



# White hat thinking

## Information

White is neutral and objective,  
concerned with facts and figures.

What information do you have?

What more do you need?

Where will it come from?



# Red hat thinking

## Emotion

Red is anger (seeing red), rage and emotions.

What might upset you,  
or make you angry  
about this idea?

How will other people feel  
about this idea?



# Black hat thinking

## Caution

Black is gloomy, negative, pessimistic and looks for why something cannot be done.

What don't you like?

What are the current weaknesses?

The potential pitfalls?

# Yellow hat thinking

## Positive views

Yellow is sunny and positive,  
optimistic and hopeful.

What are the best things about this  
idea?

What are the current strengths?

The potential benefits?



# Green hat thinking

## Creativity

Green is for creativity, abundance and growth of new ideas.



What are the possibilities?

The new ideas and fresh approaches?

The things that haven't been done before?

# Blue hat thinking

## Big picture

Blue is about organisation, control and bringing all the thinking together.

What have you achieved?

What are the major insights, issues and ideas?

How will you take the idea forward?



# Six thinking hats

## Pooling collective intelligence



Everyone enters a learning situation with a unique combination of knowledge, skills and understanding to contribute but many factors work against the effective pooling of different perspectives.



The 6 hats provide a framework for diverse individuals to contribute their perspectives to a discussion.



It is not an opinion gathering technique.



It helps everyone challenge and broaden their initial perception. It encourages exploration of ideas and listening. It undermines the holding of unmovable positions.



The 6 hats lays the foundation for the development of team thinking not group thinking.