

Creative Decision Making

Duration:

Self-study or Classroom Training

Description:

The 50-Minute Manager Series was designed to cover critical business and professional development topics in the shortest time possible. Our easy-to-read, easy-to-understand format can be used for self-study or classroom training, or even office training. With a wealth of hands-on exercises, the 50-Minute books keep you engaged and help you retain critical skills.

You have probably been taught to use your logic and reasoning to make the best decisions. Although this is certainly sensible advice, the future is unpredictable, and uncertainty can never be eliminated from the decision-making process. The key is to be positive about uncertainty, that is approaching every decision with an open mind to create more future possibilities, even while assuming that change is inevitable.

Creative Decision Making helps you do just that by presenting four paradoxical principles designed to expand the way you think about the decisions you make. The revised edition includes discussion on using positive uncertainty to manage information overload and what you can do to decide creatively in today's more rapidly changing world.

Table of Contents:

Introduction: The What and Why of Positive Uncertainty

Are You Ready for Positive Uncertainty?

What Is Positive Uncertainty?

Why Be Positive About Uncertainty?

Getting Started with Creative Decision Making

Part 1: Paradoxical Principle 1

Be Focused and Flexible About What You Want

Identify Barriers to Knowing What You Want

Use Goals to Guide You, Not Govern You

Take Your Eye Off the Target

Treat Goals as Hypotheses

Uncover Future Phobia

Mine Goals from Past and Future Events

Clarify the Big and Little Things You Want

Postscript

Part 2: Paradoxical Principle 2

Be Aware and Wary of What You Know

Question the Validity of Information You Receive

More Information Can Cause More Uncertainty

Case Study: Coffee Culture

Watch Out for Info-Mania

Open Your Mind to New Knowledge

Expand Your Thinking About Other Possibilities

Postscript

Part 3: Paradoxical Principle 3

Be Realistic and Optimistic About What You Believe
Recognize That Reality Is in the Mind of the Beholder
Be Wary of Your Dogma
Perceive Perceptive Paralysis
Treat Beliefs as Prophecy
Dream Precisely to Create a Positive Future
Uncover Your Beliefs Through Metaphor
Explore Your Personal Metaphor
Use Scenario Rehearsal in Decision Making
Postscript

Part 4: Paradoxical Principle 4

Be Practical and Magical About What You Do
Treat Intuition as Intelligence
Become Aware of Your Decision Strategies
Recognize Reverse Paranoia
Learn to Plan and Plan to Learn
Visualize Outcomes with Decision Trees
See the Bigger Picture in Outcomes Windows
Postscript

Summary

Actions for Practice
The Perennial Decision-Making Questions
Positive Uncertainty Exercises
Recommended Reading