

edward de bono thinking course 2

Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2: Unlocking Advanced Creative Problem Solving

Are you ready to move beyond basic thinking techniques and master a more sophisticated approach to innovation and problem-solving? This comprehensive guide delves deep into the principles and applications of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2. We will explore how this advanced program builds upon foundational concepts, equipping individuals and organizations with powerful tools for generating novel ideas, tackling complex challenges, and fostering a culture of continuous improvement. From understanding the nuances of perception to mastering advanced lateral thinking techniques, this article will provide a thorough overview of what the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 offers, its key modules, and the transformative impact it can have on your thinking capabilities. Prepare to discover how to systematically break free from conventional thought patterns and unlock unprecedented levels of creativity and effectiveness.

- Understanding the Evolution: From Course 1 to Course 2
- Core Principles of Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2
- Key Modules and Techniques within the Course
- Applying Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 in Practice
- Benefits of Mastering Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2
- Who Can Benefit from Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2?
- Integrating Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 into Your Workflow
- The Future of Thinking: The Legacy of Edward de Bono

Understanding the Evolution: From Course 1 to Course 2

Edward de Bono, a world-renowned authority on thinking, developed a revolutionary framework for improving cognitive processes. While his earlier work, often referred to as the foundation for a "Thinking Course 1," introduced fundamental concepts like the Six Thinking Hats and Lateral Thinking, the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is designed to elevate these principles to a more advanced and integrated level. This progression is not merely an addition of new techniques but a deepening of understanding and a more strategic application of the existing toolkit. Course 2 focuses on synthesizing the individual tools into a cohesive approach, enabling participants to navigate more complex scenarios

with greater agility and insight. It moves from understanding individual techniques to applying them in a dynamic, problem-solving environment, fostering a more robust and adaptable thinking methodology.

Building on Foundational Concepts

The success of any advanced learning program hinges on a solid understanding of its prerequisites. The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 assumes a familiarity with the core concepts introduced in introductory de Bono thinking programs. This includes a grasp of how to deliberately shift perspectives using tools like the Six Thinking Hats, the importance of pattern recognition and disruption in lateral thinking, and the concept of concept fan for exploring possibilities. Course 2 takes these building blocks and demonstrates how they can be combined and sequenced to tackle more intricate problems. It emphasizes the synergy between different de Bono methods, showing how, for example, the systematic exploration of alternatives through Lateral Thinking can be enhanced by the structured emotional and factual analysis provided by the Six Thinking Hats.

The Shift Towards Strategic Application

A key differentiator of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is its emphasis on strategic application. While introductory courses might focus on the mechanics of each tool, Course 2 delves into when and how to deploy these tools most effectively in real-world situations. This involves understanding the cognitive biases that hinder effective thinking and learning how to consciously counteract them. Participants learn to design their thinking processes, selecting the most appropriate de Bono techniques for specific challenges, whether they involve strategic planning, product development, conflict resolution, or innovation. The course aims to cultivate a proactive and deliberate approach to thinking, moving beyond reactive problem-solving to generative and foresight-driven strategies.

Core Principles of Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is built upon several fundamental principles that guide participants towards more effective and creative thinking. These principles are not abstract theories but practical guidelines designed for immediate application in personal and professional life. They underscore the de Bono philosophy that thinking is a skill that can be learned, practiced, and improved, and that deliberate methods are crucial for unlocking potential. The course encourages a shift from relying on innate intelligence or intuition alone to employing structured, systematic thinking processes.

Deliberate Thinking and Perception Management

A cornerstone of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is the concept of deliberate thinking. This means consciously choosing and employing thinking tools and techniques rather than passively allowing thoughts to occur. Perception management is also a critical element, as de Bono famously stated that "You cannot change the perception without a change in thinking." The course teaches participants how to actively manage their perceptions, understanding that how they frame a problem or situation significantly influences the solutions they can generate. This involves recognizing the limitations of sequential, logical thinking and embracing methods that allow for parallel thinking and creative exploration, thereby broadening the scope of available options.

