Creativity and Reflection Tools

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TIPS + TOOLS

- Back up, you are embedded in the issues you are working on. Don’t assume people know what you are talking about.
- Clarify objectives
- Remind them why they are there!
Tips + Tools

- Back up, you are embedded in the issues you are working on. Don’t assume people know what you are talking about.
- Clarify objectives
- Remind them why they are there!
- Creative teamwork requires externalizing your brain.
- Focus as much on getting the right problem as you do on getting the right solution.
TIPS + TOOLS

- Back up, you are embedded in the issues you are working on. Don’t assume people know what you are talking about.
- Clarify objectives
- Remind them why they are there!
DIVERGENCE TOOLS
**Brainstorm**

*Time:* 1 to 1.5 hours

*Who:* cross-departmental team, creative team

*Purpose:* Generates a pile of ideas around a predetermined topic.
Introvert Brainstorm

Time: 1 to 1.5 hours

Who: Cross-departmental team, Creative team

Purpose: Generates a pile of more divergent ideas around a predetermined topic.

(MORE DIVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
40 IDEAS

Time: 30 minutes plus time for reflection

Who: Small group.

Purpose: Push yourselves to go beyond your first ideas. Scale the number so that it’s difficult for the number of participants to reach.

(DIVERGENT, BUILD TRUST)
**Double Mind Map**

**Time:** 30 minutes (can go longer)

**Who:** Creative teams

**Purpose:** Push a team past expected ideas by being specific.

(DIVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
A LA CARTE

Time: 30 minutes

Who: Mixed teams

Purpose: Find new ways to frame a problem and new solutions by focussing on the needs and affordances of different stakeholders, resources, and processes.

(DIVERGENT, REQUIRES SOME TRUST)
RAPID IDEA GENERATION, (R.I.G.)

Time: 2 to 3 hours
Who: cross-departmental team, creative team plus stakeholders
Purpose: Physical brainstorm. Good to build capacity, involve stakeholders/community members/visitors who don’t normally get to be involved in creative processes.

(DIVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
Convergence Tools

- How Might We...
- Scavenger Hunt
- Spectrumin
- Feasibility Impact Filter
- Cluster/Combine
- Dotmocracy
- Convergent
- Journey Map
- Change the Horizon

Builds Trust

Requires Trust
Fresh Look/Scavenger Hunt

Time: 1 hour

Who: Old-timers

Purpose: Take a fresh look at problems and potential solutions your team may be glossing over.

(DIVERGENT THEN CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
**Journey Map**

**Time:** 45 minutes to 1.5 hours

**Who:** Cross-departmental team

**Purpose:** Reveals needs of users that are easily overlooked. Builds empathy.

(CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
How Might We...

Time: 20 mins to 1.5 hours

Who: Cross-departmental team

Purpose: Team interviews experts to help reframe problems in the syntax “How Might We... address one aspect of this problem”

(point to activities)

CONVERGENCE FROM DIVERGENCE, BUILDS TRUST
GROUP/CLUSTER/COMBINE

**Time:** 30 minutes (can go longer)

**Who:** experienced participants and newcomers

**Purpose:** Group divergent ideas as a step in filtering them.

(CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
**Forced Perspective**

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Who:** Mixed teams

**Purpose:** Look at a problem (or potential solution) from perspectives that often get ignored.
**CHANGE THE HORIZON**

**Time:** 30 minutes (can go longer)

**Who:** mixed teams

**Purpose:** Identify available skills and resources, reframe the task to generate new solutions.

(CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
IMPACT/ FEASIBILITY FILTER

Time: 10 minutes

Who: Mixed teams

Purpose: Prioritize options before choosing which to act on.

(CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
**DOTMOCRACY**

**Time:** 30 mins to 1 hour

**Who:** Doesn’t matter as long as final decision-maker/key stakeholders are involved.

**Purpose:** Good decision-making tool, especially for contentious decisions or decisions that don’t matter immediately.

*(CONVERGENT, CAN BUILD TRUST)*
SPECTRUM

**Time:** 20 minutes

**Who:** new teams

**Purpose:** Start discussion and take the pulse of a group.
Design thinking

Time: 1 hour to several days
Who: mixed teams
Purpose: Design thinking provides a suite of tools for teams. As with all methods, include time to explain how the activities contribute to the overall design process.

(DIVERGENT THEN CONVERGENT, BUILDS TRUST)
**Charette**

**Time:** 2 to 3 days  
**Who:** Cross-departmental team, creative team plus stakeholders  
**Purpose:** Short-cuts the process to getting concrete ideas tested/worked through quickly.  

*(DIVERGENT THEN CONVERGENT, REQUIRES TRUST)*
Design Sprint

Time: 3 to 5 days
Who: Cross-departmental team
Purpose: Concentrated effort to define a problem, come up with solutions and test it in a condensed time frame.

(DIVERGENT THEN CONVERGENT, REQUIRES TRUST)
- HOW MIGHT WE...
- JOURNEY MAP
- SCAVENGER HUNT
- SPECTRUM
- DOUBLE MIND MAP
- FEASIBILITY IMPACT FILTER
- INTROVERT BRAINSTORM
- CLUSTER/COMBINE
- 40 IDEAS
- DOTMOCRACY
- BRAINSTORM
- CONVERGENT
- A LA CARTE
- CHANGE THE HORIZON
- BRAND TAKEOVER
- REQUIRES TRUST
PROBLEMS!

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4. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
5. No sandals or flip-flops.

Improper use is prohibited

6. Do not stand while pedaling.
7. Do not stand on the seat.
8. Do not sit or stand or balance yourself on the handlebars.

Health Disclaimer

9. Please only use the equipment if you are in the proper health condition.
10. Cycling is a body-active, participatory sport. As with all sports, care must be taken to avoid a mishap.
11. This can be a very strenuous experience.

Age Restrictions

12. This experience is not for children under the age of 16.
Resources

Resources:
• Sketching User Experiences, Bill Buxton
• gamestorming.com
• Miro software
• Design Thinking website/toolkit
  https://dschool.stanford.edu/resources/design-thinking-bootleg
• makingobservations.org >> spectrum tool
• #DTK12 chat on twitter Weds at 9pm
• School of Life
Future additions:
• Team norms
• Facilitation tips