

## ENNEAGRAM STYLE 9

Nines seek peace, harmony, and positive mutual regard and dislike conflict, tension, and ill will.

Also called the... Mediator · Peacemaker · Connector · Harmonizer



Enneagram Style  
HARMONY

### HARMONY

Nines tend to be relaxed, easygoing, and nonjudgmental and feel most content when they sense unity, rapport, and agreement, both between themselves and other people and within groups that are important to them. Most Nines also appreciate the natural harmony in nature and enjoy the sense of merging with the outdoors. Nines are also prone to merge or blend with other people whom they enjoy.

### CONFLICT AVOIDANCE

Because Nines desire harmony so ardently, they avoid direct conflict whenever possible. Consequently, Nines tend to minimize aspects of their own behavior that could generate controversy - for example, taking a position on something, saying no, challenging someone else, and making decisions. Many Nines are also adept at mediating disagreements among others, as long as they themselves are not principal parties in the conflict situation. Their mediating role or behavior restores the harmony Nines value so highly.

### TAKING A POSITION

Nines tend to discount their own thoughts, feelings, and needs, and they allow others to be the more active and assertive parties in their relationships. Nines do this by losing contact with what they truly want and by acceding or accommodating to the desires of other people. It can be extremely difficult for Nines to take a strong position on a range of subjects - for example, discussing what movie to see, deciding what car to buy, or taking an overt position on a controversial issue. Taking a position by saying "no" can be particularly troublesome for Nines, because doing so potentially creates tension and conflict with other people. Nines more typically say "yes" and go along with the agendas of others, or they say "yes" but really mean "no." This latter behavior is passive-aggressive - saying "yes," but having no intention of doing what has been requested.

### DIFFUSION OF ATTENTION

When tasks are pressing or important decisions are pending, Nines tend to become diffused in their focus and divert their energy to secondary tasks and activities - for example, taking a walk, doing some less essential paperwork, gardening, watching TV, or adhering to a predictable and time-consuming routine. For example, a Nine businessman describes himself this way: "I bring a briefcase full of work home. After dinner, I enjoy washing all the dishes, and my wife likes that. After that, she says that I disappear. I start to work but then go outside to garden for a few minutes, and that turns into hours. If it's too cold or too dark to garden, I do my work in front of the television. I start switching channels, and the time gets away from me. I end up bringing the same work home night after night."

**Basic Concern:** Is everyone being heard, including me?

Place a check by the words that describe you well.



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### AREAS OF STRENGTH

- Diplomatic
- Assimilate big picture through attention to operational details
- Easygoing
- Consistent
- Inclusive and collaborative
- Develop lasting relationships
- Patient
- Supportive of others

### AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT

- Avoid conflict
- Unassertive
- Forget priorities
- Procrastinate
- Passive-aggressive when pushed
- Indecisive
- Uncertain
- Low energy

Do I automatically blend with other people's positive energy but get quite distressed when I am around negativity, anger, and conflict?

Yes  No  Sometimes