EQ-i 2.0 Model of Emotional Intelligence

**SELF-PERCEPTION**

**Self-Regard** is respecting oneself while understanding and accepting one’s strengths and weaknesses. Self-Regard is often associated with feelings of inner strength and self-confidence.

**Self-Actualization** is the willingness to persistently try to improve oneself and engage in the pursuit of personally relevant and meaningful objectives that lead to a rich and enjoyable life.

**Emotional Self-Awareness** includes recognizing and understanding one’s own emotions. This includes the ability to differentiate between subtleties in one’s own emotions while understanding the cause of these emotions and the impact they have on one’s own thoughts and actions and those of others.

**STRESS MANAGEMENT**

**Flexibility** is adapting emotions, thoughts and behaviors to unfamiliar, unpredictable, and dynamic circumstances or ideas.

**Stress Tolerance** involves coping with stressful or difficult situations and believing that one can manage or influence situations in a positive manner.

**Optimism** is an indicator of one’s positive attitude and outlook on life. It involves remaining hopeful and resilient, despite occasional setbacks.

**SELF-EXPRESSION**

**Emotional Expression** is openly expressing one’s feelings verbally and non-verbally.

**Assertiveness** involves communicating feelings, beliefs and thoughts openly, and defending personal rights and values in a socially acceptable, non-offensive, and non-destructive manner.

**Independence** is the ability to be self-directed and free from emotional dependency on others. Decision-making, planning, and daily tasks are completed autonomously.

**DECISION MAKING**

**Problem Solving** is the ability to find solutions to problems in situations where emotions are involved. Problem solving includes the ability to understand how emotions impact decision making.

**Reality Testing** is the capacity to remain objective by seeing things as they really are. This capacity involves recognizing when emotions or personal bias can cause one to be less objective.

**Impulse Control** is the ability to resist or delay an impulse, drive or temptation to act and involves avoiding rash behaviors and decision making.

**INTERPERSONAL**

**Interpersonal Relationships** refers to the skill of developing and maintaining mutually satisfying relationships that are characterized by trust and compassion.

**Empathy** is recognizing, understanding, and appreciating how other people feel. Empathy involves being able to articulate your understanding of another’s perspective and behaving in a way that respects others’ feelings.

**Social Responsibility** is willingly contributing to society, to one’s social groups, and generally to the welfare of others. Social Responsibility involves acting responsibly, having social consciousness, and showing concern for the greater community.
Overview of Your Results

**Total EI**
130

**Self-Perception Composite**
125
- **Self-Regard** respecting oneself; confidence
  121
- **Self-Actualization** pursuit of meaning; self-improvement
  119
- **Emotional Self-Awareness** understanding own emotions
  125

**Self-Expression Composite**
127
- **Emotional Expression** constructive expression of emotions
  118
- **Assertiveness** communicating feelings, beliefs; non-offensive
  126
- **Independence** self-directed; free from emotional dependency
  119

**Interpersonal Composite**
119
- **Interpersonal Relationships** mutually satisfying relationships
  116
- **Empathy** understanding, appreciating how others feel
  115
- **Social Responsibility** social consciousness; helpful
  119

**Decision Making Composite**
125
- **Problem Solving** find solutions when emotions are involved
  116
- **Reality Testing** objective; see things as they really are
  124
- **Impulse Control** resist or delay impulse to act
  120

**Stress Management Composite**
131
- **Flexibility** adapting emotions, thoughts and behaviors
  125
- **Stress Tolerance** coping with stressful situations
  128
- **Optimism** positive attitude and outlook on life
  123

Name: Steve Sample

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Self-Regard

What Your Score Means

Individuals with self-regard respect themselves and accept both personal strengths and limitations while remaining satisfied and self-secure. Steve, your result suggests that your self-regard is stronger than most people’s. You know yourself and are comfortable with yourself, which generally translates into increased performance. You may have:

- a high level of respect for yourself, your talents, and your weaknesses.
- a willingness to confidently admit mistakes or unfamiliarity with a situation.
- to ensure that your perception of your strengths is supported by objective evidence, otherwise you run the risk of being seen as overconfident in your abilities.

Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your result may mean that on an emotional level you are driven to achieve your fullest potential, have a more positive outlook on your capabilities, and are more confident in expressing yourself than those with average self-regard. The potential challenge is that you could lose touch with objective assessments of your capabilities. Draw on reality testing behaviors to maintain a healthy self-perception.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Your willingness and ability to understand and accept your strengths and weaknesses is often perceived by others as confidence. People may frequently gravitate toward you, look to you for advice, and seek your leadership. Because your strengths are confidently demonstrated, you may be given opportunities or promotions that maximize these talents, but it is also important to seek out opportunities that stretch your less developed skills as well. To avoid potential negative consequences of overly high self-regard, use empathy and an appropriate level of assertiveness to avoid appearing overconfident.

Strategies for Action

**Self-Regard Profile.** Seeking others’ feedback on your strengths and weaknesses demonstrates a willingness to learn and gives you objective data to confirm whether your self-beliefs are in line with what others see.

- Identify those at work (colleague, manager) who know you well enough to comment on your strengths and weaknesses.
- Ask them to list your strengths and weaknesses with specific observations or examples.
- Without looking at their list, write what you believe your strengths and weaknesses are. Then compare lists. Look for disconnects and similarities between lists. Are there examples of where others didn’t agree with your listed strengths?

**Own up to your Weaknesses.** Although challenging, openly admitting your weaknesses can help keep your Self-Regard in check with how your colleagues see you.

- Record your reaction to any mistakes or errors you make over the next few weeks. If you find yourself blaming “the system” or others for your mistakes, you might want to start openly admitting your points of weaknesses.
- Rather than placing blame, use mistakes as opportunities to show you know and accept your weaknesses and put in place strategies that manage them, rather than pretending they don’t exist.

Balancing Your EI

This section compares Self-Regard with Self-Actualization, Problem Solving, and Reality Testing. Achieving balance between these subscales can enhance emotional functioning.

Self-Regard(121)

Your Self-Regard is well balanced with these three related subscales. To maintain this balance with these subscales, watch for significant growth in one subscale over others and consider ways that you can develop the subscales in tandem. Discuss with your coach whether comparing Self-Regard with other subscales may lead to further EI development and enhanced emotional and social functioning.
Independence

What Your Score Means

Steve, being independent means you are capable of feeling, thinking, and working on your own. Your results show that this is a well-developed skill, as you are more than willing and capable of pursuing your own ideas and course of action. You are more likely than most to be decisive, directive, and accountable for the responsibility associated with making decisions. Consider the following interpretation of your results:

- you are comfortable making decisions on your own.
- you can work without direction or reassurance from others.
- you accept responsibility for your decisions knowing that at times people will disagree with you.

Emotional Implications. Your tendency to act and think on your own positions you to showcase your strengths in other areas of EI. Your strong Independence result also means that your emotions are freely expressed; you don’t need reassurance or a group consensus to say what you feel. Remember that it is okay to reach out for help when you need it; always working alone can make you appear arrogant and alienating.

Social and Behavioral Implications. Your level of Independence indicates that you rarely depend on others to make important decisions. Because you are self-directed, you can analyze a situation on your own, formulate a response, and move into implementation mode without second guessing your decisions or looking for approval. This independent approach shows initiative, and in autonomous roles allows you to take responsibility for your actions when direction is limited. Due to your high level of independence, you must be cautious not to neglect the emotions and opinions of your colleagues. Keep a close eye on how often you go off in your own direction, rather than building coalitions.

Independence Check. Not every situation requires you to act autonomously, although it may be your preferred approach to accomplishing your goals. Here are three questions you should ask yourself before making a decision independently:

- Am I missing subject matter expertise to make an informed decision?
- Am I hurting collaborative relationships by making this decision on my own?
- Does my decision have implications for those I work with? Would their input help me predict these implications?

Securing Buy-In. Effective, independent professionals don’t march off in their own direction hoping that others follow; they balance self-directed thought with the ability to secure buy-in and support from key relationships.

- Examine past decisions that were not well supported by your colleagues. What did your decision-making process look like? Where might securing buy-in have broken down?
- Brainstorm ways that you can involve others in your decision-making process. The ultimate decision or plan may rest with you, but it will be easier to gain support when others feel empowered throughout the decision-making process.

Balancing Your EI

This section compares Independence with Problem Solving, Emotional Self-Awareness, and Interpersonal Relationships. Achieving balance between these subscales can enhance emotional functioning.

