

Tools for focusing: The 5 Whys analysis tool

The 5 Whys analysis method is designed to move past symptoms and to avoid blaming or deficit theorising in order to understand the true root cause of a problem. Start by identifying the problem and then ask why it happens. Continue asking why until you identify an actionable root cause.

Memory tip	Effective 5 Whys criteria
L	Logical specific causes flow with evidence observed at each Why
E	Effective improvements/changes can be identified within your or your team's control
Α	Avoid blaming
D	Denominator is consistent
S	Stop asking why when you have reached an actionable root cause

Why #1: Start with the identified problem and ask why it is happening, then insert your answer here

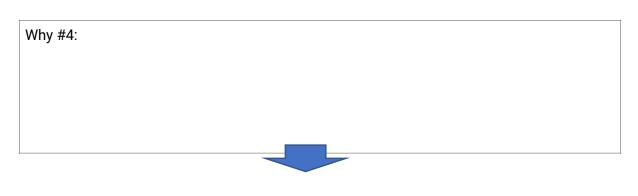


Why #2:	
Why #3:	

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Why #5:			

Root Cause: This is the issue you will need to improve	

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