






The 6 Hat Decision Maker

In Edward de Bono's best-selling book, he describes how we can use "6-hat thinking" to make sure that all voices are heard when tough questions need answers. That can either be the voice in your head (!) and/or the voices of your team.

The Question:

The 6 Thinking Hats:

Red Hat - Feelings, Emotion, Intuition  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.	White Hat - Facts, Data  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.
Black Hat - Caution, Problems  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.	Yellow Hat - Positives, Benefits, Value  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.
Green Hat - Alternatives - Mad, Bad & Creative!  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.	Blue Hat - Overview, Direction, Managing  <ol style="list-style-type: none">1.2.3.

The Answer:

Guide:

- Stick to the hats – keep all comments appropriate to the hat of the moment. I.e. don't hijack the others' thinking!
- Practice thinking under the different hats
- Use a separate sheet to brainstorm as many points as possible under each hat, then transfer the top 3 points to this Decision Maker
- Don't make decisions before going through all the hats
- Think about who will control your own process of thinking (blue-hatting)
- Read Six Thinking Hats by Edward De Bono, 1985