Independence(119)

Your Independence is well balanced with these three related subscales. To maintain this balance with these subscales, watch for significant growth in one subscale over others and consider ways that you can develop the subscales in tandem. Discuss with your coach whether comparing Independence with other subscales may lead to further EI development and enhanced emotional and social functioning.
Empathy

understanding, appreciating how others feel

What Your Score Means

Empathy, the ability to recognize, understand, and appreciate the way others feel, is a crucial EI skill at the heart of all effective work relationships. Steve, your result indicates that your empathy is well-developed; you are likely empathic towards others, respecting their ideas even when they differ from your own. Your “emotional read” on people is usually accurate, ensuring peers feel safe sharing important issues with you. With a result such as yours:

- you are constantly “tuned in” to how others are feeling.
- you care about others, and take their feelings into consideration before acting.
- it is easy for you to imagine how others feel and predict emotional reactions.

Emotional Implications. Generally, you “feel” for others more than the average person does, almost always showing sensitivity and respect for others. High Empathy can also be a double-edged sword. Being empathic, your coworkers trust you with their issues and feel comfortable coming to you for advice. You, being very concerned with their feelings, run the risk of taking on their problems, becoming the victim of your empathy.

Social and Behavioral Implications. The intensity with which you care for others is evident in the way you approach your job, whether it be when making decisions, resolving conflict, or leading change; you act in others’ best interests. Because you are constantly on the lookout for emotional reactions, you have a pretty good read of your team’s emotional landscape; you likely know ahead of time how people will react to what you have to say. You may want to be vigilant of putting too much emphasis on others’ feelings, causing you to avoid making tough decisions or dealing proactively with performance issues.

Strategies for Action

Watching a Pro. Find someone who you believe is an effective communicator and team leader. Observe their communication style in practice, taking note of how they balance their ability to remain empathic and socially responsible with meeting organizational demands. Examine your scores on Independence, Interpersonal Relationships, and Assertiveness to see how you can leverage other skills to balance organizational and team progress with Empathy.

Mixing Sugar with Spice. It is important to ensure that your empathy doesn’t get in the way of handling tough conversations/decisions. Being empathic does not mean being extra nice all the time; you still have deadlines to meet and so does your organization. When a tough conversation or decision is needed, acknowledge that you may need more preparation time in order to be empathic. Then to prepare:

- Write down what you want to say and rehearse it.
- Be respectful of people’s reactions, but don’t let them derail you.
- Keep in mind that if you mirror the emotion, you will likely intensify the other person’s reaction. For example, if the news you are bringing someone makes them angry, by becoming angry yourself you are likely to make the situation more heated.

Balancing Your EI

This section compares Empathy with Emotional Self-Awareness, Reality Testing, and Emotional Expression. The subscale that differs the most from Empathy and with the greatest potential for development is shown below.

Empathy(115) 🆕 Emotional Self-Awareness(125)

Your Empathy is lower than your Emotional-Self Awareness. This suggests that although you understand how you feel about a particular situation, you have a tendency to not spend enough time uncovering how others feel. In order to bring your empathy in line with your self-awareness, you will need to reach out more often and ask your team members how they feel about a decision, rather than assuming they feel the same way you do.
Reality Testing

objective; see things as they really are

Name: Steve Sample

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What Your Score Means

Reality Testing—“being grounded” or “tuned into the situation”—means things for what they really are. In business, this includes accurately sizing up the environment, resources, and future trends in order to set realistic plans/goals. Steve, your results indicate that you have the ability to remain objective. By keeping your personal biases at bay, you likely make trusted and sensible decisions that others can buy into. Your result suggests:

- you are very unlikely to misinterpret critical information or allow emotions to color reality.
- you are keenly aware of your own strengths and weaknesses.
- you are attuned to your immediate environment and attentive to the task at hand.

Impact at Work

**Emotional Implications.** Your ability to see most situations objectively may lead you to make very black and white conclusions: something is right or it is wrong, there are no shades of grey. Your emotions can also appear black and white: either you are angry or you aren’t. For example, when an event triggers a slight emotion in others, you may remain emotionally neutral as you believe emotions cloud your assessment of the event.

**Social and Behavioral Implications.** Staying grounded, objective, and realistic is essential for the strategic and tactical elements of leadership, from accurately matching a five-year strategic plan within the forecasted economy to creating daily production quotas. Because you frequently see situations as they really are (and not as you wish them to be), your team likely turns to you for the hard facts when it comes to decision making and goal setting. As a result, you are likely to find yourself setting and pursuing meaningful and achievable goals. Be aware, however, of when your objectivity gets in the way of your creativity and willingness to set stretch goals.

