

Each one of us possess all 24 of the VIA character strengths in varying degrees making up



our own unique profiles.

Character Strengths is comprised of 24 character strengths that fall under six broad virtue categories: **wisdom, courage, humanity, justice, temperance and transcendence**. They are morally and universally valued, encompass our capacities for helping ourselves and others and produce positive effects when we express them. Knowing [your constellation of character strengths](#) is the first step towards living a happier, more authentic life. Discover your personalized Character Strengths Profile by taking the our free personality test, the [VIA Survey](#).

## Download The VIA Classification

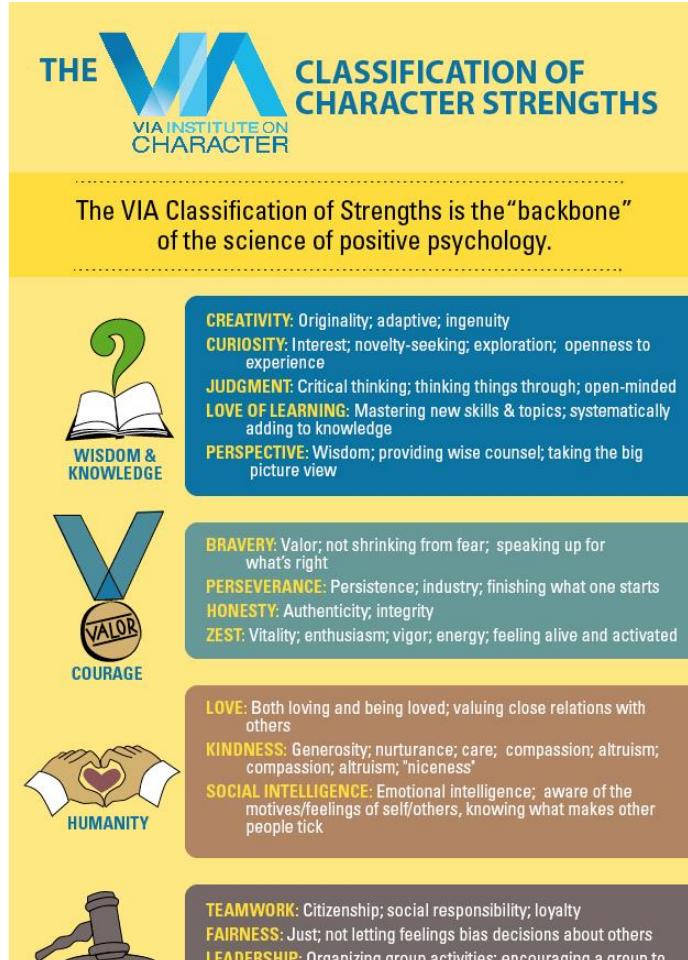
The VIA Classification is available in many formats. Choose which one best suits your needs from the selection below:



### The VIA Classification of Character Strengths

1. **Wisdom and Knowledge** - Cognitive strengths that entail the acquisition and use of knowledge
  - **Creativity** [originality, ingenuity]: Thinking of novel and productive ways to conceptualize and do things; includes artistic achievement but is not limited to it
  - **Curiosity** [interest, novelty-seeking, openness to experience]: Taking an interest in ongoing experience for its own sake; finding subjects and topics fascinating; exploring and discovering
  - **Judgment** [critical thinking]: Thinking things through and examining them from all sides; not jumping to conclusions; being able to change one's mind in light of evidence; weighing all evidence fairly
  - **Love of Learning**: Mastering new skills, topics, and bodies of knowledge, whether on one's own or formally; obviously related to the strength of curiosity but goes beyond it to describe the tendency to add systematically to what one knows
  - **Perspective** [wisdom]: Being able to provide wise counsel to others; having ways of looking at the world that make sense to oneself and to other people

TEXT



## INFOGRAPHIC

Creativity Perspective  
 Judgment Curiosity  
 Honesty Bravery HUMOR Fairness  
**PERSEVERANCE** Zest  
 Love Kindness Leadership  
 Social Intelligence Love of Learning  
 Forgiveness Humility PRUDENCE  
 Appreciation of Gratitude SELF-REGULATION  
 Beauty & Excellence HOPE Spirituality

