures for understanding and explaining the world. They approach almost everything with skepticism, form their own opinions and standards, and apply these standards rigorously to themselves. They highly value intelligence and competence. INTPs are likely to be logical, analytical, objectively critical, detached, and contemplative.

INTPs see possibilities beyond the present and obvious. They love to theorize and discuss abstractions. INTPs are usually mentally quick, insightful, ingenious, and intensely curious about ideas and theories. INTPs quickly see inconsistencies and illogic and enjoy taking apart and reworking ideas. They naturally build complex theoretical systems to explain the realities they see. They find it difficult to work on routine things, but bring great energy, intensity, and focus to researching or analyzing a problem that arouses their curiosity.

INTPs are usually quiet and reserved though they can be talkative in areas where they are especially knowledgeable. Unless their work requires action, they are more interested in the challenge of finding solutions than in putting solutions to practical use. They prefer not to organize people or situations.

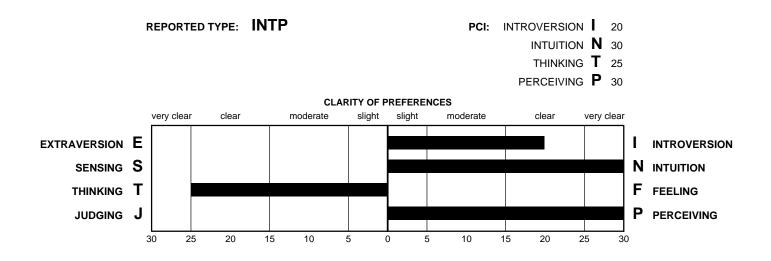
INTPs are tolerant of a wide range of behavior, arguing and raising issues only when they believe it is reasonable to do so. This flexibility disappears, however, when their ruling principles are challenged; then they stop adapting. INTPs prize precision in communication and dislike redundancy or stating the obvious. They want to state the exact truth, but may make it so complex that others have difficulty understanding. Others usually see INTPs as quiet, contained, calm, and independent, and as detached observers who value autonomy.

Sometimes life circumstances have not supported INTPs in the development and expression of their Intuitive and Thinking preferences. If they've not developed their Intuition, INTPs may have no reliable way for taking in information and may be immersed in their internal logical systems. Then they find it difficult to communicate or actualize their ideas. If they've not developed their Thinking, they may go from insight to insight, never analyzing them with a critical eye or integrating them into a whole. For more information about psychological type, MBTI preferences, and the 16 types as well as applications for understanding type, see *Introduction to Type*®, sixth edition, by Isabel Briggs Myers, and the *Introduction to Type* series.

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Below is a graph of your preference clarity indexes (pci). The placement of each bar is based on a formula by Isabel Briggs Myers that compares the two choices for each preference. "Very clear" means you chose the preference consistently. "Slight" means your choices were more evenly divided. Do your choices seem to fit you?



#### HOW THE FOUR-LETTER PATTERNS FIT TO EXPLAIN THE 16 TYPES

Each of the 16 types has its own unique pattern of preferences. When you understand the patterns, you will see why the things that are interesting or easy for your type are uninteresting or difficult for a different type. (Note that these patterns are shown by the letters. They are not affected by the size of your preference clarity indexes.)

The four mental processes described by the MBTI instrument are Sensing (S), Intuition (N), Thinking (T), and Feeling (F). Everyone uses all four, but each of the 16 types has its own pattern showing which of these four processes is the favorite or first in importance, the second favorite, the third, and the least favorite.

INTPs like and use Thinking best and Intuition next best. Their third favorite process is Sensing, and their least preferred is Feeling. Youth is the time for INTPs to develop Thinking and Intuition. In middle life, Sensing and Feeling often become more interesting and easier to use.

The patterns for each type also show whether the first—or favorite—process is used mostly in the world of people and things (the Extraverted way) or in the inner world of ideas (the Introverted way). Here is how the whole pattern works for type INTP.

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INTPs use mainly their first process, Thinking, in the inner world of ideas. They run their outer lives with their second process, Intuition. Other people may at first underestimate INTPs because they see mostly the INTP's second-best process, Intuition, which shows in their outer behavior. Their best process, Thinking, is less apparent because it is used mainly in the inner world. INTPs also use Sensing and Feeling, but not so readily or easily as Thinking and Intuition. Feeling is the process most likely to be overlooked.

The description on page 3 takes all these patterns into account to describe how INTPs appear in everyday life. Think about the description, matching it against your own knowledge of yourself. If the description makes you feel comfortably understood, your four letters are probably right. You probably like to act in the ways described on page 3. Of course, you are free to act in other ways when the situation calls for you to do so. The description is intended to help you trust and develop the preferences that come most naturally to you.

