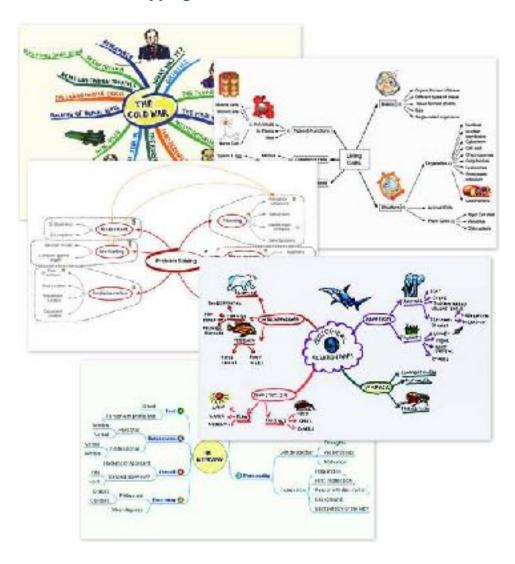
## What is Mind Mapping?



Mind mapping is a highly effective way of getting information in and out of your brain. Mind mapping is a creative and logical means of note-taking and note-making that literally "maps out" your ideas. All Mind Maps have some things in common. They have a natural organizational structure that radiates from the center and use lines, symbols, words, color and images according to simple, brain-friendly concepts. Mind mapping converts a long list of monotonous information into a colorful, memorable and highly organized diagram that works in line with your brain's natural way of doing things.

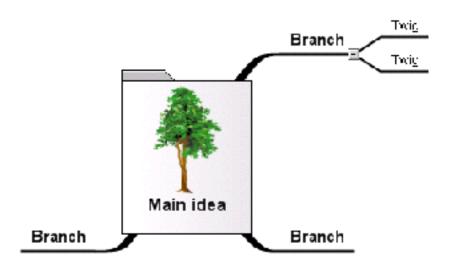
One simple way to understand a Mind Map is by comparing it to a map of a city. The city center represents the main idea; the main roads leading from the center represent the key thoughts in your thinking process; the secondary roads or branches represent your secondary thoughts, and so on. Special images or shapes can represent landmarks of interest or particularly relevant ideas.

The great thing about mind mapping is that you can put your ideas down in any order, as soon as they pop into your head. You are not constrained by thinking in order. Simply, throw out any and all ideas, then worry about reorganizing them later.

The <u>mind map</u> is the external mirror of your own radiant or natural thinking facilitated by a powerful graphic process, which provides the universal key to unlock the dynamic potential of the brain.

## The Five Essential Characteristics of Mind Mapping:

- The main idea, subject or focus is crystallized in a central image
- The main themes radiate from the central image as 'branches'
- The branches comprise a key image or key word drawn or printed on its associated line
- Topics of lesser importance are represented as 'twigs' of the relevant branch
- The branches form a connected nodal structure



## How to Make a Mind Map

- Think of your general main theme and write that down in the center of the page. i.e. Food
- Figure out sub-themes of your main concept and draw branches to them from the center, beginning to look like a spider web i.e. Meats, Dairy, Breads
- Make sure to use very short phrases or even single words
- Add images to invoke thought or get the message across better
- Try to think of at least two main points for each sub-theme you created and create branches out to those