## **Assessing Yourself**

ou should know what skills, strengths and personality traits you bring to the workplace.

Assessments can help you figure out these things. They are fun tools that show what you're good at, and how well you match different occupations.

No matter what your age or where you are in your career, you can benefit from taking a skills or interest assessment. Remember:

- Don't panic if an assessment shows you careers that you don't like.
- Take a few assessments before making your career decision.
- Talk with an adviser. Discuss your options with family and friends.
- The goal is to get you thinking about careers that you might enjoy.

The interest assessment on the next page is based on Holland's Interest Inventory. When you're done, you'll have an interest profile that matches your interests to career clusters. If you already know your Holland Interest Profile, jump ahead to Step 3.

The *MnCareers* interest assessment is just one of many options. Below is a list of other skills and interest assessments.

### STEP 1:

Read each statement on page 5. If you agree, fill in the corresponding square.



Online career tools include the "Skills Profiler" to gauge what skills you have that may interest employers.

www.CareerOneStop.org

### **ISEEK Career Cluster Interest Survey**

Rate activities you enjoy, your personal qualities, and favorite school subjects. Then see which career clusters are a match for you.

www.iseek.org/careers/clusterSurvey

### **ISEEK Skills Assessment**

The Skills Match-Up shows how your skill level compares to what is needed for different careers.

www.iseek.org/careers/skillsAssessment

### **MyNextMove**

Start with the section "I'm not really sure" to take the O\*NET Interest Profiler and match your likes to occupations.

www.MyNextMove.org

### **Minnesota WorkForce Centers**

The WorkForce Centers offer several assessments. Some you do alone, others with a counselor. See page 124 for more details.

www.PositivelyMinnesota.com/wfc



do puzzles						
work on cars						
attend concerts, theaters or art exhibits						
work in teams						
organize things like files, offices or activities						
set goals for myself						
build things						
read fiction, poetry or plays						
have clear instructions to follow						
influence or persuade people						
do experiments						
teach or train people						
help people solve their problems						
take care of animals						
have my day structured						
sell things						
do creative writing						
work on science projects						
take on new responsibilities						
heal people						
figure out how things work						
put things together or assemble models						
be creative						
pay attention to details						
do filing or typing						
learn about other cultures						
analyze things like problems, situations or trends						
play instruments or sing						
dream about starting my own business						
cook						
act in plays						
think things through before making decisions						
work with numbers or charts						
have discussions about issues like politics or current events						
keep records of my work						
be a leader						
work outdoors						
work in an office						
work on math problems						
help people						
draw						
give speeches						
	R	П	A	S	E	C
	- " "					

5

## **Assessing Yourself**

### STEP 2:

Add the columns from the previous page and record the number of filled squares for each letter.

# R = Realistic ...... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_ I = Investigative ... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_ A = Artistic ...... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_ S = Social ...... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_ E = Enterprising ... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_ C = Conventional ... Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_

### STEP 3:

The three letters with the highest scores are your interest profile. Record your profile to the right.

### **My Interest Profile:**



### STEP 4:

To the right are descriptions for each interest code. Read the descriptions for the codes in your interest profile.

### Realistic people are DOERS.

They are often good at mechanical or athletic jobs. They like to work with things like machines, tools or plants. They like to work with their hands. They are practical and good at solving problems.

Investigative people are THINKERS. They like to watch, learn and solve problems. They often like to work alone. They tend to be good at math or science, and like analyzing data.

Artistic people are CREATORS. They like to have the freedom to use their creativity to come up with new ideas. They often enjoy performing (theater or music) and the visual arts.

#### **Social** people are HELPERS.

They like to work with people more than with things. They enjoy training, counseling or curing people. They are often good public speakers. They have helpful, empathetic personalities.

Enterprising people are PERSUADERS. They like to work with other people. They like to influence, lead and perform. They are often assertive and full of energy.

Conventional people are ORGANIZERS. They are good with details and like to work with data. They have good organizing skills and like working in structured situations. They often work well with numbers. They are also good at following instructions.

### STEP 5:

Match your interest profile from Step 3 to the interest codes below.

R-Realistic	R and S
Agriculture	Health Science
Information Technology pg. 72	R and E
Law & Public Safety pg. 76  Manufacturing pg. 80  Science, Technology & Math pg. 88	Arts & Communications pg. 34 Hospitality & Tourism pg. 64
Transportation pg. 92	Lealth Science
I-Investigative	Health Sciencepg. 56 Education & Trainingpg. 44
Health Science	I and R
Science, Technology & Math pg. 88  A-Artistic  Arts & Communications pg. 34	Agriculture
Education & Training pg. 44	Science, recliniology & Math pg. 00
Marketing & Sales pg. 84	A and S
S-Social  Education & Trainingpg. 44	Education & Training pg. 44 Arts & Communications pg. 34 Marketing & Sales pg. 84
Governmentpg. 52 Health Sciencepg. 56	A and R
Human Servicepg. 68  Law & Public Safetypg. 76  Marketing & Salespg. 84	Arts & Communications pg. 34 Education & Training pg. 44
E-Enterprising	S and E
Arts & Communications pg. 34 Business & Management pg. 40 Finance pg. 48	Government
Hospitality & Tourism pg. 64	E and C
Law & Public Safety pg. 76  Marketing & Sales pg. 84  Government pg. 52	Business & Management pg. 40 Finance pg. 48
C-Conventional	E and A
Architecture & Construction pg. 28 Business & Management pg. 40	Arts & Communications pg. 34 Marketing & Sales pg. 84
Finance pg. 48	C and R
Health Science	Architecture & Construction pg. 28  Manufacturing pg. 80  Transportation pg. 92