

## Exploring Careers by your Interests

*Birds of a feather flock together, or people with similar interest tend to go into similar occupations.*

- Read and decide which of the below career interest groups sounds most like you.
- Click on the Heading to find out typical characteristics of people in this interest group and see a list of the types of occupations in which they work (this is not a complete list of occupations, but a list to help you begin to explore and brainstorm career options).
- Research those occupations that interest you on the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) for job descriptions, qualifications, education needed, and much more!

### **Realistic** - the "Do-ers"

People who have athletic or mechanical ability, prefer to work with objects, machines, tools, plants, or animals, or to be outdoors.

### **Investigative** - the "Thinkers"

People who like to observe, learn, investigate, analyze, evaluate or solve problems.

### **Artistic** - the "Creators"

People who have artistic, innovating or intuitive abilities and like to work in unstructured situations using their imagination and creativity.

### **Social** - the "Helpers"

People who like to work with people to enlighten, inform, help, train, or cure them, or are skilled with words.

### **Enterprising** - the "Persuaders"

People who like to work with people, influencing, persuading, performing, leading or managing for organizational goals or economic gain.

### **Conventional** - the "Organizers"

People who like to work with data, have clerical or numerical ability, carry out tasks in detail or follow through on others' instruction.

## **Realistic** - the "Do-ers"

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

### *Are You?*

- practical
- athletic
- straightforward/frank
- mechanically inclined
- a nature lover
- thrifty
- curious about the physical world
- stable
- concrete
- reserved
- self-controlled
- independent
- ambitious
- systematic
- persistent

### *Can You?*

- fix electrical things
- solve electrical problems
- pitch a tent
- play a sport
- read a blueprint
- plant a garden
- operate tools and machinery

### *Do You Like To?*

- tinker with machines/vehicles
- work outdoors
- use your hands
- be physically active
- build things
- tend/train animals
- work on electronic equipment

### *Your Hobbies May Include:*

- Refinishing furniture
- Growing plants/flowers
- Playing sports
- Hunting/fishing
- Woodworking
- Coaching team sports
- Building models
- Repairing cars, equipment
- Target shooting
- Landscaping
- Taking exercise classes

- Air-Conditioning Mechanics
- Aircraft Mechanic
- Appliance Mechanics
- Architectural Drafter
- Automotive Engineer
- Automobile Mechanic
- Baker/Chef
- Bookbinder
- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Cement Worker and Terrazzo Worker
- Composer
- Construction Worker
- Corrections Officer
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Laboratory Technician
- Dental Technician
- Diesel Mechanic
- Drafter
- Electrical Engineer
- Electrician
- Electroplater
- Exercise Careers
- Farm Equipment Manager
- Farmer Farm Manager
- Firefighter
- Fish Hatchery Manager
- Floral Designer
- Forester
- Furnace Installer
- Geodetic Surveyor
- Glazier
- Groundskeeper
- Industrial Supervisor
- Jeweler
- Laboratory Technician
- Line Installer
- Logger
- Machinist
- Maintenance Repairer
- Mechanical Engineer
- Metallurgical Technician
- Oceanographer
- Optician
- Painter
- Petroleum Engineer
- Plumber
- Practical Nurse
- Printing Press Operator
- Property Manager
- Quality Control Manager
- Radio/T.V. Repair
- Sailor

- Sheet Metal Worker
- Structural Steelworker
- Tailor
- Tool and Die Maker
- Truck Driver

- Upholsterer
- Water Quality Specialist
- Welder
- Woodworking

## **Investigative - the "Thinkers"**

### *Are You?*

- inquisitive
- analytical
- scientific
- observant
- precise
- scholarly
- cautious
- intellectually self-confident
- introspective
- reserved
- broad-minded
- independent
- logical
- complex
- curious

### *Can You?*

- think abstractly
- solve math problems
- understand scientific theories
- do complex calculations
- use a microscope or computer
- interpret formulas

