

- 1 Question, refine, or redefine the way you label or identify things using the Distinctions Rule (identity \rightleftharpoons other).

- 2 Deepen meaning of existing Distinctions by adding parts.

- 3 Re-organize and rearrange map elements to convey and clarify meaning.

- 4 Build robust subsystems using freehand layout of parts.

- 5 Compress the parts of top-level systems to clarify meaning.

- 6 Use color to create systems across the map content.

- 7 As you consider the parts of your system, be mindful of gaps and look for overlaps.

- 8 Use relationship lines to connect ideas.

- 9 Differentiate relationship lines with directional arrows, color, and weight.

- 10 Improve map readability and clarify meaning by distinguishing/labelling relationship lines (aka, RDs).

- 11 Improve map readability and clarify meaning by adding parts to relationship line distinctions (aka, RDSs or “zooming into Rs”).

- 12 Use perspective to reframe, prioritize cards, or change the view of your map.

- 13 Use perspective to develop a set of stopping rules to close out an analysis.

- 14 Mix and match Distinctions, Systems, Relationships, and Perspectives in a fractal and recursive way to evolve your map.

- 15 Avoid reinventing the wheel by identifying and using cognitive jigs to build maps.

- 16 Use stepwise presentation to walk people through the thinking behind your map.

- 17 Collaboratively build, share, and evolve maps.