

Creative Thinking & Problem Solving

2 day in-house course

Effective problem solving and the generation of fresh perspectives and new ideas should not be left to chance...

Overview of course content

This course starts with an understanding of the nature of creative thinking and a structured approach to problem solving.

Participants will learn a wide range of practical techniques to understand problems thoroughly, generate and develop new ideas and solutions, compare and evaluate solutions and then communicate those ideas effectively:

- The need for fresh thinking and the nature of creativity.
- The problem solving process.
- Discovering the real problem
- The creative process and the creative process model.
- Techniques to generate fresh thinking and new ideas.
- Running creative thinking sessions and harvesting ideas.
- Communicating ideas effectively.

“ **Strong tools to take back, very usable, and shows how we can all be more creative.** ”

A brief history...

Our popular Creativity for Logical Thinkers course has been running for many years - as has our problem solving course. We have been repeatedly asked for a course that combines the best elements of both courses - which is exactly what this course does.

Key benefits

Practical, easy to use 'toolkit'
- for idea generation AND evaluation

A robust approach to problem solving that delivers workable solutions

Confidence and skills to facilitate your own creativity sessions

Improved team working, enhanced motivation and greater job satisfaction.



Duration and format

Two day in-house course which can be tailored to meet particular needs.

Public courses are run regularly to allow individuals to attend this course.

Who is this course for?

Anyone who faces challenges that cannot be addressed by conventional thinking alone.

Anyone who wants to unleash their own creativity and that of others.

Managers as part of a management or leadership development programme.

Anyone who needs to solve practical problems.

Creative Thinking & Problem Solving

Additional course detail

What's it all about?

Developing fresh thinking and new ideas with hands on creative thinking tools and techniques to help fuel creativity and overcome creative blocks.

This course is about understanding problems thoroughly, developing new perspectives, generating new ideas and developing practical solutions. Creativity is essential for organisations who need to achieve and maintain a competitive edge. Knowing how to consistently generate new ideas and new thinking will benefit the development of any organisation - creativity isn't just relevant; it's essential.

The workshop provides a unique introduction to how the creative process - for solving problems and generating new ideas - works. Organisations and individuals are encouraged to bring along real life situations which are tackled by a broad range of practical creative techniques which can be used in the workplace.

Why Creative Thinking & Problem Solving?

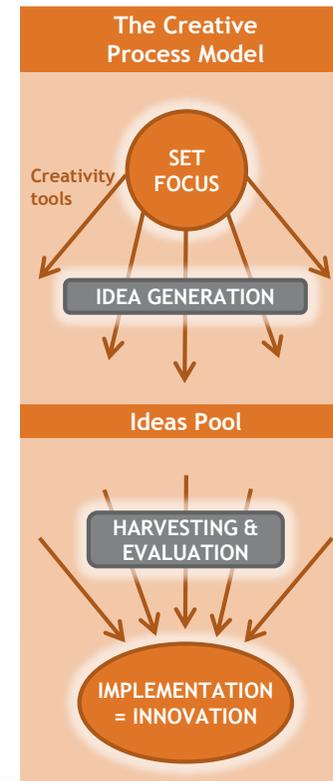
If you need to bring fresh thinking to bear on real business challenges then this is the programme for you.

- **Develop your problem solving skills** - learn how to tackle any issue you are faced with from a fresh, new angle.
- **Generate new ideas** - using the different techniques you can produce many new ideas quickly and effectively.
- **Take your business forward** - innovative thinking to develop a competitive edge.
- **Save time** - by understanding how to unleash your creativity, never again spend hours labouring over one problem.
- **Improve team morale** - if everyone has the skills to solve problems effectively and to think more creatively, you can all contribute and feel empowered.

Note about Six Thinking Hats®

This workshop uses the six hats approach as an idea evaluation tool. If you wish to learn the full six hats approach, you will need either to attend the one day Six Thinking Hats course, led by a De Bono Certified Six Hats trainer, or read Dr De Bono's excellent book of the same name.

How do we do it?



The need for creativity and the creative process

- Where ideas come from and how to create the right mindset for producing ideas.
- Why it's important to be creative at work.
- Develop an effective framework - the creative process model - for all of your creative thinking.
- Learn how to unblock your thinking and become more flexible in your approach to thinking.

The Creative Process Model and a problem solving framework

- Understand the process of thinking about the right things, generating alternatives and new ideas and then working effectively with those ideas.

Understanding the problem and setting the right focus

- Avoid wasting time by making sure that you are directing your creativity correctly.

Creativity techniques

- A range of techniques for generating ideas including: reversals, Mind Maps®, visual triggers, metaphors and Six Thinking Hats® (see note).

Running sessions and harvesting ideas

- Take the invaluable skills you have learnt back with you to plan your own creativity sessions.
- What tools and techniques do you need to use?
- Discover how to capture and assess your ideas and how to deal with them.

Action Planning

- A chance to think about the skills you have learnt and how to use and benefit from them.

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Additional course detail

Continue and refresh your learning even after the course...

...all attendees on this course receive FREE access to the exclusive *Creativity and Problem Solving* post course learning areas of the Illumine website.

Related Courses

Six Thinking Hats®	De Bono's tool is one of the idea evaluation techniques on this course. We also offer the full Six Thinking Hats programme separately.
Lateral Thinking™	An introduction to a range of 'lateral thinking' approaches.
Creativity for Logical Thinkers	A rapid and thorough introduction to the creative process and a range of instantly usable tools and techniques.

About Illumine

Illumine Training provides management and personal skills development, focused on developing *better brains for better business*.

The range of courses and workshops is split into six business critical areas and are delivered through:

Public Workshops - 1 and 2 day workshops.

In-house Courses - Specifically for teams or groups from within an organisation, tailoring as necessary.

FIT Sessions - In-house bite-size (90 minute) learning sessions designed by Illumine to maximise learning in the minimum time possible.

Other Options - E-learning, Facilitation, Coaching, Away-days and Speakers.

How can I take this programme?

In-house courses - suitable for organisations that want to develop teams or groups of individuals from across the organisation. Programmes can be geared towards your organisation or industry sector with relevant activities, examples and case studies. Discuss your needs with an account manager on +44(0)1753 866633 or email inhouse@illumine.co.uk.

Continuous Development

CPD recognition is awarded on both public workshops and in-house courses, being dependent on the number of hours spent learning. On request Illumine will provide a certificate of attendance for you to use as evidence and attach to your record card.