

How to improve your judgement

'Good' judgement is using **smart thinking to get to sensible solutions.**

Coach yourself questions

What is an example of your good judgement?



What is an example of your bad judgement?



What factors affected the quality of your judgement?



What are you making judgements about in your day-to-day role?

Pace – speed up, slow down or stop

Priorities – what's most important now?

Problems – what are we solving?

People – what do others care about?

Purpose – what's the why behind the work?

Possibilities – what should be explored?

Pounds – what funding do we need?

Ideas for action



1. Ask yourself accelerators

When you have a decision to make reflect on judgement accelerator questions to improve the quality of your discussions and recommendations:



What have I learnt from a similar situation before?



What is the number 1 priority right now?



What don't I know?



2. Do a speedy sense check

Running your thinking by someone can help you to quickly stress test your judgement.



Pick someone you trust who will understand the context.



3. Play it out

Don't risk the quality of your judgement by only seeing it in the current moment. Thinking forward helps you to consider all of the factors which can impact the quality of your judgement over the long-term. Ask yourself:



How will this play out in 10 days, 10 weeks, 10 months?



4. Share what you don't know

When you're making a decision or sharing a recommendation based on your judgement, be clear about what you don't know as well as what you do.



Write down your 'known unknowns' and communicate them with confidence.



5. Have a 'bad judgement' override

The quicker you spot if your judgement has created a problem, the quicker you recover the situation. Being proactive and accountable helps to retain trust and reduce the negative impact.



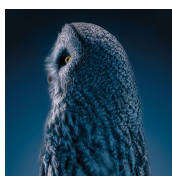
Work out your 'bad judgement' red flags

Recommended resources



Talks to watch when you have a big decision to make

Playlist on decision-making from TED.



The Elements of Good Judgement

Harvard Business Review article by **Sir Andrew Likierman** about improving your judgement.



How to be great at decision making

Helen and Sarah share their top 5 tips for making decisions at work on Squiggly Careers #60