

# Concept Mapping Guide

This playbook describes the process of creating concept maps to help organize and understand complex material, enhancing learning and retention of information.

## Step 1: **Select Topic**

Identify the main topic or subject area you wish to explore and understand through concept mapping.

## Step 2: **Gather Resources**

Collect all relevant information, resources, and materials that pertain to the chosen topic. This includes textbooks, articles, lecture notes, and any other pertinent information.

## Step 3: **Extract Concepts**

Read through the collected materials and extract key concepts, facts, and ideas that are essential to the subject matter.

## Step 4: **List Concepts**

Create a list of the extracted concepts, arranging them in a way that starts to build a hierarchical structure, with the most general concepts at the top.

## Step 5: **Create Structure**

Begin to draw the concept map. Start with a central node labeled with the main topic, then branch out to second-level nodes with major related subtopics.

## Step 6: **Connect Concepts**

Use lines to connect related concepts, and label the connections with phrases that explain the relationships.

## Step 7: **Refine Map**

As the map develops, continually refine it by reorganizing, adding, or removing concepts to better reflect the complexities and connections of the subject matter.

## Step 8: **Review & Iterate**

Review the map for clarity and accuracy. Share it with peers or mentors for feedback, and iterate on the map based on new insights or understandings.

## Step 9: **Utilize & Update**

Use the concept map as a learning tool and reference while studying the subject. Update it as your understanding grows or as new information becomes available.

# **General Notes**

## **Collaboration**

Consider collaborating with classmates or colleagues when creating and refining the concept map to incorporate different perspectives and insights.

## **Software Tools**

Use concept mapping software or drawing tools to create digital concept maps that can be easily edited and shared.

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