### *Do You Like To?*

- explore a variety of ideas
- use computers
- work independently
- perform lab experiments
- read scientific or technical journals
- analyze data
- deal with abstractions
- do research
- be challenged

### *Your Hobbies May Include:*

- Book club
- Astronomy
- Crossword puzzles/board games
- Preservation of endangered species
- Computers
- Visiting museums

- Collecting rocks, stamps, coins, etc.
- Amateur Radio
- Recreational flying

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

- Actuary
- Agronomist
- Anesthesiologist
- Anthropologist
- Archeologist
- Biochemist
- Biologist
- Cardiopulmonary Technician
- Cartographer
- Chemical Engineer
- Chemical Technician
- Chemist
- Chiropractor
- Civil Engineer
- Computer Engineer
- Computer Programmer
- Computer Systems Analyst
- Dentist
- Ecologist
- Economist
- Electrical Engineer
- Geographer
- Geologist
- Hazardous Waste Technician
- Horticulturist
- Industrial Arts Teacher
- Management Consultant
- Marketing Research Analyst
- Mathematician
- Medical Lab Technologist
- Meteorologist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Pharmacist
- Physician, General Practice
- Physician Assistant
- Psychologist
- Research Analyst
- Software Engineer
- Statistician
- Technical Writer
- Veterinarian
- Web Site Developer

## **Artistic** - the "Creators"

## *Your Hobbies May Include:*

### *Are You?*

- creative
- intuitive
- imaginative
- innovative
- unconventional
- emotional
- independent
- expressive
- original
- introspective
- impulsive
- sensitive
- courageous
- open
- complicated
- idealistic
- non-conforming

### *Can You?*

- sketch, draw, paint,
- play a musical instrument
- write stories, poetry, music
- sing, act, dance
- design fashions or interiors

### *Do You Like To?*

- attend concerts, theaters, art exhibits
- read fiction, plays, and poetry
- work on crafts
- take photographs express yourself creatively
- deal with ambiguous ideas

- Photography
- Performing
- Writing stories, poems, etc....
- Desktop publishing
- Sewing
- Taking dance lessons
- Visiting art museums
- Designing sets for plays
- Travel
- Playing a musical instrument
- Homemade crafts
- Painting
- Speaking foreign languages

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

- Actor/Actress
- Advertising Art Director
- Advertising Manager
- Architect
- Clothing/Fashion Designer
- Copywriter
- Dancer Choreographer
- Drama Teacher English Teacher
- Fashion Illustrator
- Graphic Designer
- Interior Designer
- Journalist/Reporter
- Landscape Architect
- Medical Illustrator
- Museum Curator
- Photographer
- Writers/Editors

## Social - the "Helpers"

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

### *Are You?*

- friendly
- helpful
- idealistic
- insightful
- outgoing
- understanding
- cooperative
- generous
- responsible
- forgiving
- patient
- empathic
- kind
- persuasive

### *Can You?*

- teach/train others
- express yourself clearly
- lead a group discussion
- mediate disputes
- plan and supervise an activity cooperate well with others

### *Do You Like To?*

- work in groups
- help people with problems
- participate in meetings
- do volunteer work
- work with young people
- play team sports
- serve others

### *Your Hobbies May Include:*

- Volunteering with social action groups
- Writing letters
- Joining campus or community organizations
- Helping others with personal concerns
- Meeting new friends
- Attending sporting events
- Caring for children
- Religious activities
- Going to parties
- Playing team sports

