

Making toast

Leadership:	1 Person
Room structure:	Room with tables
Required resources:	Sharpies and/or colored markers, 11 x 17 (preferred) or 8.5 x 11 sheets of paper, masking tape (optional)
Time needed:	10-15 minutes
Group size:	2-10

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Facilitator's Instructions:

The set up:

- Pass out paper and markers to each participant.

The activity:

- Ask the participants to draw instructions for making toast. Keep the instructions as vague as that. Then set and start a timer for 3-5 minutes. Use the shorter length of time for larger groups so that you can jump into presentations faster.
- One-by-one, ask participants to post their drawings on the wall and explain their drawn steps to the group.
- Take note of things that are or aren't included in the drawings. For example, are people featured, or is the focus all on the materials (bread, toaster, butter, knife, etc.)? Are the drawings very detailed or extremely vague? All of these attributes are clues as to how explaining a larger, more complex activity might go.
- Have people draw a picture how to improve what what they are working on as a group. This can include almost anything, strategic or tactical. Make sure people draw individually and in silence.
- Have people work at tables. showing and explaining their diagrams. Compare and contrast the diagrams and see what is similar and different between them. What links and nodes are common?
- If you have the time, have the group develop a systems diagram of the challenges using sticky notes and drawn links. Building on the previous individual diagrams, have groups of 4-6 people create nodes and links to to solve the challenges.