

## The Adapter

### Champion (ENFP), Counsellor (INFJ), Healer (INFP), and Teacher (ENFJ)

Adapters are abstract in speech and cooperative in pursuing their goals. Their greatest strength is diplomatic integration. Their best developed intelligence role is either *mentoring* (Counsellors and Teachers) or *advocacy* (Healers and Champions). As the *identity-seeking* temperament, Adapters long for meaningful communication and relationships. They search for profound truths hidden beneath the surface, often expressing themselves in metaphor. Focused on the future, they are enthusiastic about possibilities, and they continually strive for self-renewal.

**Interests:** Adapters tend to study the humanities. They seek careers facilitating the personal growth of others, whether through education, counselling, or other pursuits that promote the happiness and fulfilment of individuals and society.

**Orientation:** The lives of Adapters are guided by their devotion to their personal ethics. They are altruistic, taking satisfaction in the well-being of others. They believe in the basic goodness of the world and of the people in it. They take a holistic view toward suffering and misfortune, regarding them as part of a larger, unknowable truth, a mystical cause-and-effect. With an eye toward the future, they view life as a journey toward a deeper spiritual knowledge.

**Self-image:** The Adapters' self-esteem is rooted in empathetic action; their self-respect in their benevolence; and their self-confidence in their personal authenticity.

**Values:** The emotions of Adapters "are both easily aroused and quickly discharged." Their general demeanour is enthusiastic. They trust their intuition and yearn for romance. They seek deeper self-knowledge and want to be understood for who they are behind the social roles they are forced to play. They aspire to wisdom that transcends ego and the bounds of the material world.

**Social roles:** Adapters seek mutuality in their personal relationships. Romantically, they want a *soul-mate* with whom they can share a deep spiritual connection. As parents, they encourage their children to form harmonious relationships and engage in imaginative play. In their professional and social lives, Adapters strive to be catalysts of positive change.

**Stress:** Adapters experience stress when their desire for cooperation and harmony within their group conflicts with their desire for personal authenticity. Since Adapters often go to great lengths to try to ensure that everyone's needs are met, they can become frustrated when others fail to do the same, either by acting independently of the wishes of the group, or by trying to enforce the wishes of the group without regard to individual needs. This tension is especially evident in the two mentoring types (Counsellors and Teachers).

Adapters tend to come by their best ideas through a combination of intuition and feeling, so they may have difficulty explaining how they reached their conclusions. They may become frustrated, or even insulted, when others fail to share their enthusiasm and instead want an explanation of the reasoning behind the Adapter's insights. Since inspiration is not a conscious process, the Adapters may not have an immediate explanation, even though their reasoning is sound, and so may feel dismissed and undervalued.

Adapters have a strong drive to work for the betterment of a group or organization, and can feel as though they are losing their identity if stuck in an environment that requires conformity. This is especially evident in the two advocating types (Champions and Healers).

#### **Traits in common with other temperaments**

- Abstract in communicating (like Validators)  
Adapters focus not on what is, but on what could be or what ought to be. They see the world as rich with possibilities for deeper understanding.
- Cooperative in pursuing their goals (like Stabilizers)  
Adapters believe that conflict raises barriers between people, preventing society from reaching its full potential. Adapters seek harmony in personal and professional relationships, working toward solutions that respect the needs of all parties involved.