The Power of "Provocation" in Idea Generation

Lateral Thinking, a key component of de Bono's work, is further explored in Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 with a focus on advanced provocation techniques. Provocation involves deliberately introducing a "wrong" idea or statement to disrupt established patterns of thought and generate new possibilities. The course teaches participants how to create and utilize provocations effectively, moving beyond simple brainstorming to more structured and targeted idea generation. This often involves using "Po" (Provocative Operation) and other techniques to deliberately challenge assumptions, explore unlikely scenarios, and escape mental ruts. The goal is to generate a wider array of potential solutions and insights that might otherwise remain undiscovered through conventional thinking.

Structured Approach to Creativity and Innovation

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 demystifies creativity, presenting it not as a mystical gift but as a structured process that can be learned and applied. It moves beyond the notion of random inspiration to provide systematic methods for fostering innovation. This includes learning how to identify opportunities for innovation, generate a high volume of ideas, select the most promising ones, and develop them into viable solutions. The course emphasizes the importance of a systematic approach, ensuring that creative efforts are not only imaginative but also practical and actionable, leading to tangible results and measurable improvements in problem-solving capabilities.

Key Modules and Techniques within the Course

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is typically structured into modules that progressively build advanced thinking skills. These modules are designed to provide

participants with a comprehensive understanding of how to apply de Bono's methodologies in diverse and challenging contexts. The emphasis is on practical application and the integration of various tools to create a more effective and adaptable thinking system. Each module introduces specific techniques and strategies that, when combined, form a powerful toolkit for problem-solving and innovation.

Advanced Lateral Thinking Tools: Po and Movement

While Lateral Thinking might be introduced in introductory courses, Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 delves deeper into its more sophisticated applications. Two crucial tools explored are "Po" (Provocative Operation) and "Movement." Po, as mentioned earlier, is a deliberate technique for generating provocations to stimulate new thinking. Course 2 teaches advanced ways to construct and utilize Po statements, including using random input, reversing assumptions, and exaggeration. Movement, on the other hand, is the process of developing a provocation into a useful idea. Participants learn how to actively "move" from a provocative statement to a constructive outcome, systematically exploring the implications and benefits of seemingly absurd or contradictory starting points. This is about making the 'leap' from disruption to tangible progress.

Concept Fan and Idea Progression

The Concept Fan is another powerful tool that is often expanded upon in Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2. This technique involves identifying a core concept and then systematically generating a wide array of related ideas and variations, creating a "fan" of possibilities. Course 2 focuses on how to effectively use the Concept Fan for both idea generation and problem exploration. Participants learn to identify the "handle" of the fan – the core element that can be manipulated to create diversity. Furthermore, the course emphasizes the progression of ideas, moving from initial concepts to more developed and refined proposals, ensuring that generated ideas are not just novel but also practical and implementable.

Pattern Thinking and Escape Routes

Our minds naturally create patterns to process information efficiently. However, these patterns can also lead to mental rigidity and prevent us from seeing new solutions. Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 addresses this by exploring "Pattern Thinking." Participants learn to recognize the patterns their minds create, understand how these patterns can limit their thinking, and develop strategies to deliberately break free from them. This involves techniques for identifying, analyzing, and ultimately escaping restrictive mental models. The ability to consciously shift from established patterns to new ones is a critical skill for innovation and creative problem-solving, and Course 2 provides the methods to achieve this.

The Power of Parallel Thinking vs. Adversarial Thinking

A significant aspect of Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is the deep dive into the benefits of parallel thinking over adversarial thinking. Adversarial thinking, common in debates and arguments, focuses on winning by proving the other side wrong. This can stifle creativity and collaboration. Parallel thinking, facilitated by tools like the Six Thinking Hats, involves all participants focusing on the same aspect of a problem simultaneously, from different perspectives. Course 2 elaborates on how to implement parallel thinking in group settings, fostering a more constructive and productive environment for problem-solving and decision-making. It teaches how to organize thinking collaboratively, ensuring all facets of an issue are explored without the negative consequences of direct confrontation.

