

# Matthew Blum's Knowledge Inventory

Below is a table labeling my design knowledge, design abilities, and professional qualities into numeric quantities from 1-10. Many of my strengths are in fields involving writing, speaking, and audio work. I am proficient with programs such as Microsoft *Word*, Audacity, and Adobe *Audition*. These strengths can be noticed in my research papers, presentations, and podcasts accomplished at Saginaw Valley State University.

While grading my own characteristics, I realized my designing skills, specifically in video content and documents, are lacking compared to other skills. This has been an ongoing deficiency I continuously struggle with. When it comes to Professional & Technical writing, my expertise is on the written language itself. I'm not a graphic designer, I'm not researcher, I'm a written storyteller with a passion for audio. These scores aren't surprising for me, as I haven't been interested in learning how to use applications *InDesign* or *Premier*. I understand the importance of applications like these, I just need to find the mental fortitude to learn them.

Empathy is evolving into the most important aspect of any job field. Mental health has been stigmatized in the workplace for generations, and is now fighting for its rightful place as an important aspect of work. I believe empathy is the force that drives our success into other professional qualities. Successful, modern-day leaders are expected to be empathetic towards their workers, as people are no longer just numbers or statistics, they're human. If we do not understand how our actions take effect upon others, how are we expected to work together? Without a strong sense of empathy, we are unable to understand each other or attend to other's needs.

<b>Design Knowledge</b>			
<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>
Internet-based research	10	Designing digital ink documents	7
Usability research	6	Designing websites	1
Composing written content	9	Designing audio content	8
Preparing visual content	5	Designing video content	4
Editing written/visual/audio content	9	Delivering presentations	9
<b>Design Ability</b>			
<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>
Adobe <i>InDesign</i>	4	Microsoft <i>Word</i>	10
Adobe <i>Audition</i>	7	Audacity	8
Techsmith <i>Camtasia</i>	6	Managing audio recording technology	8
Adobe <i>Premier</i>	4	Managing video recording technology	3
<b>Professional Qualities</b>			
<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Knowledge, Ability, Quality</b>	<b>Score</b>
Leadership	7	Empathy	8
Project Management	6	Accountability	6