- Air Traffic Controller
- Athletic Trainer
- City Manager
- College Professor
- Community Planner
- Counseling Psychologist
- Counselor/Therapist
- Cosmetologist
- Cruise Director
- Dental Hygienist
- Detective
- Dietitian
- Elementary School Teacher
- Family and Consumer Scientist Teacher
- Hairstylist
- High School Teacher
- Historian
- Hospital Administrator
- Ind./Organizational Psychologist
- Insurance Claims Examiner
- Librarian
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Record Administrator
- Nurse/Midwife
- Occupational Therapist
- Paralegal
- Park Naturalist
- Personnel Recruiter
- Personnel, Training, and Labor Relations Specialist
- Physical Therapist
- Physical Therapy Aide
- Police Officer
- Preschool Worker
- Professional Athlete
- Probation and Parole Officer
- Public Health Educator
- Radiological Technologist
- Real Estate Appraiser
- Recreation Director
- Recreational Therapist
- Registered Nurse
- Retirement Counselor
- School Counselor
- School Principal-Administrator
- Social Worker
- Sociologist
- Special Education Teacher
- Speech Pathologist
- Teacher's Aid
- Ticket Agent
- Vocational-Rehab. Counselor
- X-Ray Technician

## **Enterprising** - the "Persuaders"

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

### *Are You?*

- self-confident
- assertive
- sociable
- persuasive
- enthusiastic
- energetic
- adventurous
- popular
- impulsive
- ambitious
- inquisitive
- agreeable
- talkative
- extroverted
- spontaneous
- optimistic

### *Can You?*

- initiate projects
- convince people to do things your way
- sell things or promote ideas
- give talks or speeches
- organize activities
- lead a group
- persuade others

### *Do You Like To?*

- make decisions affecting others
- be elected to office
- win a leadership or sales award
- start your own business
- campaign politically meet important people
- have power or status

### *Your Hobbies May Include:*

- Discussing Politics
- Reading Business Journals
- Watching the Stock Market
- Attending Meetings and Conferences
- Selling Products
- Leading Campus or Community Organizations
- Operating a Home Business

- Advertising, marketing, and public relations managers
- Advertising Sales Representative
- Automobile Sales Worker
- Financial Planner
- Barber/Hairdresser
- Bartender
- Benefits Manager
- Financial Manager
- Buyer
- Cook/Chef
- Credit Analyst
- Credit Manager
- Dental Assistant
- Educational - Training Manager
- Educational Administrator
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Flight Attendant
- Food Service Manager
- Foreign Service Officer
- Funeral Director
- Health Services Manager
- Hotel Manager
- Housekeeper
- Industrial Engineer
- Insurance Adjuster
- Insurance Agent
- Interpreter
- Journalism
- Lawyer/Attorney
- Lobbyist
- Manufacturer's Representative
- Office Manager
- Public Relations Representative
- Real Estate Agent
- Restaurant Manager
- Retail Sales Person
- Retail Store Manager
- Sales Manager
- Sales Representative
- Social Service Director
- Stockbroker
- Tax Accountant
- Travel Agent
- Urban Planner

## **Conventional** - the "Organizers"

*If this sounds a lot like you, check out these careers and more like them!*

### *Are You?*

- well-organized
- accurate
- numerically inclined
- methodical
- conscientious
- efficient
- conforming
- orderly
- practical
- thrifty
- systematic
- structured
- polite
- ambitious
- obedient
- persistent

### *Can You?*

- work well within a system
- do a lot of paper work in a short time
- keep accurate records
- use a computer terminal
- write effective business letters

### *Do You Like To?*

- follow clearly defined procedures
- work with computers
- work with numbers be responsible for details
- collect or organize things

### *Your Hobbies May Include:*

- Collecting memorabilia
- Arranging and organizing household or workshop, etc.
- Playing computer or card games
- Collecting any related objects
- Keeping club or family records and files
- Reading home magazines
- Studying tax laws
- Practicing Clutter's Last Stand
- Writing family history

- Accountant
- Accounting Clerk and Bookkeeper
- Administrative Assistant
- Bank Teller
- Budget Analyst
- Building Inspector
- Cashier
- Catalog Librarian
- Clerk
- Computer Operator
- Cost Accountant
- Court Reporter
- Customs Inspector
- File Clerk
- Financial Analyst
- Insurance Adjuster
- Insurance Underwriter
- Internal Auditor
- Kindergarten Teacher
- Legal Secretary
- Library Assistant
- Medical Records Technician
- Medical Secretary
- Safety Inspector
- Tax Consultant