Applying Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 in Practice

The true value of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 lies in its practical application. The skills and techniques learned are not confined to theoretical discussions but are designed to be actively employed in everyday problem-solving scenarios, strategic planning, and innovation initiatives. The course emphasizes a proactive approach, encouraging participants to consciously select and deploy de Bono tools to enhance their thinking processes and achieve better outcomes. This section explores how these advanced methodologies can be integrated into various professional and personal contexts.

Strategic Planning and Decision Making

In the realm of strategic planning, Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 offers a significant advantage. Complex business environments demand robust and innovative strategies, and the course provides the tools to develop them. For instance, using the Six Thinking Hats in a structured manner allows for a comprehensive analysis of potential strategies from multiple viewpoints – facts, feelings, caution, benefits, creativity, and process. Advanced lateral thinking techniques can then be employed to generate a wider range of strategic options, exploring "what if" scenarios and challenging conventional market assumptions. The ability to manage perceptions and identify escape routes from established business models is crucial for staying ahead of the competition, and Course 2 equips individuals with these capabilities for more effective decision-making.

Product Development and Innovation Management

For businesses focused on innovation and product development, Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 provides a systematic framework for generating and refining new ideas. The Concept Fan can be used to explore a wide spectrum of potential product features, functionalities, or market segments. Provocations can help break through creative blocks in design and development, leading to truly novel product concepts. Furthermore, the emphasis on parallel thinking fosters collaborative brainstorming sessions that are more productive and less prone to the pitfalls of groupthink. By learning to consciously manage the creative process, organizations can consistently bring fresh, market-ready innovations to life, ensuring sustained growth and competitive advantage.

Problem Solving in Complex Environments

Many real-world problems are multifaceted and defy simple, linear solutions. Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 provides the advanced tools needed to navigate these complexities. By understanding pattern thinking, individuals can identify the underlying structures of a problem and then deliberately disrupt them to find new approaches. Techniques for managing perception are vital for ensuring that problems are framed in a way that opens up possibilities rather than closing them down. Whether it's a technical challenge, an organizational issue, or a social dilemma, the de Bono methodologies offer a structured yet flexible approach to exploring all facets of the problem and developing creative, effective solutions that address root causes.

Benefits of Mastering Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2

The acquisition of advanced thinking skills through the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 yields a multitude of benefits, impacting both individual performance and organizational effectiveness. These benefits extend beyond mere problem-solving, fostering a broader capacity for creativity, innovation, and more effective communication. Mastering these techniques cultivates a more deliberate and adaptable mindset, crucial in today's rapidly evolving landscape. The ability to systematically approach challenges and generate novel solutions is a highly valued attribute in all professional spheres.

Enhanced Creativity and Idea Generation

One of the most significant advantages of completing the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 is the substantial enhancement in creativity and the ability to generate a higher

volume of quality ideas. By learning to disrupt conventional thinking patterns and employ structured provocation techniques, participants can unlock their innate creative potential. The course teaches how to move beyond brainstorming to more targeted and effective idea generation, leading to more innovative solutions and approaches. This ability to consistently produce novel concepts is invaluable for personal growth and professional success, driving innovation in any field.

Improved Problem-Solving Effectiveness

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 equips individuals with advanced methodologies for tackling complex problems more effectively. By understanding perception management and employing systematic thinking processes, participants can approach challenges with greater clarity and insight. The ability to analyze problems from multiple perspectives, facilitated by tools like the Six Thinking Hats, ensures that solutions are well-rounded and address all relevant aspects. This leads to more efficient problem resolution and a reduced likelihood of overlooking critical factors, ultimately resulting in better outcomes and more robust solutions.

