NanoHack #1

Clarify Your Challenge

What are you trying to solve, really?



#1 Intention 15 Min Individual Team

Why

Sometimes we solve problems that require us to work through large amounts of data to uncover the real underlying challenge. This NanoHack will help you isolate and clarify the challenge you need to solve.

A well formulated challenge question can provide you the precision needed think clearly about the right solutions. Good challenge questions enable innovation by positioning you properly in the problem space to generate new ideas and break-away solutions.

What you will do

- Gain clarity on the problem, challenge or issue you are facing
- Align team members and supporters to face the right questions
- Provide a solid foundation for ideation and problem solving

How you will do it

Step 1

1. Frame your challenge.
Describe the most important goal you want to achieve.

2. Identify your tools.
Describe the methods, resources and skills you can employ to work toward and achieve your goal.

3. Name an action you want to take.
Describe the fundamental activity that will lead to the goal.

Step 2

Translate into „How to…" language.
Rephrase the 1/goal, 2/tools and 3/actions into „How to…" questions.

Step 3

Refine and combine for clarity.
Read the sentences from Step 2 and clarify them, simplify them. Make sure they are on target. Now mash them all together into one question. The outcome should be a beautifully precise, simple and actionable challenge question.

Examples

How to design a product to win new customers?
How to improve my problem solving skills to make decisions faster?

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STEP 1

1 Image your challenge.
What is (the most important) goal you need to achieve to solve it?

Example: win new customers

2 What is the activity, resource, or skill you want to use or change to achieve your goal?

Example: develop a new product

3 What action are you going to take?

Example: to design, to ...

4 How to ...

5 How to ...

6 How to ...

STEP 2

7 How to ...

STEP 3