## WORD CLOUD



# The VIA Classification of 24 Character Strengths

ViaCharacter.org

WISDOM	CREATIVITY	CURIOSITY	JUDGMENT	LOVE OF LEARNING	PERSPECTIVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Originality</li> <li>Adaptive</li> <li>Ingenuity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interest</li> <li>Novelty-Seeking</li> <li>Exploration</li> <li>Openness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critical Thinking</li> <li>Thinking Things Through</li> <li>Open-mindedness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mastering New Skills &amp; Topics</li> <li>Systematically Adding to Knowledge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wisdom</li> <li>Providing Wise Counsel</li> <li>Taking the Big Picture View</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Valor</li> <li>Not Shrinking from Fear</li> <li>Speaking Up for What's Right</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Persistence</li> <li>Industry</li> <li>Finishing What One Starts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authenticity</li> <li>Integrity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vitality</li> <li>Enthusiasm</li> <li>Vigor</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Feeling Alive</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both Loving and Being Loved</li> <li>Valuing Close Relations with Others</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generosity</li> <li>Nurturance</li> <li>Care &amp; Compassion</li> <li>Altruism</li> <li>"Niceness"</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aware of the Motives/Feelings of Self/Others</li> <li>Knowing what Makes Other People Tick</li> </ul>	

## GRAPHIC

### VIA Classification of Character Strengths and Virtues

The Character Strengths of a Flourishing Life

WISDOM	COURAGE	HUMANITY	JUSTICE	TEMPERANCE	TRANSCENDENCE
<p><b>Creativity</b> Originality; adaptive; ingenuity</p>	<p><b>Bravery</b> Valor; not shrinking from fear; speaking up for what's right</p>	<p><b>Love</b> Both loving and being loved; valuing close relations with others</p>	<p><b>Teamwork</b> Citizenship; social responsibility; loyalty</p>	<p><b>Forgiveness</b> Merry; accepting shortcoming; giving people a second chance</p>	<p><b>Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence</b> Awe; wonder; elevation</p>
<p><b>Curiosity</b> Interest; novelty-seeking; exploration; openness to experience</p>	<p><b>Perseverance</b> Persistence; industry; finishing what one starts</p>	<p><b>Kindness</b> Generosity; nurturance; care; compassion; altruism; "niceness"</p>	<p><b>Fairness</b> Just; not letting feelings bias decisions about others</p>	<p><b>Humility</b> Modesty; letting one's accomplishments speak for themselves</p>	<p><b>Gratitude</b> Thankful for the good; expressing thanks; feeling blessed</p>
<p><b>Judgment</b> Critical thinking; thinking things through; open-minded</p>	<p><b>Honesty</b> Authenticity; integrity</p>	<p><b>Social Intelligence</b> Emotional intelligence; aware of the motives/feelings of self/others; discern; make sense; makes other people tick</p>	<p><b>Leadership</b> Organizing group activities; encouraging a group to get things done</p>	<p><b>Prudence</b> Careful; cautious; not taking undue risks</p>	<p><b>Hope</b> Optimism; future-mindedness; future orientation</p>
<p><b>Love of Learning</b> Mastering new skills &amp; topics; systematically adding to knowledge</p>	<p><b>Zest</b> Vitality; enthusiasm; vigor; energy; feeling alive and activated</p>	<p><b>Self-regulation</b> Self-control; disciplined; managing impulses &amp; emotions</p>	<p><b>Humor</b> Playfulness; bringing smiles to others; lighthearted</p>	<p><b>Spirituality</b> Religious; faith; purpose; meaning</p>	
<p><b>Perspective</b> Wisdom; providing wise counsel; taking the big picture view</p>					

