

Communication Styles Assessment E.& L. Alison





Instructions

- 1. Choose one environment: work, at home, around people you don't know , friends...
- 2. Using the chart below, give yourself a score from 0 to 3 for each description, where 0 is 'not at all like me' and 3 is 'always like me'. You can have a minimum score of 0 or a maximum score of 9 for each row
- 3. Don't overthink it. Go with your gut reaction.
- 4. Once you have scored all the categories, tally up the scores across each row.
- 5. Transfer these scores to the good and bad charts
- 6. You can plot your scores on the circles provided and connect the dots to give you a visual representations of your communication styles.

To make it interesting:

You can do more than one of these if you pick a different environment to give you a better idea of how your communication style changes from home to work, friends to strangers.





Communication Style Profile

Never like me	Occasionally like me	Often like me	Always like me
0	1	2	3

1	Advise others about the best way to do things	Like to be in charge	Set out a clear plan and expectations for others
2	Don't let things go easily	Expect people to do what l say	Pull people up on small mistakes to make a point
3	Not judgmental of others	Supportive and encouraging	Find it easy to start conversations
4	Use a motherly/fatherly approach	Talk down to other people	Fill a silence if it feels awkward or someone is uncomfortable
5	Often smile and chat to others	Enjoy the company of other people	Warm and kind natured
6	Compliment people to get on their good side	Self-disclose early in relationships	Want to be liked by everyone
7	Treat others with respect	Naturally trusting of others	Often compliment or commend others for doing well
8	Feel uncertain or unsure in new situations	Hesitate if not sure of something	Apologise even if you haven't done anything wrong



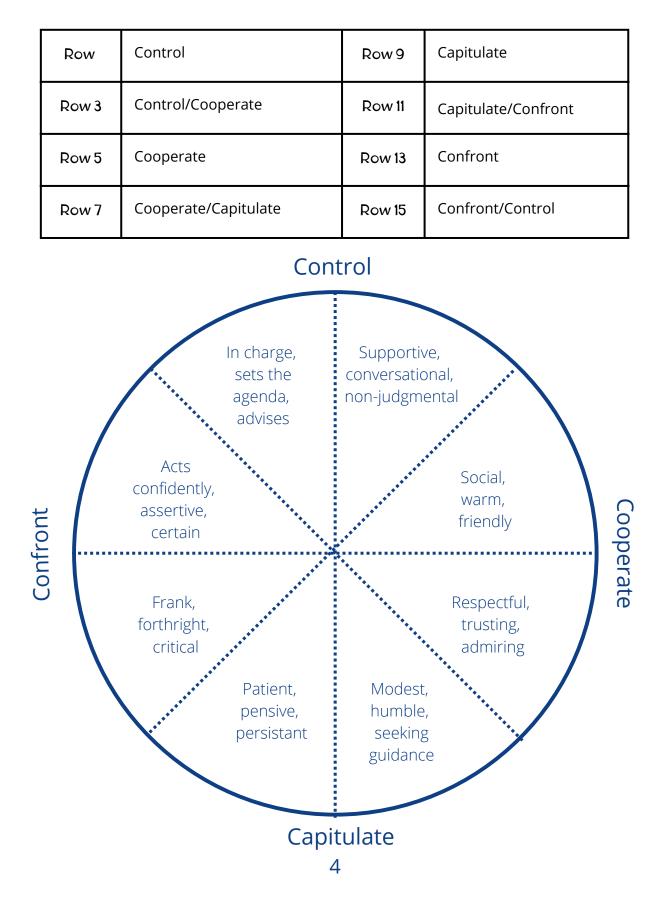
Communication Style Profile continued

9	Apologise if you are in the wrong	Seek help and support from others	Not boastful even when you've done something well
10	Switch off if you feel awkward/uncomfort able	Avoid conflict whenever possible	Stay quiet in social situations/try to fade into the background
11	Patient and tolerant of others	Thoughtful and reflective	Keep emotions contained
12	Feel irritated by other people	Naturally distrustful of others	Resent it when others do well
13	Clear and concise	Direct and to the point	Can give critical feedback without offending
14	Like to verbally spar with others	Use sarcasm in arguments	Think others should pay for their mistakes
15	Confident	Certain about your own views and opinions	Assertive when challenging someone
16	Like to have the last word in arguments	Enjoy a good argument with someone	Judge other people's behaviour if it fails your own standards



