

What's Your Anger Style?

Anger comes in three basic styles. We may switch styles depending on who or what is triggering our anger, but most of us lean to one style or another. Check the boxes that describe your anger style and use the blank lines to add any other appropriate descriptions.

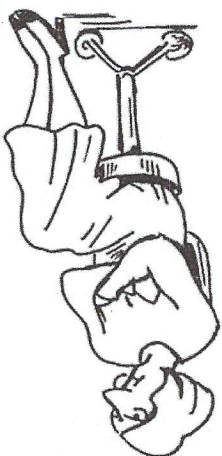
Lock it up!

- BEHAVIOR**
- withdraw emotionally
 - give the "silent treatment"
 - become ill or anxious

REASONS

- I don't have the right to be angry.
- Anger is inappropriate or childish.
- I may lose control of myself.
- I can't cope with strong feelings.
- People will dislike me
- if I show anger.

deny anger, but show it in other actions



Turn it loose!

BEHAVIOR

- blowing up at people
- getting physical or hurting people
- threatening, shouting or swearing
- blaming people
- breaking things

REASONS

- I need to assert my power over people.
- I'm afraid of getting close to someone.
- I can't stand to be wrong.
- I don't know how to communicate
- calmly when angry.

Manage it!

BEHAVIOR

- remaining calm
- focusing on the behavior, not the person
- using "I" statements: "I feel angry when..."
- sticking to the subject

REASONS

- Anger is a normal emotion—it's OK to be angry.
- When I'm angry, I want to solve the problem
- that's causing my anger.
- I want to be able to express anger appropriately.

allowing discussion to happen

