

Edward De Bono's Six Hats



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Six Thinking Hats - framework

Advantages of the Six Thinking Hats

- ★ Separates **ego** from **performance**
 - ★ Signals next **thinking process**
 - ★ Expands from one-dimensional to **full-coloured thinking**
 - ★ Explores subjects **in parallel**
 - ★ Allows specific **time for creativity**
- Only one hat is used at any one time with the group**

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Blue Hat - Managing the Thinking

Control Hat (facilitator hat)

- ★ Organises & structures the thinking
- ★ Sets the focus and agenda
- ★ Summarises and concludes
- ★ Ensures that the rules are observed (any member of the meeting)



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White Hat - Information

- ★ What do we know?
- ★ What do we need to know?
- ★ Where can we get this information?



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Yellow Hat - Benefits and Feasibility

The Optimistic View

- ★ What are the benefits?
- ★ What are the positives?
- ★ What is the value here?



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Black Hat - Risks, Difficulties and Problems

The sceptical view

- ★ What are the challenges - both existing and potential?
- ★ What are some of the difficulties?
- ★ What are the points for caution?
- ★ What are the risks?



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Red Hat - Feelings, Intuition, Gut Instinct

- ★ What are my feelings right now?
- ★ What does my intuition tell me?
- ★ What is my gut reaction?
- ★ Can be used effectively to sort ideas (time limited)



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Green Hat - New Ideas, Possibilities

Creative Thinking

- ★ Are there other ways to do this?
- ★ What else could we do here?
- ★ What are the possibilities?
- ★ What will overcome our black hat concerns?



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