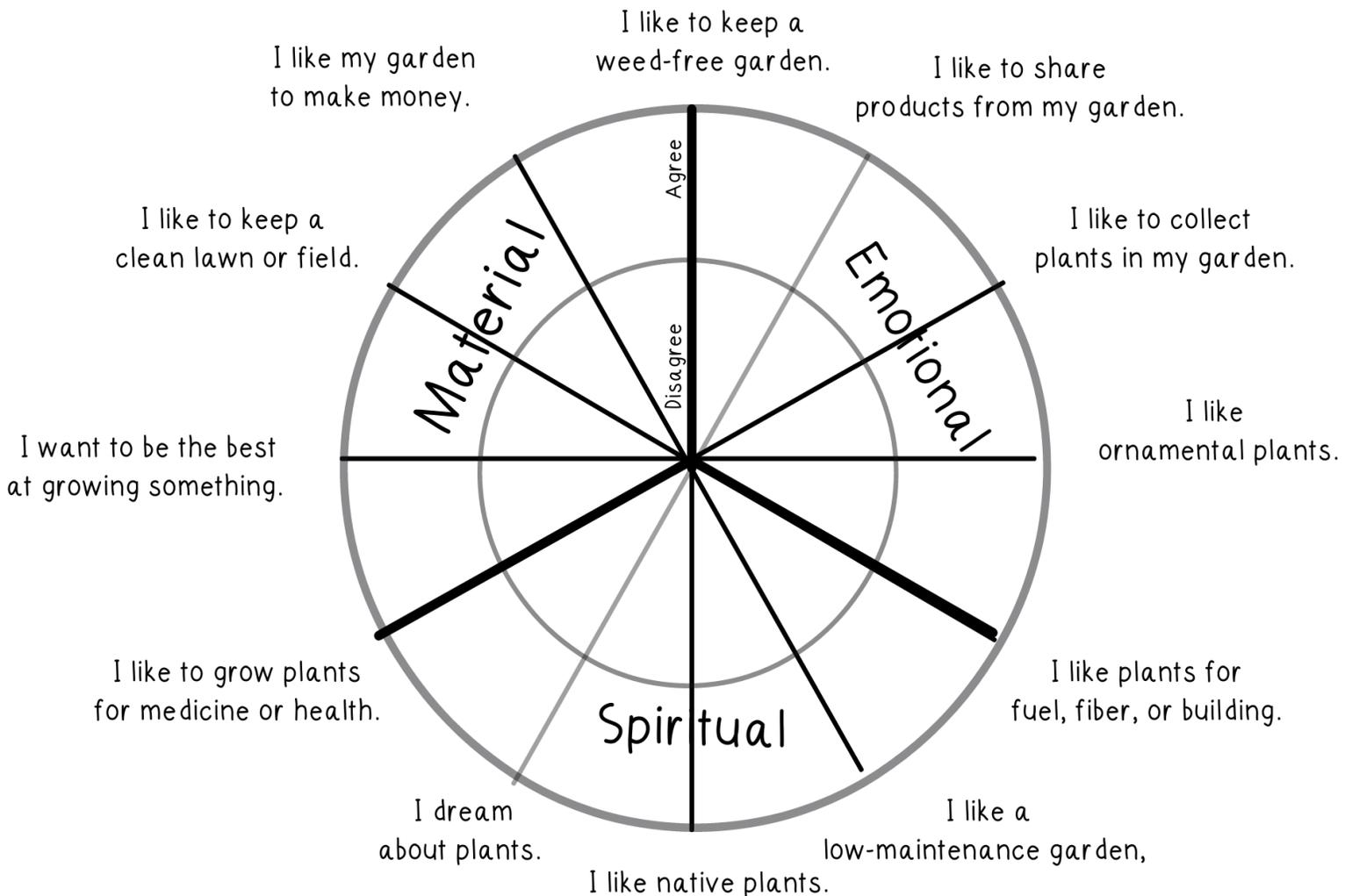


Gardener's Personality Test

Instructions

Use the chart to quantify your garden awareness. The results will help you decide what garden type is best for you, and help you identify how to broaden your gardening horizons.

1. Respond to each prompt around the circle by placing a mark on the corresponding line based on how you feel, or what you think. Mark on the line near the center of the circle if you strongly disagree. Mark near the outer-edge of the circle if you strongly agree with the statement.
2. Connect the dots you made on the twelve lines. The overall size and distribution of your circled area will guide your interpretation



Interpretation

This illustration is based on the idea that consciousness exists in the spiritual, emotional and material realms. The chart you created displays how you prioritize your focus through gardening style. By identifying our own minds at work in the garden we can grow with our landscapes in positive ways. Use this chart to identify how you can grow as a gardener.

Circle size

If the area in your circle of interest is huge overall, you are enthusiastic about plants, but may be unrealistic about what is possible. If the area is tiny overall, you are probably a very focused gardener, but you may be close-minded to your plants.

Area distribution

Gardening with a focus that is heavily material, emotional, or spiritual will result in quite different landscapes. Consider some of the following ways to balance the chart to create a sustainable relationship with your space. It is possible for every garden to incorporate balance through the imagination of the gardener.

Spiritual

Spiritually connected gardeners will likely leave a garden that is intended to be more productive for future generations. These gardens, at their best, have the ability to relieve deep generational stress in people and places. This is achieved by allowing the garden to fit into nature's process. People with this focus will likely be troubled by the landscape choices of others.

Focus

Enjoy connecting with ancestry and legacy through your garden.

Let your plants inspire creative uses for their products.

Engage gardening activities that support natural biodiversity.

Spiritually guided landscapes should not be experienced as labor-intensive.

Examples

Native-plant landscapes or forests

Seed-saver or heirloom gardens

Gardens intended to attract wildlife

Emotional

Emotionally connected gardeners tend to create landscapes full of curiosity, with details that are very personal. People with this focus often use gardening to cope with day-to-day stress, or connect with loved ones. Focusing here makes it easy to spend money on the landscape. Heavily emotional gardeners become irreplaceable elements of their cultivated environment.

Focus

Let your garden make you happy
Connect you to your family or community through gardening
Get to know all the plants in your landscape by name
Plants that stimulate the senses will engage the soul experience

Examples

Collector gardens
Interior gardens / houseplants
Kitchen or herb gardens
Zen gardens

Material

People with this focus want to be able to manage natural plant processes like a business. These landscapes help the gardener meet basic needs or achieve economic goals. By growing and selling their plants or products, materially conscious gardeners are foundational to any society. Overcoming the tendency toward extractive or inhibitive methods is a great challenge for those who strongly attach to egotistical goals.

Focus

These gardens should be practical or functional.
Keep plants you are proud of.
It is important to be able to quantify the value of your garden.
These gardens should appear intentional.

Examples

Gardens that increase landscape or home values
Market gardens or farms
Timber Land

Thank you for taking the time to consider how you focus your relationship with plants.

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