Cultivating Creativity as A Project/Program Manager

REMEMBER: Our profession is fundamentally creative

- We must CREATIVELY navigate from Point A to Point B, regardless of our best SCRUM board or Gantt chart.
- We must CREATIVELY apply and repurpose tools and techniques.
- We must CREATIVELY create new tools and techniques.
- We must come up with Reports and Communications that innovate requiring CREATIVITY.
- We must make communication memorable and CREATIVITY is our ally.

IDENTIFY: Your form of Creativity – so you can learn to use others.

	EXPANDER	
COMBINER	MAPPER	FUSER
	REDUCER	

- **COMBINERS** Seek to use new ideas in old combinations but may miss the need for new combinations.
- **EXPANDERS** Create by adding ideas onto old ones but may loose coherence.
- REDUCERS Create by removing something to see what happens but may miss new ideas.
- **FUSERS** Merge two or more ideas into one but may miss simple or obvious solutions.
- **MAPPERS** Think in metaphor, finding similarities but might not be able to communicate them.

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CULTIVATE: Develop creatively as a person to be a better PM and PgM

- Learn to have fun to relax, lower your defenses, let ideas flow.
- Have a creative outlet writing, dancing, etc. so you make a space for creativity and give it a regular workout.
- Cultivate a passion A book, a craft, etc. This lets you be creative while building and using skills.
- Broaden yourself Expose yourself to new things to get new ideas on the job and off.
- Do "Braindumps" when blocked Just write down everything you can think of on a subject to exercise your creative ability.
- Have a Brainstorm Book write down and review ideas regularly to get in the habit of being creative, and to track ideas you want to use.

About The Speaker

Steven Savage is a former engineer, having done PM work and PgM work since 2003. When not organizing things creatively, he expresses his creativity and organizational side by writing imagination tools, books, and more.

- You can find more about him at www.StevenSavage.com
- You can find his books at www.InformoTron.com
- You can find his creative tools at www.SeventhSanctum.com