Fostering a Culture of Innovation

Organizations that invest in the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 for their employees cultivate a powerful culture of innovation. When individuals are equipped with the tools and mindset to think creatively and systematically, they are more likely to contribute groundbreaking ideas and drive positive change. The course promotes a collaborative approach to thinking, encouraging the sharing of diverse perspectives and the constructive development of concepts. This fosters an environment where new ideas are not only welcomed but actively sought, leading to continuous improvement and sustained competitive advantage through ongoing innovation.

Who Can Benefit from Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2?

The principles and techniques taught in the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 are universally applicable, making it a valuable investment for a wide range of individuals and professional groups. The ability to think more effectively, creatively, and systematically is a core competency that transcends industries and roles. Whether you are an individual seeking personal development or an organization aiming to enhance its collective intelligence, this course offers tangible benefits. The focus on practical application ensures that participants can immediately leverage their new skills.

Business Professionals and Leaders

For business professionals at all levels, from entry-level employees to senior executives, the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 offers a significant professional advantage. Leaders can utilize the advanced techniques for strategic planning, decision-making, and driving innovation within their organizations. Team leaders can use the methodologies to improve group problem-solving and foster more productive collaboration. The ability to generate novel ideas, overcome challenges, and adapt to changing market conditions are essential for success in the modern business world, and this course directly addresses these needs.

Educators and Students

The educational sector can profoundly benefit from the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2. Educators can integrate de Bono's thinking tools into their teaching methodologies, fostering critical thinking and creativity in students from an early age. Students, in turn, can learn to approach academic challenges with greater confidence and effectiveness. By developing strong thinking skills, students are better prepared for higher education and future careers, where innovative problem-solving and creative thinking are increasingly valued. Teaching these systematic thinking methods provides a lifelong advantage.

Creative Professionals and Innovators

Creative professionals, such as designers, marketers, writers, and engineers, will find the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 particularly beneficial. The course's emphasis on advanced lateral thinking and concept generation provides a structured pathway to breaking creative blocks and generating original ideas. Innovators can refine their processes for identifying opportunities, developing new concepts, and bringing them to fruition. The ability to systematically explore possibilities and escape conventional thinking is paramount for those whose roles are centered around creativity and bringing novel solutions to life.

Integrating Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 into Your Workflow

To truly harness the power of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2, it's essential to move beyond the classroom and integrate its principles and techniques into daily workflows. This requires a conscious effort to apply the learned methodologies to existing tasks and challenges, fostering a habit of deliberate and creative thinking. Successful

integration leads to sustained improvement in problem-solving and innovation, transforming how individuals and teams approach their work. It's about embedding these powerful tools into the fabric of your professional life.

Developing a Personal Thinking Toolkit

After completing the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2, the next crucial step is to develop a personal thinking toolkit. This involves identifying which de Bono techniques resonate most with your individual work style and the types of challenges you typically face. For instance, you might find the Six Thinking Hats invaluable for preparing for meetings or analyzing project requirements. Lateral Thinking provocations could become your go-to method for overcoming creative hurdles. By consciously selecting and practicing specific tools, you build proficiency and develop a personalized approach to thinking that maximizes your effectiveness. Regularly reviewing and refining this toolkit is key to ongoing development.

Applying Techniques in Team Collaboration

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 strongly advocates for parallel thinking in team environments. Integrating these techniques into team workflows can revolutionize collaboration. When tackling a complex problem, a team could collectively decide to "run the Six Thinking Hats" on the issue, ensuring that all perspectives are considered systematically. Using Concept Fans collaboratively can generate a broader range of ideas than individual brainstorming. The course provides the framework for facilitating these sessions, ensuring that all participants contribute constructively and that the team's collective intelligence is leveraged to its fullest potential, leading to more robust and innovative outcomes.

