

6 Thinking Hats Decision Making

A quicker way to run meetings and make decisions. Based on "Six Thinking Hats" by Edward de Bono 2008
Group parallel thinking input using 1 of 6 hats at a time. See page 2 for 8 suggested Hat sequences.
Record results on page 3.

Blue Hat

Big picture, High level, process, priorities, consider all factors, management of 6 Hats.
6 Hat sequencing agenda.
Ask for summary, findings, conclusion, decision. Use page 3.

White Hat

Information known, unknown.
Information needs.
Facts, facts needed.
Where to get the information.

Red Hat

Emotional responses, feelings, intuition, hunches.
No justification needed.
Feeling about a topic in the open.

Yellow Hat

Positive values and benefits, optimism.
Proposal preference outline.
Benefits of a design.
How to make a creative design idea work.

Green Hat

New ideas, emerging technologies.
Potential alternatives.
Lateral thinking.
Creative thinking and effort.
Forward possibilities.
Any other ideas here?
Do things in a different way?
Other explanations.

Black Hat

Risks, roadblocks, potential failure points.
Cautious approach.
Potential mistakes.
Evaluation.
Costs, Regulations, not practical, high maintenance, safety.
Allow new ideas to use other hats first.

6 Hat Application Sample Sequences

ACTIVITY	HAT SEQUENCE
Initial Ideas	Blue, White, Green, Blue
Choosing between alternatives	Blue, White, (Green), Yellow, Black, Red, Blue
Identifying Solutions	Blue, White, Black, Green, Blue
Quick Feedback	Blue, Black, Green, Blue
Strategic Planning	Blue, Yellow, Black, White, Blue, Green, Blue
Process Improvement	Blue, White, White (Other People's Views), Yellow, Black, Green, Red, Blue
Solving Problems	Blue, White, Green, Red, Yellow, Black, Green, Blue
Performance Review	Blue, Red, White, Yellow, Black, Green, Blue

Your 6 Hat Results

Topic

Blue Hat

White Hat

Green Hat

Yellow Hat

Red Hat

Black Hat

Conclusion / Outcome / Decision / Result
