Activator

People who are especially talented in the Activator theme can make things happen by turning thoughts into action. Once a decision is made, they want to act quickly.

I am (being) \rightarrow impatience with inactivity
I will (doing) \rightarrow create momentum
I bring (contribution) \rightarrow a catalytic sense of urgency
I need (requirement) \rightarrow less discussion, more action
I love (value) \rightarrow initiation, instigation
I hate (value) \rightarrow waiting, wasting time
Metaphor/Image \rightarrow getting out of the blocks quickly
Barrier Label \rightarrow leaps before looking

Theme Contrast
Activator: There is no substitute for action
Intellection: There is no substitute for thinking
Activator: Do it until you get it right
Deliberative: Do it when you get it right

Career Development Tips
- People with exceptional Activator talents like to jump right in and start, so your best approach to career planning is to try out various roles. Look for Part-time Jobs, a Work Study job on the U of M campus, or Volunteer Opportunities where you can “try on” a career that looks interesting to you.
- Identify formal or informal leadership roles on campus where your Activator talents can flourish. Consider taking a Leadership minor.
- Powerful Activator talents make you good at the starting line. Look for work environments that will reward you for getting people out of the blocks quickly.
- Consider becoming an entrepreneur. Make a list of possible businesses you could start, grow and sell once they show a profit. Understand that you may lose interest once an enterprise is so fine-tuned that it runs on its own.
- Understand that some supervisors and managers may feel threatened by your insistence on making decisions and acting without delay. Your Activator talents will flourish best in an environment where quick decision-making is valued and there is not a lot of hierarchical structure.
- Head to your college’s Career Center for more career guidance!

General Academic Life Tips
- Initiate classroom discussions. Suggest topics. Take sides in debates. Help your fellow students learn faster and learn more.
- Find the answers to questions that you anticipate the instructor will ask on upcoming tests and quizzes.
- Instigate conversations with your peers outside the classroom. Center these on topics related to a recent lecture given by your instructor or a visiting professor.
- Take charge of small-group conversations, projects, presentations, and experiments. Distinguish yourself by transforming plans into tangible results.
- Waste no time finishing the first draft of a writing assignment. Immediately seek feedback from a teaching assistant or your professor. Incorporate some of their constructive suggestions in your second draft. Check out the U of M Writing Center for great feedback!

Extracurricular Activities
- Join clubs and try out for athletic teams with jam-packed rosters of events. Avoid groups with a reputation for meeting a lot but accomplishing very little. Get involved in Intramural Sports.
- Volunteer for activities such as constructing a house, serving as a mentor or tutor, acting in community theatre productions, conducting nature walks, running to raise funds for worthwhile causes, or coaching a youth team. Visit the Student Union and Activities webpage for these opportunities.
- Be the change agent for a stalled project. Study the original action plan. Determine why momentum was lost. Convince group members they can put the undertaking back on course. Recruit several energetic individuals to help implement the new initiative.
- Campaign for an office in the Minnesota Student Association (MSA) or join one of the Governing Bodies on campus. Influence potential voters to cast their ballots for you.