

Reflection Guide

Use this document to help guide your reflection. Hang it on the wall, bring it with you into the field, or just refer to it often.

SKILL 1: I COMMUNICATE IDEAS TO COLLABORATE ACROSS BOUNDARIES: I can use appropriate language, behaviors, and technologies to effectively communicate with diverse audiences.

- I use various communication styles depending on diversity of audience
- I use various technological tools depending on diversity of audience
- I use visual, mental and physical mapping tools (including diagrams and models) to represent ideas and designs
- I allow others to develop my ideas
- I build on the ideas of others
- I seek diverse interactions and collaborations

SKILL 2: EMPATHY: I can share and understand others' emotions and needs by seeing the world through others' perspectives.

- I can recognize and describe other people's emotions and needs
- I can identify and interpret emotion in nonverbal cues like facial expressions, gestures, and tone.
- I can place myself in the users' perspective, rather than my own, when seeking information for the design process.
- I focus prototyping on user needs.
- I use empathy to gain inspiration from the world

SKILL 3: BIAS TOWARD ACTION AND EXPERIMENTATION: I show a bias toward action and experimentation, displaying agility, adaptability, and tenacity when faced with design challenges.

- I show a bias towards action
- I show tenacity when working to overcome challenges
- I am willing to give up my original idea to adapt to new constraints
- I find needed information through multiple sources
- I take risks and try new things
- I demonstrate flexibility through using multiple tools and moving through a variety of design modalities

SKILL 4: ITERATION: I can engage in design as a cyclical, iterative process of moving through multiple versions of any idea or solution by tinkering, prototyping, play-testing, and redesigning, constantly reflecting and integrating feedback.

- I prototype. I create models to externalize ideas.
- I play-test. I understand the value of improving a design through receiving feedback when testing multiple versions of the design.
- I capture, organize, and use feedback to inform subsequent iterations
- I learn from what doesn't work

SKILL 5: CRITICAL THINKING AND ANALYZING INFORMATION: I can analyze information and synthesize knowledge from multiple sources to solve complex problems.

- I gather, assess, and synthesize information from credible sources.
- I identify deep, non-obvious, user needs and insights
- I think about solutions through multiple lenses

SKILL 6: CURIOSITY AND IMAGINATION: I can develop ideas, explore multiple solutions to problems, ask questions, and innovate to solve a complex problem.

- I synthesize ideas in original ways, such as sorting ideas into different categories or combinations across multiple disciplines, to solve a problem, address an issue, or make something new.
- I reframe or rethink problems to develop more thorough and innovative solutions.
- I express abstract ideas using concrete examples.
- I actively seek out new knowledge across disciplines.