







The Six Thinking Hats

HAT		PERSPECTIVE
FACTUAL	White Hat: 	<p>Motto: "The facts, just the facts." Focus: Facts, objective information, data.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What information is currently accessible? • What does the data tell us? • What else do we need? • How will we obtain any necessary or lacking information?
OPTIMIST	Yellow Hat: 	<p>Motto: "We can make it work." Focus: Benefits, possibilities, improvement, suggestions, advantages.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are benefits or positive outcomes associated with this decision? • What are the advantages of this solution? • What's the best strategy for handling this situation? • How do we make it work?
JUDGE	Black Hat: 	<p>Motto: "Yes, but..." Focus: Risks, difficulties, problems, issues, failures, concern, caution.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this work? • How could this possibly fail? • How can we make this financially feasible? • What should we be concerned about? • Where should we proceed with caution?
EMOTION	Red Hat: 	<p>Motto: "My gut tells me..." Focus: Feelings, emotions, hunches, intuition.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does this feel like to me? • How are people feeling? • What reactions do we need to anticipate? • What impression does this give to others?
CREATIVE	Green Hat: 	<p>Motto: "What if...?" Focus: Creativity, alternatives, new ideas, forward thinking.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What ideas haven't been tried before? • Can we approach this in another way? • How can I uniquely tackle this problem? • How can we embrace a different viewpoint?
CONDUCTOR	Blue Hat: 	<p>Motto: "What are our next steps?" Focus: Definitions, observations, summaries, conclusions, next steps.</p> <p>Questions to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have we done so far? • Where should we go from here? • What results do we want? • What is the best pathway of action to take?

