

The Sage

Understanding What Drives You

Green is the color of your dominant archetype – The Sage. The Sage is the visionary among the archetypes. They are strategic thinkers. The Sage is logical, analytical, and straightforward. This is the person who will find new and innovative ways to look at the world and to solve problems. The Sage is highly skeptical and demands proof of assertions. Sages love data.

The Sage rarely accepts that a problem cannot be solved. In fact, difficult problems may keep them working until late in the night or finding it difficult to sleep as they consider possible solutions to problems. The Sage is the person who will “turn the box sideways” to study a problem from a different angle. They believe that solutions to a problem may be reached from more than one direction.

In the military, it is the Sage you want to design your battle plan because he will not assume loyalty and enthusiasm are enough to win the day. The Sage believes in sound strategy. The Sage’s strength is the ability to have long-range vision when faced with a problem.

The cliché that best describes the Sage is, “The Sage is playing chess while others are playing checkers.” Sages are excellent in a crisis. They are capable of controlling their emotions and not over-reacting in tense situations.

The Sage is not a highly social person in a work setting. The ideal environment for the Sage is to have unencumbered space and uninterrupted time to pursue work. Work is play for the Sage or at least one of the most satisfying activities for him. The Sage is happy to keep his own company.

Career fields of choice for a Sage often include: the sciences, technology, engineering, architecture, even the social sciences such as psychology and sociology. The Sage’s interest in people stems more from a desire to make sense of the world than to save the world. The stereotype of the absent-minded professor could describe a Sage as they are often the academics among us.

“Social” is not a word that necessarily describes the Sage. The Sage might come across as cold and remote, which very well may mask a warm, kind heart. Sages

don't suffer fools gladly. Fundamental to the nature of a Sage is competence and they value that quality in others. Sages often have strict standards for themselves and can expect others to live up to those standards. The Sage likes associating with people who are smart and well read, and enjoy discussing difficult world situations and arriving at solutions to solving those problems.

What Does Retirement Look Like to The Sage?

The Sage will probably not say, "I'm retired" because the phrase may be the same as saying, "I am doing nothing". Doing nothing is something the Sage cannot abide.

The Sage's Rx for Retirement

As a Sage, you may be one of the last among us to retire from your current career, especially if you are in a field you love. However, after decades in a field, people sometimes feel they have accomplished all they either need or want to do and feel a longing for a change. If you feel this way, know that it is normal. As a Sage, being intellectually challenged is critical for you so you may need a new challenge.

The term Sage is synonymous with a knowledgeable person. In a culture that seems to worship youth, we forget that society does value the wisdom of experience. You might find a fulfilling role mentoring, sharing your knowledge and skills with others who can advance your accomplishments.

Teaching in the position of an adjunct professor at a college or university could be extremely satisfying. You may finally have the time to share some of the knowledge you have acquired over the last many years. You may also be surprised at the positive reactions you receive from young people who dream of having a career like yours.

Reading and learning will continue to interest you. Taking a class in a totally new field of interest might be stimulating for you. You may have a secret wish that you have kept since childhood. Go do it! Maybe learn to play the guitar or take that painting class.

The concept of a Viking Cruise probably originated from a Sage. Travel and learning is right up a Sage's alley. Simply hanging out at a beach resort is probably not your ideal vacation. Touring a natural history museum or exploring the Galapagos Islands would be more in keeping with your style and priorities.

Now that you find you have more flexibility in your schedule, relationships with close family members might become more of a priority. Your work life may have interfered in time spent with loved ones. Your grandchildren may have entirely different picture of their grandparent than your children did as youngsters. It might be a nice change for you.

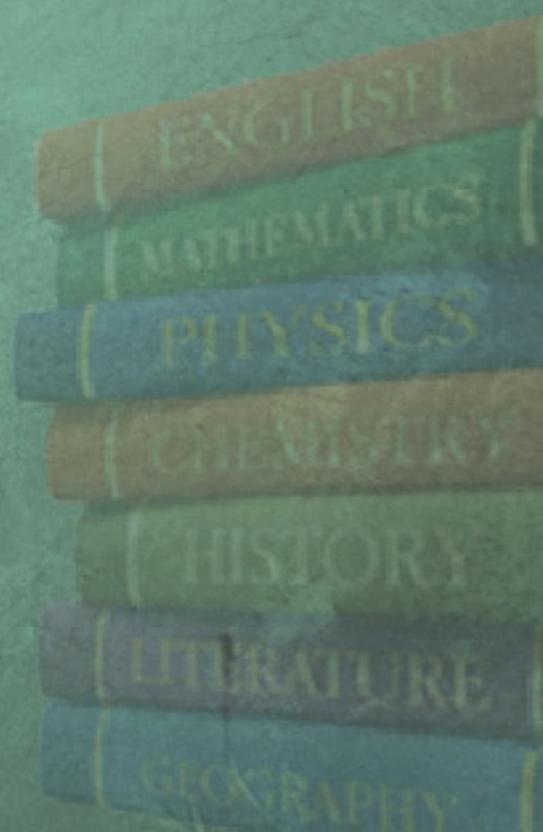
It is not uncommon for a Sage to start a new business endeavor in their 70's. You may want to start a business in an entirely different field from your career of decades. If you do this, make sure at the end of each day, you look forward, not dread, the next day of work.

As a Sage, avoid becoming your own worst enemy. With your drive you can become over-stressed by all the demands you place on yourself. At this stage in your life, accept that you are living for joy and give yourself a break.

The Sage In a Nutshell

Sages at their core are:

Visionary
Intellectual
Readers
Analytical
Strategic Thinkers
Problem Solvers
Data enthusiasts
Innovative
Skeptical
Rational



How Do You Spend Your Time?

Where does your time go? List your five major activities in the last week. How much time did you give to each one? Which were what you wanted to do and which were obligations or activities you felt you were expected to do? How much of your time is spent devoted to the needs of others at the expense of your own desires?

List five activities you enjoy doing. These are activities that nourish and lift your spirits. When was the last time you pursued these activities? How might you incorporate these activities into your schedule, even for short amounts of time? Time is one of our most precious resources. The following is a discourse on time written by Peter Beagle in *The Last Unicorn*...

“When I was alive, I believed-as you do- that time was at least as real and solid as myself, and probably more so. I said 1:00 as though I could see it, and “Monday” as though I could find it on a map...Like everyone else, I lived in a house bricked up with seconds and minutes, weekends and New Year’s Days, and I never went outside until I died, because there was no other door. Now I know that I could have walked through walls.”

