## Architects (INTP)

Architects should not be thought of as only interested in drawing blueprints for bridges and buildings. They are also the architects of **ideas**, designing all kinds of **theoretical** systems, including educational curricula, corporate strategies, political ideologies, philosophical treatises, mathematical arguments, and scientific experiments.

Architects are rare (around 1-2% of the population) and are often difficult to know. They are inclined to be **reserved** except with close friends, and their privacy is difficult to penetrate. Able to **concentrate** better than any other type, they prefer to work quietly, and often alone, in their labs or at their computers and drafting tables. Architects also become **obsessed** with **systems** analysis, and this can seem to shut others out. Once wrapped up in thought process, Architects close off from people and work until they comprehend the issue they're considering in all its **complexity**.

For Architects, the world exists primarily to be **analyzed**, understood, and explained. External reality in itself is unimportant, merely an arena for checking out the usefulness of ideas. What's important for Architects is that they uncover the underlying **structures** of the universe, and that their statements about how the world works are accurate, **logical**, and comprehensive. **Curiosity** about these fundamental structures is the driving force in Architects, and they care little if others understand or accept their ideas. Unfortunately, they can seem **arrogant** in their grand desire to grasp and to articulate the universe, and they may show impatience with others who have less **ingenuity** or less drive.

Ruthless **pragmatists** about ideas, Architects will learn in any manner and degree they can. They are **independent**-minded and will listen to amateurs if their ideas are useful, and will ignore the experts if theirs are not. Authority derived from office, credential, or celebrity does not impress them. Architects are interested only in what make **sense**—and thus only statements that are **consistent** and **coherent** carry any weight with them.

Architects show the greatest precision in thought and speech of all the types. They tend to see distinctions and inconsistencies instantly, and can detect contradictions in any argument. It is difficult for an Architect to listen to nonsense, even in a casual conversation, and in any serious discussion they can be devastating, their skill in logic and **debate** giving them an enormous advantage. Architects regard all discussions as a search for **understanding**, and they believe their function is to eliminate inconsistencies, which can make communication with them an uncomfortable experience for many.

**Film Portrait**: Howard Roark (Gary Cooper) in *The Fountainhead*