

Lions

1. Lions are born leaders.
 - Like to call the shots
 - Self-motivated
 - Resist being controlled by others.

Caution: be willing to listen to others

2. Lions like to accomplish things/get results.
 - Powerful drive to achieve
 - View life as a series of problems to solve or challenges to meet

Caution: relax; don't put projects ahead of people and/or make people your projects.

3. A lion's time frame is now!
 - Things get done
 - Their intensity discourages interruptions/stupid questions

Caution: watch non-verbals; can come across mad/intense, even when they aren't

4. Lions are decisive.
 - Can make decisions quickly (with or without the facts and/or advice)
 - Not afraid to make tough decisions

Caution: do consistent checks on how much involvement they give loved ones in decisions that affect them

5. Lions want Reader's Digest length communication.
 - Want the summary; stick to the point
 - Want to know what to solve
 - Want it to be important
 - Want to "do" rather than discuss

Caution: relational communication takes time; listening conveys acceptance; most people don't want lectures or solutions

6. Lions often feel challenged by questions.
- Questions may be interpreted as a personal challenge rather than a request for information

Caution: denying others the right to ask questions slams the door on their spirit & on meaningful relationships; a loving home is more important than everyone's unquestioning loyalty

7. Lions are not afraid of pressure or confrontation.
- Put pressure on themselves and others
 - Thrive on tension
 - Can hurt other's feelings without realizing it

Caution: be careful not to intimidate

Beavers

1. Beavers keep a close watch on their emotions.
- Reserved and cautious
 - Controlled in displaying emotions and affection
 - Sparring with praise

Caution: often have difficulty communicating warmth

2. Beavers actually read instruction books.
- Careful and detailed
 - Does necessary research
 - Want a manual to follow

Caution: life/marriage/parenting are unpredictable

3. Beavers like to make careful decisions.
- Systematic
 - Think through all sides of an issue
 - Good decision - making instincts (but can let others talk them out of their well thought out plans)

Caution: may be so slow and/or cautious that they miss opportunities

4. Beavers like using their critical skills to solve problems.
- Examine issues critically
 - Thorough/pain staking; loves details
 - Enjoys reading maps & drawing diagrams
 - Good at taking things apart (good at taking people apart)

Caution: may become critical, communicate intensity and/or keep others at a "safe" distance

5. Beavers live by the motto "Let's do this right."
- Organized
 - Values precision and accuracy (heads off making mistakes; Beaver career - surgeons)
 - Corrects others (even on minor things)

Caution: can't see the main point for the details; may miss the message and the people behind it

6. Beavers tend to turn anger inward.
- Will slow down under pressure
 - Prone to depressions (attack themselves for making mistakes)
 - Afraid to fail
 - Need supportive/non-critical atmosphere to do their best work

Caution: need permission to fail and to reach out for help

7. Beavers tend to focus on the past.
- Wants a track record of the past to plan for the future
 - Searches past for clues and "what - ifs"
 - Doesn't like change

Caution: can't plan for or control the future; faith focuses on the future

Otters

1. Otters just want to have fun.
 - creative and spontaneous
 - Are parties just waiting to happen
 - Enjoy surprises
 - "Lighten - up"

Caution: tend to avoid serious discussions; may forget that there are consequences

2. Otters are great at motivating others to action.
 - Very convincing; excellent motivators
 - Natural gift of gab; can captivate an audience
 - Provide energy and drive
 - "Trust me"

Caution: need to think things through

3. Otters tend to avoid the fine print.
 - Creative and artistic
 - Don't read instructions
 - Willing to try new things; willing to "wing it"

Caution: too casual an approach may lead to mistakes

4. Otters focus on the future.
 - Optimistic (most problems are in the present/past)
 - Rarely view problems as seriously as others

Caution: can ignore or explain away real problems; must respect other's needs for a track record

5. Otters avoid confrontation at all costs.
 - Want to "spare" self and others
 - Avoid/procrastinate dealing with problems and/or difficult discussions

Caution: may become manipulative and/or deceptive; tend to verbally attack when under pressure

6. Otters are tremendous net workers.
- Meet others easily; often popular
 - Know lots of people
 - Great party/social planners
 - Good at organizing events & making phone calls

Caution: relationships are often shallow

7. Otters are very susceptible to peer pressure.
- Want to be liked/accepted, part of the group
 - Impulsive
 - People pleasers

Caution: may make poor choices; suffer consequences

Golden Retrievers

1. Above all, Golden Retrievers are loyal.
- Can absorb the most emotional pain and stay committed to another person
 - Willing to take the time to listen, etc.
 - Will lend a helping hand, even when costly

Caution: may become an enabler, or involved in a co-dependent relationship

2. Golden Retrievers have a strong need for close relationships.
- expect depth of sharing and feeling
 - Develop life - long friendships
 - Remember stories & details of share past experiences

Caution: a lion's busyness with projects, a beaver's emotional reserve and an otter's outgoing personality may be very frustrating

3. Golden Retrievers have a deep need to please others.
- Want what's best for others
 - Uncommon willingness to set aside their own need to serve others

Caution: may be taken advantage of

4. Golden Retrievers have hearts full of compassion.

- Patient and empathetic
- Good listeners
- Can spot the hurts of others, and want to help
- Very sensitive; wear their hearts on their sleeves

Caution: easily hurt by others; may take on too much

5. Golden Retrievers define the word adaptable.

- Easy-going
- flexible

Caution: adapting on the outside is often at a high cost on the inside (co-dependency, enabling)

6. Golden Retrievers often react to sudden change.

- Need to prepare them to change
- Will bare their teeth when left out of decisions
- Need extra time to think about big decision or moves

Caution: are vulnerable; may go along, but will feel used

7. Golden Retrievers hold stubbornly to what they feel is right.

- Many possess incredible courage and strength
- May put their life on the line to back up their convictions (movies: "Sergeant York," "Chariots of Fire")

Caution: may be stubbornly unwilling to consider other points of view