## POSTER

# THE VIA CLASSIFICATION OF CHARACTER STRENGTHS & VIRTUES

## 1. Wisdom and Knowledge – Cognitive strengths that entail the acquisition and use of knowledge

- **Creativity** [originality, ingenuity]: Thinking of novel and productive ways to conceptualize and do things; includes artistic achievement but is not limited to it
- **Curiosity** [interest, novelty-seeking, openness to experience]: Taking an interest in ongoing experience for its own sake; finding subjects and topics fascinating; exploring and discovering
- **Judgment** [critical thinking]: Thinking things through and examining them from all sides; not jumping to conclusions; being able to change one's mind in light of evidence; weighing all evidence fairly
- **Love of Learning**: Mastering new skills, topics, and bodies of knowledge, whether on one's own or formally; obviously related to the strength of curiosity but goes beyond it to describe the tendency to add systematically to what one knows
- **Perspective** [wisdom]: Being able to provide wise counsel to others; having ways of looking at the world that make sense to oneself and to other people

## 2. Courage – Emotional strengths that involve the exercise of will to accomplish goals in the face of opposition, external or internal

- **Bravery** [valor]: Not shrinking from threat, challenge, difficulty, or pain; speaking up for what is right even if there is opposition; acting on convictions even if unpopular; includes physical bravery but is not limited to it
- **Perseverance** [persistence, industriousness]: Finishing what one starts; persisting in a course of action in spite of obstacles; “getting it out the door”; taking pleasure in completing tasks
- **Honesty** [authenticity, integrity]: Speaking the truth but more broadly presenting oneself in a genuine way and acting in a sincere way; being without pretense; taking responsibility for one's feelings and actions
- **Zest** [vitality, enthusiasm, vigor, energy]: Approaching life with excitement and energy; not doing things halfway or halfheartedly; living life as an adventure; feeling alive and activated

## 3. Humanity - Interpersonal strengths that involve tending and befriending others

- **Love**: Valuing close relations with others, in particular those in which sharing and caring are reciprocated; being close to people

- **Kindness** [generosity, nurturance, care, compassion, altruistic love, "niceness"]: Doing favors and good deeds for others; helping them; taking care of them
- **Social Intelligence** [emotional intelligence, personal intelligence]: Being aware of the motives and feelings of other people and oneself; knowing what to do to fit into different social situations; knowing what makes other people tick

#### 4. Justice - Civic strengths that underlie healthy community life

- **Teamwork** [citizenship, social responsibility, loyalty]: Working well as a member of a group or team; being loyal to the group; doing one's share
- **Fairness**: Treating all people the same according to notions of fairness and justice; not letting personal feelings bias decisions about others; giving everyone a fair chance.
- **Leadership**: Encouraging a group of which one is a member to get things done, and at the same time maintaining good relations within the group; organizing group activities and seeing that they happen.

#### 5. Temperance – Strengths that protect against excess

- **Forgiveness**: Forgiving those who have done wrong; accepting the shortcomings of others; giving people a second chance; not being vengeful
- **Humility**: Letting one's accomplishments speak for themselves; not regarding oneself as more special than one is
- **Prudence**: Being careful about one's choices; not taking undue risks; not saying or doing things that might later be regretted
- **Self-Regulation** [self-control]: Regulating what one feels and does; being disciplined; controlling one's appetites and emotions

#### 6. Transcendence - Strengths that forge connections to the larger universe and provide meaning

- **Appreciation of Beauty and Excellence** [awe, wonder, elevation]: Noticing and appreciating beauty, excellence, and/or skilled performance in various domains of life, from nature to art to mathematics to science to everyday experience
- **Gratitude**: Being aware of and thankful for the good things that happen; taking time to express thanks
- **Hope** [optimism, future-mindedness, future orientation]: Expecting the best in the future and working to achieve it; believing that a good future is something that can be brought about
- **Humor** [playfulness]: Liking to laugh and tease; bringing smiles to other people; seeing the light side; making (not necessarily telling) jokes

- **Spirituality** [faith, purpose]: Having coherent beliefs about the higher purpose and meaning of the universe; knowing where one fits within the larger scheme; having beliefs about the meaning of life that shape conduct and provide comfort

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