



Improve Your Critical Thinking Skills

To make good decisions, it's important to think critically. And, yet, too many leaders accept the first solution proposed to them or don't take the time to evaluate a topic from all sides. To guard against these mistakes, there are several things you can do to hone your critical thinking skills. First, question your assumptions, especially when the stakes are high. If you're coming up with a new business strategy, for example, ask: Why is this the best way forward? What does the research say about our expectations for the future of the market? Second, poke at the logic. When evaluating arguments, consider if the evidence builds on itself to produce a sound conclusion. Is the logic supported by data at each point? Third, seek out fresh perspectives. It's tempting to rely on your inner circle to help you think through these questions but that won't be productive if they all look and think like you. Get outside your bubble and ask different people to question and challenge your logic.