Measuring the Impact and Continuous Improvement

To ensure the long-term benefits of the Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2, it's important to establish methods for measuring its impact and fostering continuous improvement. This could involve tracking the number and quality of ideas generated, the efficiency of problem-solving processes, or the success rates of implemented innovations. By regularly assessing the application of de Bono techniques, individuals and teams can identify areas for further development and refine their approach. This commitment to ongoing learning and adaptation ensures that the skills acquired remain sharp and relevant, driving sustained progress and maximizing the return on investment in cognitive development.

The Future of Thinking: The Legacy of Edward de Bono

The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 represents a significant milestone in the ongoing evolution of effective thinking strategies. Dr. de Bono's prolific work has fundamentally altered how we approach problem-solving, creativity, and innovation. His legacy is not just in the tools he created but in the paradigm shift he inspired – the understanding that thinking is a learnable skill, and that deliberate, structured methods can unlock unprecedented levels of human potential. The principles embedded in Course 2 continue to be highly relevant and are likely to become even more critical as the world faces increasingly complex challenges.

The Enduring Relevance of De Bono's Methods

In an era characterized by rapid technological advancement and global interconnectedness, the ability to think creatively and adaptively is more crucial than ever. The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 provides the sophisticated tools needed to navigate this complexity. While new technologies emerge, the fundamental human capacity for thinking remains the ultimate driver of progress. De Bono's methods offer a timeless framework for enhancing this capacity, ensuring that individuals and organizations can not only keep pace with change but actively shape it. The emphasis on perception, pattern disruption, and deliberate creativity ensures that his teachings remain at the forefront of cognitive development.

The Importance of Cognitive Skills in the Modern World

The modern economy increasingly values cognitive skills over rote memorization or repetitive tasks. The Edward de Bono Thinking Course 2 directly addresses this demand by equipping individuals with the advanced thinking skills required for success. The ability to generate novel ideas, solve complex problems, and make well-informed decisions are highly sought-after attributes in virtually every profession. By mastering these techniques, individuals position themselves for greater career advancement and personal fulfillment. Furthermore, for organizations, investing in these cognitive skills is an investment in their future resilience and capacity for innovation.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the key takeaways from Edward de Bono's Thinking Course 2, often referred to as 'Advanced Thinking' or 'Lateral Thinking'?

Thinking Course 2, often building upon foundational concepts, typically delves into more advanced techniques for generating new ideas and challenging assumptions. Key takeaways often include mastery of lateral thinking tools like random input, provocation, and the 'Six Action Shoes,' alongside strategies for breaking free from established patterns and fostering creativity in problem-solving.

How does de Bono's Thinking Course 2 build upon the principles introduced in his initial thinking programs?

While initial programs might focus on introducing tools like the Six Thinking Hats, Thinking Course 2 usually progresses to more sophisticated applications and combinations of these tools. It often emphasizes the deliberate practice of generating multiple perspectives, understanding and leveraging perceptual shifts, and developing the agility to switch between different thinking modes for complex challenges.

What are some practical applications of the techniques taught in Edward de Bono's Thinking Course 2 in a business context?

In business, the techniques from Thinking Course 2 are highly applicable to innovation, strategic planning, and problem-solving. They enable teams to brainstorm novel product ideas, identify market opportunities, overcome operational bottlenecks, improve customer engagement, and develop more effective marketing campaigns by systematically challenging the status quo and exploring unconventional solutions.

Are there specific exercises or tools emphasized in de Bono's Thinking Course 2 that are particularly effective for overcoming mental blocks?

Yes, de Bono's advanced courses often highlight specific exercises designed to break through mental blocks. Techniques like 'random entry' (using a random word to spark new ideas), 'concept fan' (generating multiple possibilities from a single concept), and various provocation methods (e.g., 'PO' for Permitted Other) are designed to force new associations and perspectives, thereby bypassing habitual thinking patterns.

How does the concept of 'lateral thinking' as taught in de Bono's Thinking Course 2 differ from traditional 'vertical' or logical thinking?

Vertical thinking is about sequential, logical progression, following a path of established steps. Lateral thinking, as taught in de Bono's advanced courses, is about deliberately changing direction, exploring multiple possibilities, and deliberately disrupting existing

patterns to generate new ideas. It's about breadth and creativity rather than depth and proof in the initial stages.

