

Career Headlines



How Personality Affects Work Behavior

Personality affects all aspects of your work performance, even how you react to situations that come up on the job.

Not every personality is suited for every job, so it's important for you to recognize your personality traits and try to find the type of job that fits you best. Your productivity will be higher and you will be happier in your life.

Outgoing or Introverted

If you have an outgoing personality, you'll probably work best when you get to interact with others, such as in the service industry or on a team.

Do you consider yourself more introverted? Then, you will most likely flourish in positions that keep you more separated from others. This might include an information technology or accounting position.

Work Ethic

If you perform only adequately, or just for a paycheck, your work is likely to be mediocre. With a strong work ethic, you take initiative and are dependable.

Supervisors believe they must give more oversight to people with a poor work ethic.

Attention to Detail

Some people are wired to think of the big picture. They make creative decisions while also thinking of ways to solve existing problems. Big thinkers, however, aren't always good at executing their ideas.

That's why companies rely on detail-oriented people who are usually highly organized and keep excellent records. It takes both types of people to keep an organization running smoothly.

Motivation

Knowing how to motivate yourself keeps you running at full steam. Some people are motivated by the promise of a raise or bonus or by recognition in front of peers.

Others are able to work hard for the personal satisfaction they receive when their work is well done. That doesn't mean they don't like money or recognition, but these two alone are not enough.

Action: What motivates you? Name three things that you would get excited about going to work every day.

Adapted from an article by Shala Munroe, Demand Media, for the *Houston Chronicle*



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