## IF THE INTP PATTERN DOES NOT SEEM TO FIT

Every person is too complicated to be completely explained by a set of questions, no matter how good those questions may be. Here are some suggestions if your report does not seem to fit you:

Think back to your frame of mind when you completed the MBTI personality inventory. Were you describing the preferences that come most naturally and easily to you? Or were you influenced by the way you think you ought to be, or the way someone else thinks you ought to be? If your answers did not reflect your own way, can you tell what letters might fit you better?

Was it difficult to determine your preference on many of the questions? If so, what would your type be if the choice had gone the other way? If you suspect that another four-letter type might fit you better, you will find a description for that type in *Introduction to Type* by Isabel Briggs Myers. You will find more in-depth information about type in *Gifts Differing* by Isabel Briggs Myers.

Ask the person who administered the MBTI instrument to you for other suggestions about finding the type that fits you best.

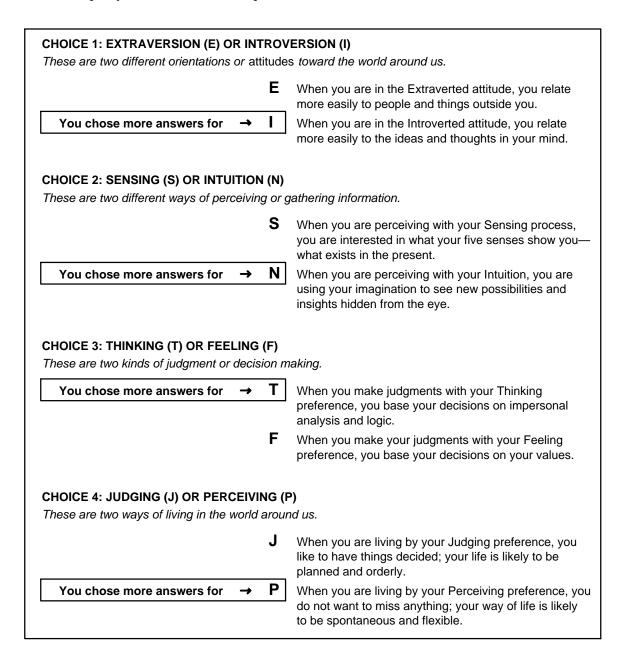
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#### HOW YOUR ANSWERS INDICATED TYPE INTP

When you completed the MBTI instrument, you made choices on four scales. Each scale has two preferences. The letters for these preferences are E or I, S or N, T or F, and J or P. The instrument assumes that every person uses all eight of the qualities described by these letters, but that people find one letter of each pair more interesting or comfortable than its opposite. Think of your choices as somewhat like being right- or left-handed. Both hands are valuable, but most people reach first with the hand they prefer. They usually use that hand more and become more skillful with that hand. In the same way, your type preferences are choices between equally valuable and useful qualities.





#### FURTHER READING

- Barger, N. J., & Kirby, L. K. (1995). The challenge of change in organizations. Palo Alto, CA: Davies-Black Publishing.
- Hirsh, S. K., with Kise, J. A. G. (1996). Work it out: Clues for solving people problems at work. Palo Alto, CA: Davies-Black Publishing.
- Hirsh, S. K., & Kummerow, J. M. (1998). Introduction to type® in organizations (3rd ed.). Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press.
- Hirsh, S. K., & Kummerow, J. M. (1989). LIFEtypes. New York: Warner Books.
- Lawrence, G. (1982). People types and tiger stripes. Gainesville, FL: Center for Applications of Psychological Type.
- Millner, N. B. (1998). Creative aging. Palo Alto, CA: Davies-Black Publishing.
- Myers, I. B. revised by Kirby, L. K., & Myers, K. D. (1998). Introduction to type® (6th ed.). Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press.
- Myers, I. B., McCaulley, M. H., Quenk, N. L., & Hammer, A. L. (1998). The MBTI® manual: A guide to the development and use of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (3rd ed.). Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press.
- Myers, I. B., with Myers, P. B. (1995). *Gifts differing*. Palo Alto, CA: Davies-Black Publishing.
- Myers, K. D., & Kirby, L. K. (1994). Introduction to type® dynamics and development. Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press.
- Pearman, R. R., & Albritton, S. C. (1997). I'm not crazy, I'm just not you. Palo Alto, CA: Davies-Black Publishing.
- Quenk, N. L. (1996). In the grip: Our hidden personality. Palo Alto, CA: Consulting Psychologists Press.

All of the above resources are available from Consulting Psychologists Press, Inc. 3803 East Bayshore Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303. For more information call 1-800-624-1765 or visit www.mbti.com.

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