



Ultimate THINKING GUIDE

1

WHITE HAT

Analytical, objective thinking, the emphasis is on facts and feasibility of the idea or task - can it be achieved? Is it convenient? Is it reasonable in light of the facts? This type of thinking calls for information known or needed. "The facts, just the facts."

2

RED HAT

Emotional thinking, subjective feelings, perceptions and opinions. A subjective point of view is something based on one's opinions, perspectives, beliefs, discoveries, desires, and feelings. It has no concern with right or wrong, other than the person's opinion of what is right and wrong. This type of thinking focuses on feelings, hunches and intuition.

3

BLACK HAT

Critical thinking, risk assessment, identifying problems, scepticism, critique. This thinking challenges the adequacy or reliability of claims by asking what principles they are based upon. They question whether some such claims really are, as alleged, indubitable or necessarily true. This type of thinking aims to spot the difficulties and dangers.

4

YELLOW HAT

Optimistic thinking, speculative, best-case scenario. This type of thinking looks for values and benefits. Experimentation & risk-taking are common in the hope that the right solution will be achieved.

5

GREEN HAT

Creative, associative thinking, new ideas, brain storming, constructive. This type of thinking aims to provoke new answers by showing a new thought pattern that is outside of the existing thought patterns. The focus is on generating possibilities & alternative ideas and solutions.

6

BLUE HAT

Structured thinking, process overview, the big picture. This type of thinking offers balance & represents structured thought. It's the guiding hat, pointing out alternatives, suggesting new strategies, and maintaining control at every point along the way.