

Style Sheet for Enneagram Writing

The following are suggestions and conventions we use in our books and other Enneagram writings. We suggest that others follow them as doing so will add to consistency, professionalism, and clarity in your own writing.

- Capitalize the word “Enneagram” wherever used.
- Capitalize the numbers when referring to a personality type, for instance, type Seven, “the Three,” or “Fours,” and so forth. Do not use possessives for plurals: use “type Eights” rather than “type Eight’s.”
- Use numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.) only when constructing a chart or some other kind of visual graphic or referring to the Levels specifically, such as Level 2, Level 5, and so forth.
- Capitalize the “Levels of Development” and “Levels” whenever these words are used. Likewise, Basic Fear, Basic Desire, Passion, Holy Idea, Fixation, and Virtue should be capitalized, in general.
- Depending on the context, use Capitals or lower case (although be consistent in a piece of work) according to preference or context: “average Twos” or “Average Twos,” “type Four” or “Type Four,” and so forth. Spell out the number with a Capital, when referring to a movement, such as “When Sevens move to One, they....”
- Substitute “Levels of Health” or “Levels of Being” for the Levels of Development, as needed, but not such phrases as “Developmental Levels” or other misleading variations.
- Use italics to cite a book title, such as *The Wisdom of the Enneagram*, and to italicize abbreviations of book titles, such as *Wisdom* and *PT*.
- Give page references to books when using quotations, and follow all standard conventional usage rules for college essays or written reports. See *The Elements of Style* (or similar references) for this information.
- Use the phrase “Instinctual Variants” rather than “subtypes” to refer to the Instincts. The only true subtypes are the Wings.
- Follow the proper rules about attribution and use of copyrighted material, and how to properly cite your sources. See our website for the article there at www.enneagraminstitute.com/articles/NarticlesUse.asp