Strategies for Action

**Gut Checks.** Emotions provide us with information about an event. If you ignore them completely, you are missing out on crucial data that objective analysis cannot provide.

- Try a few “gut checks” throughout your day. Reflect on how you felt about a discussion, calling a customer, making a decision, etc.
- Gut checks are particularly important for large decisions or meetings where you usually allow objective data (e.g., a 10 to 4 vote in favor of pulling the project) to take precedence over what your emotions tell you (e.g., Karen was furious that her project was cut).

**Put your Realism to Work.** You are likely to notice when personal bias is affecting your performance or your team’s performance.

- Leverage this strength by using objective processes to facilitate the group’s productivity (e.g., SWOT analysis, strategic-planning techniques) when you notice progress becoming sidetracked by personal agendas or unrealistic views of the situation.
- Research some facilitation or meeting management techniques to create a more productive mindset for your team, where the focus is not on exploring personal speculations but rather on accomplishing realistic objectives in each meeting.

Balancing Your EI

This section compares Reality Testing with Emotional Self-Awareness, Self-Regard, and Problem Solving. Achieving balance between these subscales can enhance emotional functioning.

Reality Testing(124)

Your Reality Testing is well balanced with these three related subscales. To maintain this balance with these subscales, watch for significant growth in one subscale over others and consider ways that you can develop the subscales in tandem. Discuss with your coach whether comparing Reality Testing with other subscales may lead to further EI development and enhanced emotional and social functioning.
Flexibility

adapting emotions, thoughts and behaviors

What Your Score Means

Flexibility requires that you be able to modify your thoughts, emotions, and behaviors in response to change. Steve, your results speak of a well-developed ability to adjust yourself to changing conditions and priorities. At work, you likely see change as necessary for innovation and staying ahead of the competition. You can easily assume a change leadership role, where you can encourage others to be as open to change as you are. Some indicators of your result are:

- you are more inclined than most to enjoy change.
- you are able to change your mind when evidence suggests that you do so.
- you have a compliant attitude to working with others, even when opinions differ.

Impact at Work

Emotional Implications. Adapting comes easily to you, whether it be an unexpected schedule change or a new strategy for your team. This flexible approach means you may find it difficult to become emotionally invested, as you tend to work with an understanding that ties will inevitably be broken. Be cautious that you don’t appear to lack conviction or become so flexible that your efforts are scattered.

Social and Behavioral Implications. Your results suggest you frequently accept change and likely thrive when change is required. Being highly flexible is a desired trait in today’s ever-changing work environment and you embrace the required adjustments to your work very well. You may be seen a change leader, facing adjustments with energy and garnering buy-in from your peers. Keep in mind that change preceded by reason and foresight is welcomed, particularly by those who are not as flexible as you are. You may have to alter the way you promote change to help people who struggle with the emotional adjustment change requires.

Strategies for Action

Change for Change’s Sake. Flexibility can look like impulsiveness if it is not grounded in sufficient thought and valid evidence.

- “Changing for change’s sake” can leave a lot of people (including customers) shaking their heads in confusion over the loss of their once effective status quo.
- When you find yourself changing your thoughts, emotions, priorities, or direction, stop and ensure that this change is grounded in reasonable evidence and is not simply due to boredom with the status quo. This is particularly important if you are high in Interpersonal Relationships, as you may have the tendency to adjust your actions on a whim to the new ideas that are brought forward by others.
- Communicate this rationale for change to those impacted.

Stay the Course. Your ability to remain flexible is likely to come in handy. However, in team environments, it is very important to make sure your colleagues are aware of any changes that you are thinking about and embracing. Not all people deal well with regular change. Make an effort to document your changes and reasons for the change. This will go a long way to instilling trust and gaining buy-in from your colleagues.

Balancing Your EI

This section compares Flexibility with Problem Solving, Independence, and Impulse Control. Achieving balance between these subscales can enhance emotional functioning.

Flexibility(125)

Your Flexibility is well balanced with these three related subscales. To maintain this balance with these subscales, watch for significant growth in one subscale over others and consider ways that you can develop the subscales in tandem. Discuss with your coach whether comparing Flexibility with other subscales may lead to further EI development and enhanced emotional and social functioning.
Well-Being Indicator

Happiness

satisfied with life; content

How to Use this Page

Happiness includes feelings of satisfaction, contentment and the ability to enjoy the many aspects of one’s life. It is different than the other EI abilities in that Happiness both contributes to, and is a product of, emotional intelligence. As such, your result in Happiness is like an indicator of your emotional health and well-being.

