

## ENNEAGRAM STYLE 8

Eights pursue the truth, like to keep situations under control, want to make important things happen, and try to hide their vulnerability.

Also called the... Boss · Leader · Challenger · Protector



### CONTROL

Eights like situations to be under control, and they personally like to exert influence over the people and events that directly affect their lives. They are also acutely sensitive to the power-oriented or controlling behavior of others. While Eights usually respect someone who uses power and influence effectively, the reverse is also true, with Eights having an instinctive negative reaction to someone whom they perceive as abusing authority or exerting control in an ineffective manner. Eights are quick to sense chaos and lack of direction and will step in quickly to make sure things are moving in the right direction.

### JUSTICE

Eights seek the truth, appreciate honesty, expect people to take responsibility for their own behavior, and demand that authority figures take charge and exert control in a just and nonmanipulative way. When they sense injustice, Eights will charge forth with great passion to assert their own beliefs and values, to redress the situation, and to protect those whom they perceive to be innocent victims.

### VULNERABILITY

Most Eights believe that the world can be divided into two groups of people - the tough and the weak. Given this two-part worldview, Eights opt to be among the tough and strong. However, under their bold exterior, Eights have a hidden, childlike vulnerability that they usually prefer not to reveal to other people. While some Eights even hide their vulnerability from themselves, many are willing to share their softer side with those whom they trust and respect.

### REVENGE

Many Eights would not describe their behavior as intimidating or seeking revenge, but tend to perceive their actions as assertive and bold. Behavior that others may refer to as seeking revenge tends to be viewed, by Eights, as rebalancing the score, pursuing justice, standing their ground, or avenging a wrongdoing. The challenge for many Eights is to understand that even other assertive and confident people can, at times, feel intimidated by the Eight's boldness, power, and tendency to dominate situations.

**Basic Concern:** Is everything under control in an effective and just way?

Place a check by the words that describe you well.



#### AREAS OF STRENGTH

- Direct
- Self-confident and authoritative
- Highly strategic
- Overcome obstacles
- Energetic
- Protective of others
- Move projects forward
- Support others' success

#### AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Controlling
- Demanding
- High expectations of self and others
- Impatient
- Agitated with a slow pace
- Feel used when others do not perform to expectations
- Disdain weakness

Do I have a strong exterior, one that is sometimes intimidating to others (intentionally or unintentionally), that hides a less visible but vulnerable interior?

Yes  No  Sometimes