

Card sorting is a technique in user experience design in which participants organize topics into categories that make sense to them and group them accordingly. Open, Closed, Remote and Face to face are card sorting types.

Remote card sorting sessions are computer-based sessions in which participants work independently on their own personal systems. Both Open or Closed card sorts can be done remotely. Several software programs exist to help you with large-scale remote card-sorting studies. Using the software is an advantage because it analyzes the data for you.

Face to face card sorting session happens in person where an impartial observer is present. Participants are provided with a set of cards and they think aloud while sorting, giving a clearer picture of their reactions and thought processes. The observer has the opportunity to clarify any observations they are unsure of to gain a better insight into why the user has made those choices.