Critical Thinking and the Mind

Visible

Results

Action

Invisible

Conclusions

Thoughts
Colors and Mind

- Decisiveness
- Action
- Passion
- Values
- Commitment

Blue
What is right
- Makes judgments
- Demands to be convinced before deciding
- Asserts personal values
- Comes to closure

Red
What is true
- Specifies facts and details
- Gathers and organizes data
- Listens and watches with total awareness
- Communicates clearly with others

Green
What is new
- Ideas
- Possibilities
- Creativity
- Vision
- Revolutionary

Performance Indicators

**BLUE THINKING**
- Makes judgments
- Demands to be convinced before deciding
- Asserts personal values
- Comes to closure

**RED THINKING**
- Specifies facts and details
- Gathers and organizes data
- Listens and watches with total awareness
- Communicates clearly with others

**GREEN THINKING**
- Generates many ideas
- Finds creative ways around problems
- Creates “what if” scenarios
- Uses intuition for breakthrough thinking
Hard and Soft Thinking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HARD</th>
<th>SOFT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>Subjective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible</td>
<td>Intangible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impersonal</td>
<td>Personal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Externally Focused</td>
<td>Internal y Focused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logic</td>
<td>Emotional</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mind Frames and Adjectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BLUE</th>
<th>RED</th>
<th>GREEN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HARD</td>
<td>Evaluative and Decisive</td>
<td>Informed and Organized</td>
<td>Ingenious and Creative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOFT</td>
<td>Passionate and Committed</td>
<td>Communicative and Interactive</td>
<td>Imaginative and Visionary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colors of the Mind

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blue</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hard</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Insist (Logic)</td>
<td>Inquire (Hard data)</td>
<td>Improve (Suggest)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft</td>
<td>Inspire (Passion)</td>
<td>Interact (Soft data)</td>
<td>Envision (Revolutionize)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Blue</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hard</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Connecting with Colors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hard Blue</th>
<th>Hard Red</th>
<th>Hard Green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Be clear</td>
<td>• Be detailed</td>
<td>• Remain optimistic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Keep it brief</td>
<td>• Avoid assumptions</td>
<td>• Don’t judge too quick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Use Facts</td>
<td>• Quantify + Label</td>
<td>• Allow yourself to be challenged</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Focus on tasks</td>
<td>• Explain procedures</td>
<td>• Encourage them to expand</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Make comparison</td>
<td>• Remain tangible</td>
<td>• Convert adversity into opportunity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soft Blue</th>
<th>Soft Red</th>
<th>Soft Green</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Be passionate</td>
<td>• Focus on How not What</td>
<td>• Inspire leaps of imagination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Committed action</td>
<td>• Allow meaningful discussions</td>
<td>• Encourage dreaming of what it can be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Align values</td>
<td>• Look for meaning behind the words</td>
<td>• Show comfort with no structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Set targets</td>
<td>• Be sensitive/ listen</td>
<td>• Innovative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Demonstrate loyalty</td>
<td>• Connect with the person</td>
<td>• Unleash &amp; be revolutionary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Fast Track

1. **State the purpose of addressing the challenge.** (Hard Blue)

2. **Analyze the environment surrounding the challenge.** (Hard/Soft Red)

3. **Purpose solutions and creative options to address the challenge.** (Hard/Soft Green)

4. **Review options, compare them and select most applicable ones.** (Hard Blue)

5. **Commit to action.** (Soft Blue)
Barriers to creativity

1. Caught in the past
2. Cautions + Conservative
3. Limited ways to think
4. Narrowness of jobs
5. Too focused and restrained
6. Rejecting creative ideas as fancy
7. Using old solutions to new problems
8. Uncomfortable with uncertainty

Ways to increase creativity

1. At times try to be impractical
2. Take time and talk to others
3. Think in opposite cases
4. Hold your reaction from new ideas
5. Ask what is missing from the solution
6. Depict the problem with pictures
7. Walk away from the problem for a day
Ways to increase creativity

8. Diversify your team

9. Ask group to identify positive features of an idea

10. Use analogies to describe problems

11. Adapt freedom first structure later

12. Change habits, rotate people

Personal Assignment

1. Based on your color score, what are your strengths?
   a. ____________________________
   b. ____________________________
   c. ____________________________

2. What areas you need to develop?
   a. ____________________________
   b. ____________________________
   c. ____________________________
3. What do you think your boss colors? What do you need to build harmony with your boss?

a. ____________________________

b. ____________________________

c. ____________________________