#essay #tools #memory #spaced_repetition #learning # Takeaways The mnemonic medium:
* Memory systems make memory into a choice, rather than an event left up to chance
* Memory systems are in their infancy * What would a virtuoso use of the mnemonic medium look like? * Memory systems can be used to build genuine conceptual understanding, not just learn facts * Mnemonic techniques such as memory palaces are great, but not versatile enough to build genuine conceptual understanding * Memory is far more important than people tend to think

Other ideas: * What practices would lead to tools for thought as transformative as Hindu-Arabic numerals? And in what ways does modern design practice and tech industry product practice fall short? To be successful, you need an *insight-through-making loop* to be operating at full throttle, combining the best of deep research culture with the best of Silicon Valley product culture. * Tools for thought are (mostly) public goods, and as a result are undersupplied: That said, there are closely- related models of production which have succeeded (the games industry, Adobe, AutoDesk, Pixar). * Take emotion seriously * Tools for thought must be developed in tandem with deep, original creative work

# 1 Resources

Andy Matuschak and Michael Nielsen, "How can we develop transformative tools for thought?", https://numinous.productions/ttft, San Francisco (2019).