

Framework Adaptation Guides

Practical translations for industrial, engineering and operational settings

A WORKING COMPANION TO THE BOOK

Choose a framework for the uncertainty it helps resolve. Keep its useful principles, adapt it to the operating context and test whether the adaptation helps.

A4 LANDSCAPE

Print at actual size. Write by hand or annotate with your PDF reader.

CHOOSE THE PAGE YOU NEED

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Use evidence. Record uncertainty. Revisit the decision.

Lean Startup

De-risk early through learning loops.

ADAPT IT BY

Replace unsafe or costly live MVPs with simulations, digital twins, CAD, 3D prints, test rigs or structured pilots.

ASK

What is the riskiest assumption, and what is the cheapest credible evidence?

WATCH FOR

Do not confuse 'minimum' with low quality, weak safety or an unrealistic test.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Design Thinking

Build empathy and explore alternatives before convergence.

ADAPT IT BY

Pair user desirability with technical risk, process reliability, compliance and downstream operational realities.

ASK

Whose experience is missing, and what would we see by observing the work?

WATCH FOR

Avoid over-structuring the process or selecting the first feasible idea too early.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Framework: Design Thinking; see IDEO and Stanford d.school. Industrial adaptation: The Creativity Paradox.

Double Diamond

Separate divergence from convergence across problem and solution spaces.

ADAPT IT BY

Make gate criteria explicit but allow evidence to reopen the problem definition.

ASK

Are we converging because evidence improved, or because the timetable demands certainty?

WATCH FOR

Do not turn diamonds into a one-way stage-gate funnel.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Jobs To Be Done

Understand the progress people seek in a specific situation.

ADAPT IT BY

Map functional, emotional and social jobs across operators, customers, maintainers, buyers, regulators and partners.

ASK

When does the current solution become unacceptable, and what progress is sought?

WATCH FOR

Avoid reducing a complex value chain to a single end-user task.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Framework: Jobs To Be Done; associated with Clayton Christensen and other contributors. Industrial adaptation: The Creativity Paradox.

Six Thinking Hats

Separate modes of thinking so evidence, risk, possibility and process all have space.

ADAPT IT BY

Use short, facilitated rounds with operational data and clear decision ownership.

ASK

Which mode is dominating, and which perspective has not been heard?

WATCH FOR

Do not use the hats to suppress disagreement or manufacture artificial consensus.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Agile / Scrum / Kanban

Deliver in small increments and make work visible.

ADAPT IT BY

Use testable engineering increments, explicit work-in-progress limits and a definition of done that includes safety, quality and documentation.

ASK

What is the smallest valuable increment that can be responsibly completed?

WATCH FOR

Velocity is not value; ceremonies cannot compensate for unclear purpose.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Open Innovation and ecosystems

Expand access to knowledge, technology and routes to value.

ADAPT IT BY

Clarify the challenge, interfaces, intellectual property, governance, data, incentives and partner decision rights before collaboration scales.

ASK

What capability or perspective is genuinely better outside our boundary?

WATCH FOR

Do not outsource strategic thinking or invite partners without a credible path to adoption.

Application note

Challenge / team and the framework element to use

Adaptation

What will we keep, change, combine or omit - and why?

Evidence and review

What result will show this is helping? When will we review it?

Framework selection worksheet

Choose tools because they address a real uncertainty. Combine them only when each has a clear purpose.

Current need	Useful starting point	Required adaptation
Test a high-risk assumption quickly	Lean Startup	Use safe, credible prototypes and operational evidence
Understand people and reframe a challenge	Design Thinking / JTBD	Include all affected roles and constraints
Create disciplined divergence and convergence	Double Diamond	Allow evidence to reopen earlier decisions
Improve a difficult group discussion	Six Thinking Hats	Protect dissent and decision accountability
Coordinate incremental delivery	Agile / Kanban	Include quality, safety and learning in 'done'
Access external capability	Open Innovation	Define governance, interfaces and adoption path

Our choice

Current need, framework(s) and why this combination fits