

---

# Worksheet: Evaluating Your Knowledge Map

---

Use this worksheet to quantitatively assess your causal knowledge map and identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.

**Step 1. Count the total number of circles (concepts) in your map (Breadth).**

The **Breadth** is simply the total number of circles on your map. With greater Breadth, your map shows more concepts. So, you have a better idea of what's happening and are less likely to get caught by surprise.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Enter total number of circles here)

**Step 2. Count the number of circles with gold stars (more than one arrow pointing to them).**

Concepts with **gold stars** (more than one arrow pointing to them) are better understood. These show promising action points, because you can better see what makes (or could make) those things happen.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Enter number of circles with gold stars)

**Step 3. Calculate the percent of circles with gold stars (Depth).**

**Depth** is a measure of a knowledge map's potential for useful application based on its structure. More depth means decisions made with the map are more likely to lead to successful results.

First, take the number of circles with gold stars (from step 2), divided by the total number of concepts (from step 1). That will give you a number between zero and one.

Multiply that by 100 to get the percent.

\_\_\_\_\_ % (Enter % of circles with gold stars)

**Step 4. Count the number of loops.**

A **loop** is a group of four or more concepts connected by four or more causal arrows. The arrows may indicate causes more, causes less, or some combination of both—as long as they all point in the direction that flows in a loop. We like to add a “blue ribbon” to indicate a loop. Loops show where changes will build on themselves to make a bigger impact.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Enter number of loops)