

Summary

In this video, you've learned a variety of subjective tools for generating, evaluating, and prioritizing ideas and potential causes.

Here is a summary of these tools and when you might want to use them. You won't use all of these tools within a given project. The specific tools you use depend largely on your project and where you are in the problem-solving process.

Most of the tools are used early on, as you investigate potential root causes and identify sources of process variation. However, you can also use many of the tools later in the project, as you identify and evaluate potential solutions.

Note that these tools are highly subjective, based largely on personal experience and opinions. These tools are not a substitute for real data! They can help you narrow your focus and point you toward the most likely causes. For example, consider a cause-and-effect diagram.

Although this tool can help you identify potential causes of a problem, the causes need to be investigated and, if possible, verified with real data.

In the next lesson, you learn about compiling and collecting data. Then, throughout the remainder of this course, you learn how to use these data and statistical methods to help solve your problem!

Statistical Thinking for Industrial Problem Solving

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