Communication Style Profile

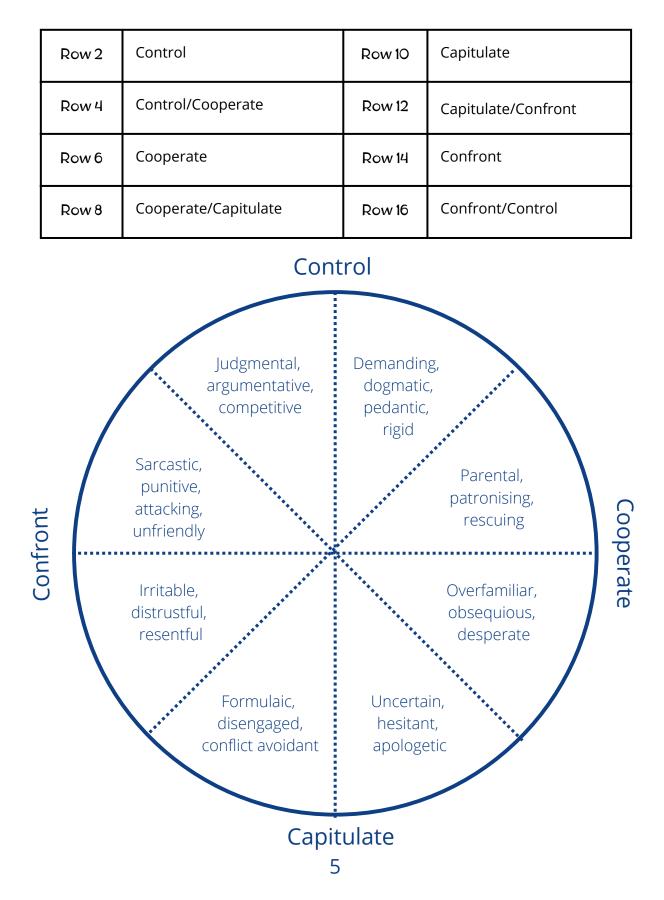
Good Circle: when you're communicating well





Communication Style Profile

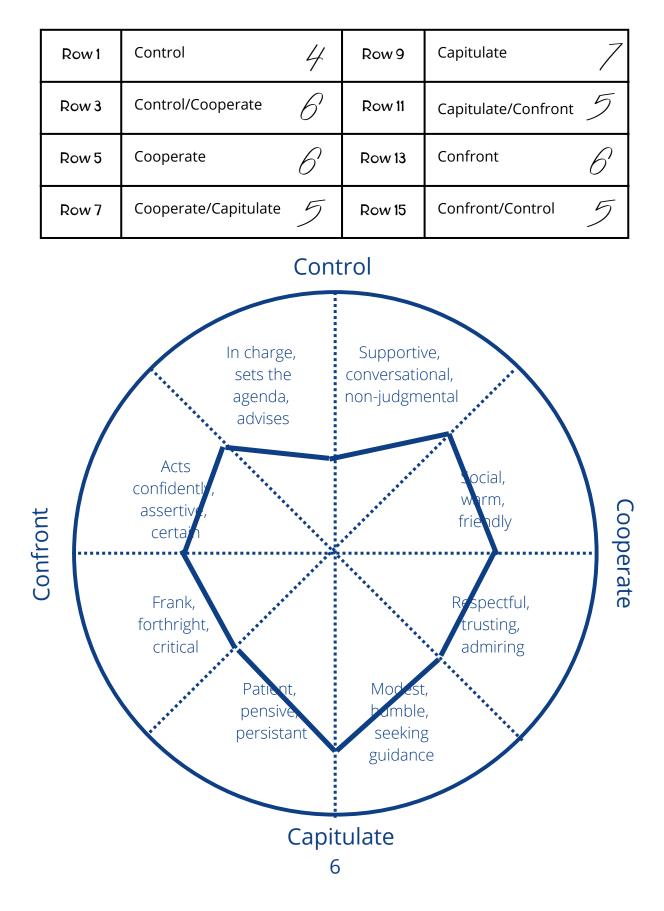
Bad Circle: when you're communicating badly





