

# Organizing our Work

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#### **Discussion Questions**

- How do you stay organized?
- What processes or systems do you use?
- What tools do you use?
- What is succeeding?
- What are the challenges?
- What would you like to change?
- How do you fit individual approaches into working as a team?



## **Productivity Themes from Large Research Group**

#### **Individual Productivity**

- Staying Organized
  - Organizing Time
  - Organizing Tasks
- Staying Focused

- Organizing Time
- Organizing Knowledge
- Communicating
- Collaborating



## **Individual Productivity Themes**

- Staying Organized
  - Organizing Time
  - Organizing Tasks
- Staying Focused

- Use your calendar
- Block time for specific work
- Track how long work takes (so you know for next time)
- Know when to move on
- Take breaks



## **Individual Productivity Themes**

- Staying Organized
  - Organizing Time
  - Organizing Tasks
- Staying Focused

- Break work into smaller tasks
- Try a task manager (Trello, Google Keep, To-doist Outlook, etc.)
- Do the most intellectual work when you're at your prime

## **Individual Productivity Themes**

- Staying Organized
  - Organizing Time
  - Organizing Tasks
- Staying Focused

- Block out noise
  - Listen to white noise
  - Listen to music
- Limit distractions
  - Mute email notifications and set a time to check your email
  - Find a quiet place to work
  - Don't listen to music



- Organizing Time
- Organizing Knowledge
- Communicating
- Collaborating

- Shared Calendars (Outlook, Google calendar)
- Doodle polls



- Organizing Time
- Organizing Knowledge
- Communicating
- Collaborating

- Keep meeting notes
- Keep a tidy and logical shared drive
- Log progress and decisions
- Document lessons learned for next time (or next person)



- Organizing Time
- Organizing Knowledge
- Communicating
- Collaborating

- Keep a sense of humour
- Keep each other informed about your
  - Tasks
  - Progress
  - Time with other projects
  - Time off
- Descriptive emails (especially subjects)



- Organizing Time
- Organizing Knowledge
- Communicating
- Collaborating

- Concise, regular meetings
  - Spaced apart enough to move actions forward
- Google Docs to work concurrently
- Consult experts outside your team

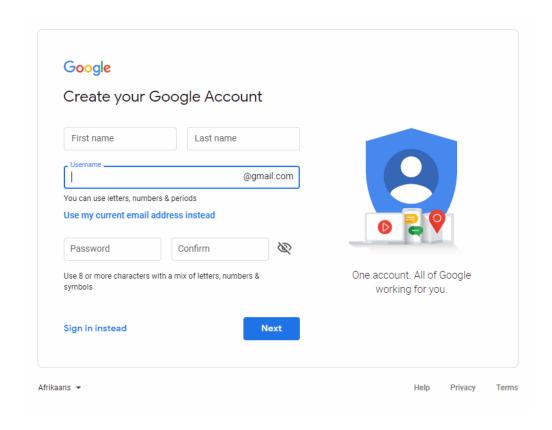




## Google

## Create a DFM Google Account for Yourself

- Useful for collaborating on documents
- Keeps your personal account separate
- You can create an account with your existing email address





## **Google Services**

- Drive file storage
- Docs word processor
- Sheets spreadsheets
- Forms fillable forms
- Slides presentations



## **Trello**



#### **The Shared Drive**





## **Templates**

# Communication and KT Templates dfmresearch:\Communications\Templates

- Research Poster Templates
- Presentation Slides
- Letterhead
  - With and without "Brighter World"
  - base use on tone and content of the document
- Reports
- Research Enterprise (Word docs with branding)



## **Project Management Master**

## dfmresearch:\Training and Resources\Templates

	Α	В	C	D	E	F	ВО	BP	BQ	BR	BS	BT	BU	BV B	W BX	BY	ΒZ	CA	CB (	CC	CD	CE	F C	G CH	CI	CJ	CK	CL	CM CI
1												Dec	emb	er															
2																													
3				Hold until	Start Date	Due Date	26	27	28	29	30	03	04	05 0	06 07	10	11	12	13	14	17	18 1	9 2	21	24	25	26	27	28 3
4	4 Major Project Activity in column A				2018-01-02	2018-01-04																							
5		Hig	her-level tasks in column B	2018-01-09																									
6			Sub-tasks in column C																										
7																													
8	Lea	ve a	row space between major project activities for dividing line																										
9																													
10																													
11																													
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