

Preferred Work Style

Your work style is made up of your personality and work environment preferences. Most people find work most satisfying when it fits their own personal style. It is helpful to consider your work style when you conduct informational interviews by asking about the preferences that are important to you.

*Mark with an "X" the point on each line below where you see yourself.
Try to resist choosing the middle and take a stand—it may yield a useful insight.*

on a team	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	independently or one-on-one
meeting new people	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	working with the same people
ideas and data	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	mostly with people
practical, concrete problems	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	complex, theoretical ones
use logic and an objective approach	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	provide understanding and a subjective approach
structured environment	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	changing, flexible one
project oriented work with deadlines	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	more relaxed, open ended results
play it safe	3 2 1 0 1 2 3	take risks (can be physical or intellectual risks)

After completing this chart, consider questions you might ask during an informational interview. Sample questions may include:

- "How much of your time do you spend working with a team?"
- "Do your projects have specific deadlines, or do you work on your own timeline?"
- "Do people at your office have a structured work day, or do they have flexibility with hours and projects?"

Your work style can also be used when making decisions about various job opportunities. Ask yourself how many and which of your preferences will be met?