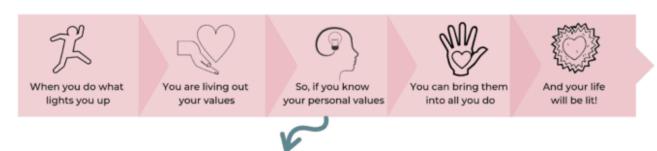


IDENTIFYING VALUES

Our values reflect what we find meaningful in life. They are what you care about, deep down, and what you consider to be important. Everybody's values are different, and they can change over time. They reflect how we want to engage with the world, with the people around us, and with ourselves.

Values are different from goals as goals can be achieved whereas values are more like directions that we want to head in. For example, we might have the value of being a good Mum or Dad and this may require a lifetime's effort. The specific achievable goal would be getting our children to school on time. We may also value our physical health and if this is the case a goal to achieve this may be exercising each day for half an hour.



Understanding your personal values helps you live an authentic, happy life!

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Family	Parentin	ng Career / Employment
Marriage / Couple / Intimacy	Friendsh Social lif	· I Juiituality
Recreation / Fun / Leisure	Citizensl Environr Commu	ment / Personal growth

LET'S LOOK AT HOW YOU CAN IDENTIFY YOUR VALUES ...



Step 1: Identify the times when you were happiest.

Find examples from both your career and personal life. This will ensure some balance in your answers.
What were you doing?
Were you with other people? Who?
What other factors contributed to your happiness?
Step 2: Identify the times when you were most proud.
Use examples from your career and personal life.
Why were you proud?
Did other people share your pride? Who?
What other factors contributed to your feelings of pride?
Step 3: Identify the times when you were most fulfilled and satisfied.
Again, use both work and personal examples.
What need or desire was fulfilled?
How and why did the experience give your life meaning?



What other factors contributed to your feelings of fulfilment?

Step 4: Determine your top values, based on your experiences of happiness, pride, and fulfilment.

Why is each experience profoundly important and memorable?

You can use the list at the end of this document to see examples of common personal values to help you get started – and aim for about 10 top values. (As you work through, you may find that some of these naturally combine. For instance, if you value community, and generosity, you might say that service to others is one of your top values.)

Step 5: Prioritise your top values.

This step is probably the most difficult because you'll have to look deep inside yourself. It's also the most important step, because, when deciding, you'll have to choose between solutions that may satisfy different values. This is when you must know which value is more important to you.

Write down your top values, not in any particular order.

Look at the first two values and ask yourself, "If I could satisfy only one of these, which would I choose?" It might help to visualise a situation in which you would have to make that choice. For example, if you compare the values of service and stability, imagine that you must decide whether to sell your house and move to another country to do valuable foreign aid work, or keep your house and volunteer to do charity work closer to home.

Keep working through the list, by comparing each value with each other value, until your list is in the correct order.



Step 6: Reaffirm your values.

Check your top-priority values, and make sure that they fit with your life and your vision for yourself.

Do these values make you feel good about yourself?

Are you proud of your top three values?

Would you be comfortable and proud to tell your values to people you respect and admire?

Do these values represent things you would support, even if your choice isn't popular, and it puts you in the minority?

When you consider your values in decision making, you can be sure to keep your sense of integrity and what you know is right, and approach decisions with confidence and clarity. You'll also know that what you're doing is best for your current and future happiness and satisfaction.

Making value-based choices may not always be easy. However, making a choice that you know is right is a lot less difficult in the long run.

Accomplishment Excellence Perfection Excitement **Accuracy Pietv** Achievement **Expertise Positivity Exploration Practicality** Adventurousness Expressiveness **Preparedness** Altruism **Professionalism Ambition Fairness** Assertiveness Faith Prudence **Balance** Family-orientedness **Quality-orientation** Being the best **Fidelity** Reliability Belonging **Fitness** Resourcefulness **Boldness** Fluency Restraint Calmness Focus Results-oriented **Carefulness** Freedom Rigor Challenge Fun **Security Self-actualization** Cheerfulness Generosity Clear-mindedness Goodness **Self-control Selflessness** Commitment Grace Growth **Self-reliance Community Compassion Happiness Sensitivity** Competitiveness **Hard Work** Serenity Consistency Health **Service** Contentment **Helping Society Shrewdness Continuous Improvement Holiness Simplicity Soundness** Contribution Honesty **Control** Honor Speed **Spontaneity** Cooperation Humility **Correctness** Independence **Stability Courtesy** Ingenuity **Strategic Inner Harmony** Creativity Strength **Curiosity Inquisitiveness Structure Decisiveness** Insightfulness **Success** Intelligence **Democraticness Support Intellectual Status Dependability Teamwork Determination** Intuition **Temperance Devoutness Joy Thankfulness Diligence Iustice Thoroughness** Discipline Leadership **Thoughtfulness Discretion Timeliness** Legacy **Diversity** Love **Tolerance**

Loyalty

Mastery

Obedience

Openness

Originality

Patriotism

Merit

Order

Making a difference

Dynamism

Effectiveness

Economy

Efficiency

Elegance

Empathy

Equality

Enjoyment

Enthusiasm

5

Traditionalism

Truth-seeking

Understanding Uniqueness

Unity

Vision

Vitality

Usefulness

Trustworthiness