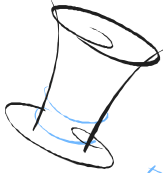


The 6 Thinking Hats: Edward De Bono

The White Hat



- Neutral
- Pure facts figures and information not beliefs or opinions

- With this thinking hat you focus on the data available.
- Look at the information you have, and see what you can learn from it.
- Look for gaps in your knowledge, and either try to fill them or take account of them.
- This is where you analyze past trends, and try to extrapolate from historical data.



The Black Hat

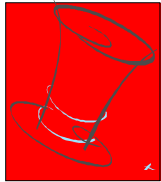


Devil's advocate, negative judgement – why it will not work

- Using black hat thinking, look at all the bad points of the decision.
- Try to see why it might not work.
- Highlights the weak points in a plan. to eliminate them, alter them, or prepare contingency plans
- Black Hat thinking helps to make your plans 'tougher' and more resilient.
- It can also help you to spot fatal flaws and risks before you embark on a course of action.
- Many successful people get so used to thinking positively that often they cannot see problems in advance, leaving them under-prepared for difficulties.



The Red Hat

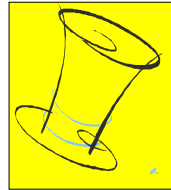


- Feelings & Emotion.
- Hunch and intuition - Permission or invitation to use emotive thinking and express it.

- How do you feel about this?
- 'Wearing' the red hat, you look at problems using intuition, gut reaction, and emotion.
- Try to think how other people will react emotionally.
- Try to understand the responses of people who do not fully know your reasoning.

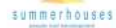


The Yellow Hat

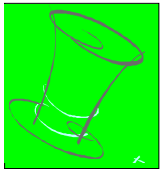


Brightness & optimism. Positive; constructive opportunity

- The yellow hat helps you to think positively.
- It is the optimistic viewpoint that helps you to see all the benefits of the decision and the value in it.
- Yellow Hat thinking helps you to keep going when everything looks gloomy and difficult.



The Green Hat



Fertile; creative; movement; provocation – beyond the known; obvious or satisfactory

- The Green Hat stands for creativity.
- This is where you can develop creative solutions to a problem.
- It is a freewheeling way of thinking, in which there is little criticism of ideas.
- A whole range of creativity tools can help you here.



The Blue Hat



Cool control – thinking about thinking – deciding appropriate use of the other hats

- The Blue Hat stands for process control.
- This is the hat worn by people chairing meetings.
- When running into difficulties because ideas are running dry, they may direct activity into Green Hat thinking.
- When contingency plans are needed, they will ask for Black Hat thinking, etc