Example of Communication Style Profile

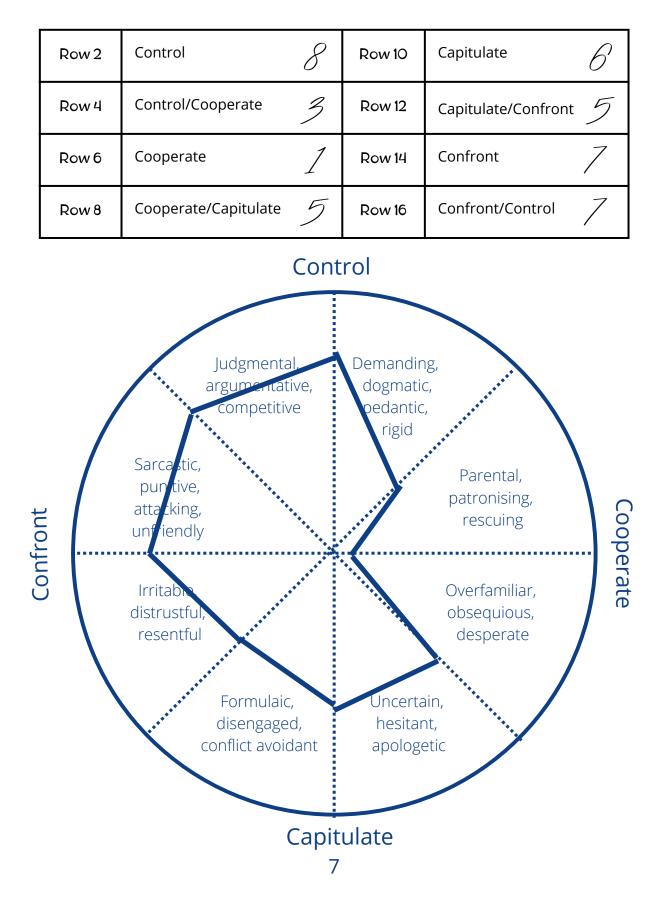
Good Circle: when you're communicating well





Example of Communication Style Profile

Bad Circle: when you're communicating badly





Communication Styles

Confrontation

Frank, forthright and critical, this sort of person is very direct. What they say may sometimes appear blunt but is often honest and never personal or purposefully hurtful. Their attitude is: 'Let me be clear. This is the bottom line.'



Often aggressive and intimidating, this sort of person seeks to control others through fear, either of unpleasant consequences or potential violence. They may be verbally insulting, attacking or sarcastic. Their attitude is: 'Do what I say, or else.'

Capitulate



Humble, patient, pensive, this sort of person treats others with respect. They may seek out support or reassurance, or may want to cautiously assess the situation fully before acting. Their attitude is: 'I'm listening and observing. I'll chip in when I'm ready.'



This sort of person is avoidant, weak and hesitant. They will try to dodge confrontation whenever possible and may appear uncertain and lacking in confidence. They may be formulaic or hide behind a script. Their attitude is: 'I don't really know what I'm doing - you do it for me.'



Communication Styles

Cooperate

Cooperative individuals seek to get others to cooperate through support and encouragement. They are appropriately warm and affectionate to the context they are in. Their attitude is: 'We're a team-together we can do this. I'm here for you.'



This sort of person blurs the boundaries of relationships, be they friendships or professional. They are overly intimate and may make others uncomfortable with their affection. They want to be liked at all costs and may appear fawning or desperate. Their attitude is: 'We are all friends here.'

Control



In charge, considers themselves a leader, makes clear decisions and likes to be in control. Their attitude is: 'Listen to me - I know what to do.'



Bossy, dogmatic, controlling, this sort of person takes over completely ignores others' opinions, interrupts and overrules others. Their attitude is: 'My way or the highway.'



What next?

Knowledge is power. But knowing and understanding your communication style doesn't mean anything.

Now you know your good and bad communication habits, you need to use more of the good ones and remove the bad ones.

Think about different situations in your life and where you use what communication style. You can use different coloured pencils to do this assessment to see how your styles differ. This will give you an idea where you need to improve.

Practice makes perfect. First comes the awareness, especially in not too emotionally charged situations. It's hard to implement any changes when emotions run high. Self observation and small changes will go a long way.

Need help?

For individual and/or team training session to improve communication contact mia@neupauer.og



neupauer.org