

6 THINKING HATS



Blue Hat:

Manages the thinking process. It's the control mechanism that ensures protocols are observed

"The Facilitator"

- Define the issue and the process.
- Where do we start?
- Why do we need to solve this problem?
- What factors should we consider?
- What outcome would we consider successful?
- What have we achieved so far?



White Hat:

Focuses on available data (facts & figures) while remaining neutral

"The Researcher"

- What information do we have?
- What information do we need?
- What questions do we need to ask?
- How will we get the information we need?
- Is that a fact or is that a belief?



Yellow Hat:

Symbolizes positive brightness and optimism

"The Sunshine"

- What positives can you see in this idea?
- What could be done to make this work better? Faster?
- Under what conditions could this work?
- What is your vision for how this could work?



Black Hat:

Provides the basis of logical, critical thinking offering careful, cautious, and defensive insights

"The Devil's Advocate"

- What will happen if we take this action?
- What can go wrong if we proceed with this idea or implement this suggestion?
- What are the weaknesses that we need to overcome?
- How does this fit with what we already do?
- How will people respond?



Red Hat:

Uses intuition, gut reaction, and robust emotion (from the adult or child perspective)

"The Heart"

- How do you react to this?
- What is your opinion about this?
- Gut feelings? Hunches? Insights?
- What do you like/dislike?
- What emotions are involved here?



Green Hat:

Stands for new energy, possibilities, and creativity

"The Innovator"

- Let's think outside the box..
- What are some fresh ideas or approaches?
- This is the time for "Wild", "Crazy", or "Far Out" ideas.
- This idea won't work in its present form, but if we reshape it, we might be able to use it.