

## FEAR OF FAILURE

Synonyms: inadequacy, ambivalent, irresolute, uncertain

Even though he may be anxious to begin, he puts off making decisions and tends to change his mind frequently.

Being reluctant to make decisions, he is less able to make a commitment and establish himself on a definite course of action.

Part of his difficulty lies in not being able to make a decision and stick to it. He is easily swayed by differing points of view and whatever argument he heard last is where he'll stand--until another justification is presented. Then he'll change his mind again.

Because he is concerned about being right, he may have trouble making decisions. Before taking action, he carefully studies all the possibilities.

When she runs into trouble, she is afraid of appearing stupid and doesn't like to ask for help. As a result, she has developed some resourcefulness that enables her to find alternative ways of handling problems. At other times, especially when it involves conflict resolution, she may just let a bad situation get worse rather than face a confrontation, and end up needing to be rescued.

It is a fear of failure that is behind her perfectionism. She keeps working and working on a project, trying to get it 'just right.' If she never finishes, she can't fail. Of course, procrastination sets her up for all sorts of other problems.

His hesitation to put himself forward stems from a sense of inadequacy and ineptitude. He is afraid that if he opens himself up to the possibility of making a mistake, he will be rejected.