

## A DEEPER LOOK AT THE FOUR DISCStyles™

Below is a chart to help you understand some of the characteristics of each of the Four Basic DISC Styles, so you can interact with each style more effectively. Although behavioral style is only a partial description of personality, it is quite useful in describing how a person behaves, and is perceived, in personal, social and work situations.

	HIGH DOMINANT STYLE	HIGH INFLUENCING STYLE	HIGH STEADY STYLE	HIGH CONSCIENTIOUS STYLE
<b>Tends to Act</b>	Assertive	Persuasive	Patient	Contemplative
<b>When in Conflict, this Style</b>	Demands Action	Attacks	Complies	Avoids
<b>Needs</b>	Control	Approval	Routine	Standards
<b>Primary Drive</b>	Independence	Interaction	Stability	Correctness
<b>Preferred Tasks</b>	Challenging	People related	Scheduled	Structured
<b>Comfortable with</b>	Being decisive	Social friendliness	Being part of a team	Order and planning
<b>Personal Strength</b>	Problem solver	Encourager	Supporter	Organizer
<b>Strength Overextended</b>	Preoccupation on goals over people	Speaking without thinking	Procrastination in addressing change	Over analyzing everything
<b>Personal Limitation</b>	Too direct and intense	Too disorganized and nontraditional	Too indecisive and indirect	Too detailed and impersonal
<b>Personal Wants</b>	Control, Variety	Approval, Less Structure	Routine, Harmony	Standards, Logic
<b>Personal Fear</b>	Losing	Rejection	Sudden Change	Being Wrong
<b>Blind Spots</b>	Being held accountable	Follow through on commitments	Embracing need for change	Struggle to make decisions without overanalyzing
<b>Needs to Work on</b>	Empathy, Patience	Controlling emotions Follow through	Being assertive when pressured	Worrying less about everything
<b>Measuring Maturity</b>	Giving up control	Objectively handling rejection	Standing up for self when confronted	Not being defensive when criticized
<b>Under Stress May Become</b>	Dictatorial Critical	Sarcastic Superficial	Submissive Indecisive	Withdrawn Headstrong
<b>Measures Worth by</b>	Impact or results Track record	Acknowledgments Compliments	Compatibility Contributions	Precision, Accuracy Quality of results

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE DISCStyles™

### Communicating with the **DOMINANT** Style

D CHARACTERISTICS:	SO YOU SHOULD...
Concerned with being #1	Show them how to win, new opportunities
Think logically	Display reasoning
Want facts and highlights	Provide concise data
Strive for results	Agree on goal and boundaries, the support or get out of their way
Like personal choices	Allow them to “do their thing,” within limits
Like changes	Vary routine
Prefer to delegate	Look for opportunities to modify their workload focus
Want others to notice accomplishments	Compliment them on what they’ve done
Need to be in charge	Let them take the lead, when appropriate, but give them parameters
Tendency towards conflict	If necessary, argue with conviction on points of disagreement, backed up with facts; don’t argue on a “personality” basis

### Communicating with the **INFLUENCING** Style

I CHARACTERISTICS:	SO YOU SHOULD...
Concerned with approval and appearances	Show them that you admire and like them
Seek enthusiastic people and situations	Behave optimistically and provide upbeat setting
Think emotionally	Support their feelings when possible
Want to know the general expectations	Avoid involved details, focus on the “big picture”
Need involvement and people contact	Interact and participate with them
Like changes and innovations	Vary the routine; avoid requiring long-term repetition by them
Want others to notice THEM	Compliment them personally and often
Often need help getting organized	Do it together
Look for action and stimulation	Keep up a fast, lively, pace
Surround themselves with optimism	Support their ideas and don’t poke holes in their dreams; show them your positive side
Want feedback that they “look good”	Mention their accomplishments, progress and your other genuine appreciation

## Communicating with the **STEADY** Style

<b>S CHARACTERISTICS:</b>	<b>SO YOU SHOULD...</b>
Concerned with stability	Show how your idea minimizes risk
Think logically	Show reasoning
Want documentation and facts	Provide data and proof
Like personal involvement	Demonstrate your interest in them
Need to know step-by-step sequence	Provide outline and/or one-two-three instructions as you personally "walk them through"
Want others to notice their patient perseverance	Compliment them for their steady follow-through
Avoid risks and changes	Give them personal assurances
Dislike conflict	Act non-aggressively, focus on common interest or needed support
Accommodate others	Allow them to provide service or support for others
Look for calmness and peace	Provide a relaxing, friendly atmosphere
Enjoy teamwork	Provide them with a cooperative group
Want sincere feedback that they're appreciated	Acknowledge their easygoing manner and helpful efforts, when appropriate

## Communicating with the **CONSCIENTIOUS** Style

<b>C CHARACTERISTICS:</b>	<b>SO YOU SHOULD...</b>
Concerned with aggressive approaches	Approach them in an indirect, nonthreatening way
Think logically	Show your reasoning
Seek data	Give data to them in writing
Need to know the process	Provide explanations and rationale
Utilize caution	Allow them to think, inquire and check before they make decisions
Prefer to do things themselves	When delegating, let them check procedures, and other progress and performance before they make decisions
Want others to notice their accuracy	Compliment them on their thoroughness and correctness when appropriate
Gravitate toward quality control	Let them assess and be involved in the process when possible
Avoid conflict	Tactfully ask for clarification and assistance you may need
Need to be right	Allow them time to find the best or "correct" answer, within available limits
Like to contemplate	Tell them "why" and "how"

**The first step to building stronger communication is awareness. By identifying how we are similar and different, we can make cognitive choices when interacting to create stronger, more engaged relationships.**