

Do You Make Good Travel Companions?

By Susan Vogt

Circle A (Agree), D (Disagree), or U (Unsure) after each question. Compare answers.

1. When getting ready for a trip:

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|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| A. I pack for every contingency | A | D | U |
| B. I take pride in packing compactly | A | D | U |

2. When getting ready for a trip:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. I am usually calm and ready to leave at the appointed time | A | D | U |
| B. I usually scurry around frantically throwing things together and still leave late. | A | D | U |

3. When getting ready for a trip, I like:

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|--|---|---|---|
| A. To have a plan, check maps and tour books, etc. | A | D | U |
| B. To be spontaneous and flexible. | A | D | U |
| C. To have someone else plan the trip for me or have a tour guide. | A | D | U |

4. What mode of transportation do you enjoy? (Circle all that apply.)

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|--|---|---|---|
| A. Car | A | D | U |
| <i>a. It's cheaper.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>b. I don't travel far.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>c. We have kids and cars work best.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>d. I'm afraid to fly</i> | A | D | U |

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|---|---|---|---|
| B. Air | A | D | U |
| <i>a. Only if I can use frequent flyer miles.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>b. It's quickest for long trips.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>c. I like watching the movies.</i> | A | D | U |

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|--|---|---|---|
| C. Train/Subway | A | D | U |
| <i>a. It's economical</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>b. It's safe</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>c. It wastes less of the earth's resources.</i> | A | D | U |

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|---|---|---|---|
| D. Boat (a cruise, sailing, etc.) | A | D | U |
| <i>a. I like luxury.</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>b. I like having someone else taking care of me, and the food is plentiful</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>c. I like water</i> | A | D | U |
| <i>d. I like shopping at the ports.</i> | A | D | U |

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|--|---|---|---|
| E. I just like to go places, I don't care how. | A | D | U |
|--|---|---|---|

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| F. I hate to travel, regardless of the mode of transportation. | A | D | U |
|--|---|---|---|

5. When on vacation, I like to:

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|--|---|---|---|
| A. Stay close to home (maybe a local cottage, nearby hotel, or just staying home) | A | D | U |
| B. Do things the natural way (camping, hiking, outdoor activities) | A | D | U |
| C. Do it "first class" (expensive lodging, entertainment) Vacations are a time to splurge. | A | D | U |
| D. Travel to far off and unique places (different countries, or at least a different part of my country) | A | D | U |
| E. Have familiar surrounding and all the comforts of home. | A | D | U |
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6. When traveling by car, I like to:

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|--|---|---|---|
| A. Take frequent breaks to stretch, eat, go to the bathroom. | A | D | U |
| B. Push ahead to get to my destination as quickly as possible. | A | D | U |
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7. When traveling by car, I like to:

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|---|---|---|---|
| A. Keep a neat environment (I always keep a litter bag in the car.) | A | D | U |
| B. Get real. If I'm going any distance, it's impractical to keep everything neat. | A | D | U |
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8. When driving, I:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| A. Generally don't go more than five miles over the speed limit. | A | D | U |
| B. Either keep a radar detector in the car, or should. | A | D | U |
| C. Am very cautious. Many cars pass me. | A | D | U |
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9. When traveling by car:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| A. I pack many diversions (books, CD's, games, etc.) | A | D | U |
| B. I'm fine as long as the radio works. I like it tuned to: | A | D | U |
| a. music (What kind? _____) | A | D | U |
| b. talk shows (What kind? _____) | A | D | U |
| c. news or NPR | A | D | U |
| C. I like to talk or sing. | A | D | U |
| D. I like to sleep. | A | D | U |
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10. I prefer to:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| A. travel to one place, stay there, and relax. | A | D | U |
| B. visit a lot of different places, see a lot, do a lot. | A | D | U |
| C. visit relatives. | A | D | U |
| D. visit friends. | A | D | U |
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11. I like to travel:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| A. by myself. | A | D | U |
| B. with my spouse. | A | D | U |
| C. with my spouse and children. | A | D | U |
| D. with a group of friends. | A | D | U |
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SCORING:

Total all the responses on which you and your spouse (girl/boyfriend, fiancé/fiancée) agree.

If you agree with each other on:

40+ items: Happy Travels!

11-39 items: Take this opportunity to practice compromise and negotiation skills.

0-10 items: Consider separate vacations.