Your Happiness result is shown below, linked to your results on the four subscales most often associated with Happiness.

Because Happiness is so interconnected with all EI abilities, you may find further development opportunities if you explore how the remaining subscales contribute to your level of Happiness, and vice versa.

Steve, your result in Happiness suggests that you almost always maintain a happy disposition towards all aspects of your life. You enjoy the company of others and are likely on a positive life course. Your happiness is seen and experienced as infectious. Happiness is most often associated with the subscales shown below. Because you have no low scores on any of these subscales you likely experience a certain balance between your well-being and optimism, self-confidence, personal relationships and fulfillment of goals. Gains in one area likely contribute to gains in another—quite a reciprocal set of relationships! Your result indicates that you may:

- exude cheerfulness at both work and play while participating in activities you truly enjoy.
- be seen by coworkers as motivating and resilient in the face of obstacles.

Happiness is a by-product of believing in oneself and living according to your own values and standards. Your high level of Self-Regard helps to promote positive feelings about oneself, confidence, and enhanced life satisfaction and happiness.

- If you could improve one facet of your life, what would it be? Why?
- Aside from material things, what is it about you that makes you truly happy?

In the face of setback and disappointment, the ability to recover and claim a happy state is contingent on one’s level of optimism. Your results indicate that you have a high level of optimism, adopting a positive framework during adverse conditions. This approach to life enhances and sustains pervasive feelings of happiness.

- What thoughts help you remain optimistic during more difficult times?
- Are there any situations where you feel less optimistic? If so, how can you improve or deal better with those situations?

Your Interpersonal Relationships result indicates that you have well-developed relationships that likely help shield you from the negative effects of life’s daily demands. If maintained, these relationships can enhance and sustain pervasive feelings of happiness.

- Are there times when you struggle with your relationships? If so, what causes the struggle and how do you remedy conflict and miscommunication?
- Do you have a mentor? Do you act as a mentor to someone else?

Happiness comes from a willingness to learn and grow on a journey aligned with your values. Your level of self-motivation and feelings of an enriched life ultimately drive your life achievements and overall happiness.

- Are there areas in your work or personal life that you would like to further develop? If so, how can these endeavors mesh with your current lifestyle?
Action Plan

The steps you take towards achieving your EI goals will determine whether or not success is realized. Use this step-by-step activity plan to help guide you closer to your goals. Remember to use the SMART goal setting criteria for each goal.

Write down up to three EI skills or behaviors that you would like to further develop (e.g., “reflective listening” to build empathy, or “recognizing how my body reacts to stress” to raise emotional self-awareness). The SMART goals that you outline in the template should help to strengthen these EI skills and behaviors.

1. 
2. 
3. 

Write down up to three overall qualities that you would like to have (e.g., integrity, providing clear leadership, team player, clear communicator). In some way the goals you outline in this action plan should help you achieve the overall qualities you identified.

1. 
2. 
3. 

Transfer your SMART goals into the action plan template below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SMART Goal</th>
<th>Time Frame</th>
<th>Benefits</th>
<th>Measure of Success</th>
<th>Support and Resources Needed</th>
<th>Potential Barriers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Listen to others</td>
<td>In team meetings</td>
<td>Other people will listen to me</td>
<td>Feedback from the team to say that I am listening to them more</td>
<td>From the team to give me honest feedback</td>
<td>Time - often do not have time to listen to views but just need to give instructions. If this is the case need to tell people at the beginning of the meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Starting from today</td>
<td>I will get to hear everyone’s views</td>
<td>Take actions that other people have suggested</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I commit to this action plan ____________________________. 

(signature)
EI Development Commitment

A Development Commitment is a tool to help hold you accountable for accomplishing the goals outlined in your action plan. As we all too often know, our plans for personal growth and development often fall by the wayside when we get engrossed in work and our organization’s demands win the competition for our time and attention. By outlining your objectives here and leaving a copy with your coach you are increasingly more accountable to reach your personal goals.

My Personal Development Goals

My action plan includes the following goals:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
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Your Signature ___________________________ Your Coach’s Signature ___________________________