What is the role of 'provocation' in Edward de Bono's Thinking Course 2 and how is it used?

Provocation, a cornerstone of de Bono's lateral thinking, is intentionally introducing 'impossible' or disruptive ideas to break free from predictable thinking. In Thinking Course 2, participants learn to generate provocations (e.g., using the 'PO' - Permitted Other technique) and then move them forward constructively to find valuable insights, rather than dismissing them as illogical.

Can you suggest resources or further learning opportunities for individuals who have completed de Bono's Thinking Course 2?

Beyond the course itself, individuals can deepen their understanding by reading de Bono's extensive literature, such as 'Lateral Thinking,' 'Serious Creativity,' and 'The Mechanism of Mind.' Practicing the techniques regularly, forming thinking groups with peers, and seeking out advanced workshops or certifications in creative problem-solving or design thinking are also excellent avenues for continued development.

Additional Resources

Here are 9 book titles related to Edward de Bono's thinking courses, with each title starting with "":

1. Lateral Thinking for Everyday Life

This book explores practical applications of de Bono's famous lateral thinking techniques. It provides accessible exercises and real-world examples designed to help readers break free from conventional thinking patterns. The aim is to foster creativity and problem-solving in various aspects of daily life, from work to personal challenges.

2. i Six Thinking Hats in Action

This title delves into the powerful framework of the Six Thinking Hats, offering a guide to its implementation. It explains how to use each hat to systematically explore different perspectives on a topic or problem. The book illustrates the benefits of structured thinking for decision-making and collaborative discussions.

3. i The Mechanism of Mind Explained

This work unpacks the underlying principles of how our minds work according to de Bono's research. It examines the concept of a "pattern-seeking" mind and how this can lead to both efficiency and rigidity. Understanding these mechanisms is presented as a key to improving thinking processes and overcoming cognitive biases.

4. i Serious Creativity: Using the Power of Lateral Thinking

This book emphasizes that creativity is not just a gift but a skill that can be developed and applied seriously. It expands on the principles of lateral thinking, showing how to

deliberately generate new ideas and solutions. The focus is on practical methods for unlocking creative potential in professional and personal contexts.

5. i Parallel Thinking: Advanced Techniques for Concepts and Decision Making

This title introduces de Bono's concept of parallel thinking, contrasting it with adversarial approaches. It explains how to explore ideas and perspectives simultaneously and constructively, avoiding unproductive debate. The book offers advanced tools for effective decision-making and generating innovative concepts.

6. i The Five Day Course in Thinking

This book serves as a comprehensive self-study guide to de Bono's core thinking methodologies over a condensed period. It breaks down complex ideas into manageable lessons and exercises for rapid skill development. The aim is to equip readers with a practical toolkit for enhanced thinking within a focused timeframe.

7. i Creativity and Innovation

This title explores the crucial link between creative thinking and the generation of innovative outcomes. It presents de Bono's frameworks as catalysts for fostering a culture of innovation. The book highlights how deliberate creative processes can lead to groundbreaking ideas and successful implementation.

8. i Po: Beyond Yes and No

This book introduces the concept of "Po" thinking, a method designed to move beyond simple agreement or disagreement. It encourages exploration and provocation of ideas without immediate judgment. The aim is to foster a more open-minded and generative approach to discussing and developing concepts.

9. i The Directness of Thinking

This title focuses on streamlining the thinking process for greater clarity and efficiency. It explores how to achieve directness in communication and problem-solving by cutting through complexity. The book offers techniques to arrive at solutions more purposefully and effectively.

Edward De Bono Thinking Course 2

Edward De Bono Thinking Course 2

Related Articles

- [environmental law in a nutshell 2](#)
- [egypt plantation mississippi](#)
- [emd q test questions and answers](#)

[Back to Home](#)