

## **Six Thinking Hats**

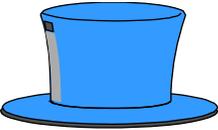
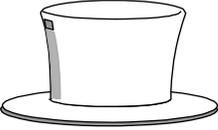
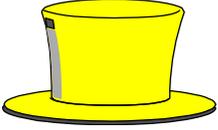
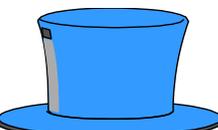
The Six Thinking Hats is a problem solving and decision making process first published in 1985 by Edward de Bono. It is a particularly useful tool to help people think in a variety of ways instead of relying on their preferred method of decision making.

For example, rational thinkers can overlook emotional objections and may find implementing change can be more difficult as other people may raise barriers resulting from their feelings. The benefits of creativity may also be harder to envisage for the rational thinker.

Emotional thinkers may fail to look at issues calmly from the perspective of others and can miss the opportunity for contingency planning. Pessimists may resort to defensiveness & may become entrenched in their negativity.

Using the full range of Thinking Hats ensures that individuals and teams can benefit from bringing together different ways of thinking, resulting in better decision making.

Each colour of hat represents a different way of thinking. The following page shows how the Six Thinking Hats works using the subject of CCTV as an example.

Hat Colour	Represents	CCTV
	The Blue hat represents the Process of how we shall use the hats – think organisation	Roles in meeting Timing Order of hats
	The White hat represents Facts & Data, questioning (What, Who, Where & When) information do we know and what gaps are there that require research – think whiteboard	Number of cameras in UK Number of convictions Decrease in break-ins
	The Black hat represents Negatives, caution, risks, scepticism, wisdom and is useful in developing resilient solutions – think judge's robes	Big Brother Nanny state Control
	The Yellow hat represents Positives, value, benefits, how good could it be – think optimism	Nothing to hide Protection Provide evidence Reliable
	The Red hat represents Feelings – think intuition, gut instinct, emotions	Safe Not trusted Part of modern life
	The Green hat represents Actions – think growth, creativity, possibilities, alternatives	Regular maintenance for existing cameras Update & replace as required Consider more/less cameras
	At this stage the Blue Process hat returns – think summarising, conclusions	Distribute minutes of meeting to interested parties