

**ISTP**      ***Introverted - Sensing - Thinking - Perceiving***  
***“Doing the Best I Can with What I’ve Got”***

**As an ISTP, Career satisfaction means doing work that:**

1. Lets me identify and use resources that are available to me in the most efficient manner possible.
2. Lets me practice, master, and then use skills I have acquired, especially mechanical skills or those requiring the use of tools.
3. Lets me apply my understanding and technical knowledge of the world around me and see the logical principles underlying my work; lets me engage in troubleshooting and problem solving.
4. Has clear directions; where I can work expediently and deal with real and practical products.
5. Is fun and active and lets me work independently with frequent opportunities to get out of my work space and be outdoors.
6. Is done in an environment without excessive rules or operating standards imposed by others where I can enjoy spontaneous adventures and step in to manage any crisis.
7. Lets me work independently, with a minimum of supervision, and where I am not required to closely supervise others.
8. Give me plenty of time to pursue my interests and hobbies.
9. Gives me a substantial amount of enjoyment and is continually challenging.
10. Lets me use an economy of motion and energy and does not require needless routine or procedures.

**Work-related strengths and weaknesses of ISTPs include:**

**STRENGTHS:**

Work well with real and tangible tasks and products.  
Able to bring order to confused data and unrecognizable facts.  
Usually enjoy using hands and mastering the use of tools.  
Usually enjoy working alone or alongside others they respect.  
Identify and use available resources well.

**WEAKNESSES:**

May lack interest or ability in verbal communication.  
Often have little patience for abstract and complex theories.  
May be bored and restless easily.  
May appear to be insensitive to needs and feelings of others.  
May be unpredictable and unreliable.

## *Popular Occupations for ISTPs*

### **ACTION:**

- Police officer
- Race car driver
- Pilot
- Weapons operator
- Hunter
- Intelligence agent
- Marshal
- Fire fighter

The appeal of action careers for ISTPs derives from their desire not to feel confined by a lot of structure and regimentation. They work well on impulse and enjoy situations that are spontaneous and call on their ability to quickly assess their resources and then take appropriate actions. They work well alone but will pull together as part of a team when necessary. ISTPs often enjoy mastery of tools or machinery of a specialized style and enjoy being outdoors and physically active.

### **TECHNICAL**

- Chiropractor
- Medical technician
- Computer programmer
- Electrical engineer
- Dental hygienist

ISTPs often find satisfaction in technical careers because they are interested in how and why things work. They tend to be good in mechanical areas because they possess great observational powers and a capacity to remember and use important facts and details. They usually enjoy working with their hands and like work that provides them with a constant source of sensory information. Their logical analysis is best used when based upon solid facts that they themselves gather through their five senses.

## **BUSINESS/FINANCE:**

- Purchasing agent
- Office manager
- Banker
- Securities analyst
- Economist
- Legal secretary

Pragmatic and accurate with numbers, ISTPs can find enjoyment in business and financial careers. The working environment is extremely important, however, and needs to allow for personal freedom and flexibility for ISTPs to be satisfied. Opportunities that allow the ISTP to work autonomously, without excessive meetings or office politics, are best.

ISTPs are often able to bring order to confused data and unrecognizable facts. They easily see the realities of an economic situation and are ready and able to respond to immediate changes.

## **TRADES:**

- Farmer
- Mechanic
- Coach/trainer
- Carpenter
- Computer repair person
- Automotive products retailer
- Commercial artist

The independence and hands-on practicality of the trades often appeal to ISTPs. ISTPs prefer tasks that are real and concrete and provide the opportunity to use their hands. They work the most diligently on projects that fully absorb their interest, so if theirs is a love of sports, they will enjoy coaching and training much more than another seemingly similar trade career. Making a career out of a hobby is an excellent strategy for the ISTP.

*Excerpt from Do What You Are: Discover the Perfect Career For You Through The Secrets of Personality Type; Paul D. Tiger & Barbara Barron-Tieger.*