

Summary of Type Discriminators

Following are the shared characteristics and key discriminators for each pair of *connected* and *non-connected* types on the Enneagram, thirty-six in all. The connected types are those that share a wing with each other or that have a security-stress connection. Non-connected types often share certain characteristics that can make them look alike too.

W The two types are *wings*.

S The types are *security and stress* types of each other.

L The two types are non-connected types that can look alike.

W **Types One and Two.** Perfectionists and Givers look alike because, as wings of each other, they possess some of the same personality traits. Both can have high standards of giving, focus intense energy on the improvement or well-being of others, and know what is best for others. Both types definitely suppress or repress their own needs and desires. **They differ in that Perfectionists concentrate, often inflexibly, on others' needs based on their own inner standards, while Givers, in their focus on others' needs, often alter themselves in order to make others happy. Although both types strive for self-sufficiency and independence, Givers are very relationship-oriented and often find themselves overconnected and even indispensable to others.**

L **Types One and Three.** Perfectionists and Performers can be considered look-alike types because they are both achievers. Both can be goal-oriented, competency-oriented, and success-oriented with workaholic tendencies. **The differences are that Perfectionists are more likely to be hounded by their inner critic, which motivates them to do what is judged right by the high standards of the critic, while Performers are more driven to succeed and to change their image and approach, even cutting corners if necessary, to get to the goal and be recognized for their accomplishments.**

S **Types One and Four.** Perfectionists and Romantics share some personality traits because the Perfectionist is the security type of the Romantic and the Romantic is the stress type of the Perfectionist. Both often express idealism, intensity, sensitivity, integrity, authenticity, self-reproach, and a concern for self-improvement. Perfectionists in stress become discouraged and feel deficient. Romantics in security can express a critical idealism and demand perfection or exactness. **They differ in that Perfectionists' idealism concerns correct behavior and "getting it right," while Romantics' idealism revolves around possibilities for ultimate fulfillment. Furthermore, Perfectionists generally are self-restrained, suppressing personal desires, while Romantics experience strong longings and desires, sometimes to the point of self-absorption. Perfectionists cannot express their desires as readily as Romantics do.**

L **Types One and Five.** Perfectionists and Observers can be considered look-alike types because they both are intellectual, competency-oriented, and can become retracted or internalized when trying to figure things out. **Perfectionists, however, are quite intense, suppress their desires, and seek to improve themselves and others, while Observers detach from feelings in order to protect themselves from being intruded upon and to conserve energy. In general, Observers have "a live-and-let-live" attitude and restrict their judgments to intellectual matters, knowledge, and competence, while Perfectionists' judgments extend to the entire range of human activity covered by their internal standards of right and wrong.**

L **Types One and Six.** Perfectionists and Loyal Skeptics can be considered look-alike types because both types can be very watchful, anxious and worried, and intent on figuring things out. **What distinguishes these two look-alike types is that Loyal Skeptics, by doubting, try to figure out what could go wrong, what the worst-case scenario might be, and how to gain a sense of safety and certainty. Perfectionists, by judging and comparing, try to figure out how to prevent mistakes, how to correct what is wrong, and how to avoid self-criticism and criticism from others. Perfectionists' one right way brings clarity, while the doubting and questioning mind of Loyal Skeptics hinders clarity.**