

I want to
test & improve
by understanding
what is most effective
in my work.



IMPROVEMENT TRIGGERS

LEVEL OF INVOLVEMENT

INSPIRED BY

Eberle, B (1997) Scamper Worksheet. USA: Prufrock Press.



FAIRLY SIMPLE, SELF ADMINISTERED TOOL
needs relatively less time

What is it & why should I do it?

Improvement Triggers provides a collection of questions which can be used to help you look at your work a bit differently. Inspired by the tool 'SCAMPER' (Eberle B. 1997), these questions are designed to provoke you into new ways of thinking, and are structured in a way that lets you approach either your existing offering or a potential new solution you are developing from a number of directions. This is a great way to make your work stronger, working especially well in areas where lots of competing solutions are already available.

The questions in this tool assume that anything new is a modification of something that already exists. This might not always be strictly true, but approaching your work from this perspective can very be useful when you're trying to articulate how what you're doing is different from anyone else (or how it builds on what's gone before).

? HOW TO USE IT

Each of the questions on the worksheet should give a slightly different perspective on your work. Note your answers in the space provided, but try to keep it brief - the idea is to end up with something that will give you a concise overview of how your work is different, and how you could potentially improve it.

The questions on this worksheet are just examples to trigger your thinking. Many other questions may be relevant as well. The key is to use the seven categories of questions to provoke your thoughts on potential improvements.

SUBSTITUTE

COMBINE

ADAPT

MODIFY

PUT TO ANOTHER USE

ELIMINATE

REVERSE

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IMPROVEMENT TRIGGERS

SUBSTITUTE	COMBINE	ADAPT	MODIFY	PUT TO ANOTHER USE	ELIMINATE	REVERSE
<p>What materials or resources can you substitute or swap to improve your work? What other process materials could you use? What rules could you substitute?</p>	<p>What would happen if you combined different aspects of your work, to create something new? What if you combined purposes or objectives? What could you combine to maximise the uptake of your work? How could you combine talent and resources to create a new approach?</p>	<p>How could you adapt or readjust your work to serve another purpose or use? Who or what could you emulate to adapt your work? What other context could you put your work into? What other products or ideas could you use for inspiration?</p>	<p>What could you add to modify your work? What could you emphasise or highlight to create more value? What element of your work could you strengthen to create something new?</p>	<p>Can you use your work somewhere else? Who else could benefit from your work? How else could you do your work - perhaps in another setting? Could you reuse some ideas/things from a previous project?</p>	<p>How could you streamline or simplify your work? What elements of your work could you make more fun? What elements of your work or even rules could you eliminate? What could you have in its place?</p>	<p>What would happen if you reversed your process or sequenced them differently? What if you did the exact opposite of what you're trying to do now? How can you re-organise your work?</p>