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FREE RESOURCE — TEMPLATE

Mind Map Templates

Three printable mind-map layouts (radial, process and comparison) with rules for maps that aid memory rather than just decorate a page.

3	6	1	2
LAYOUTS	BRANCHES PER RADIAL MAP	WORD PER BRANCH	COPIES OF EACH TEMPLATE

RADIAL · PROCESS · COMPARISON · REBUILD TEST

PREPARED BY	CATEGORY	EDITION	LATEST VERSION
BrightStudy	Revision and memory	2026, A4 PDF	brightstudy.ai/resources/mind-map-templates

What is inside

A good mind map forces you to decide how ideas connect, which is the thinking that makes a topic memorable. A bad one is a pretty copy of your notes. These templates give you three layouts for three jobs: a radial map for a topic with several sub-themes, a process map for anything with stages or causes and effects, and a comparison map for two things you need to contrast. The rules page explains the choices that matter: one word per branch, hierarchy by size, and a check that you can rebuild the map from memory.

SECTIONS

1 Rules for maps that help memory
2 Radial map
3 Radial map (second copy)
4 Process map
5 Comparison map
6 Rebuild test

WHO IT IS FOR

Visual learners, students revising content-heavy subjects such as Biology, History and Geography, and anyone who wants a summary of a topic on one page.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Rules for maps that help memory: single words, hierarchy, colour by branch, images for anchors
- Radial map template with central topic and six main branches
- Process map template for stages, cycles, causes and effects
- Comparison map template with shared-features spine
- Rebuild test page: redraw the map from memory and score it

01

Rules for maps that help memory

- [ ] Central topic in the middle, written large, with an image if you can draw one.
- [ ] Main branches thick and curved; sub-branches thinner. Size shows hierarchy.
- [ ] One word, or at most two, per branch. Detail goes on flashcards.
- [ ] One colour per main branch, used for all its sub-branches.
- [ ] Draw small images or symbols for the ideas you most need to anchor.
- [ ] Link branches across the map with arrows where ideas connect; label the arrow with the connection.
- [ ] Stop at three levels. If you need a fourth, the topic needs two maps.

WHICH LAYOUT

USE	WHEN THE TOPIC IS	EXAMPLE
Radial	A subject with several sub-themes	The heart: structure, cycle, control, disease, measurement
Process	A sequence, cycle or chain of cause and effect	Protein synthesis; the causes of the 1929 crash
Comparison	Two things you must contrast	Aerobic vs anaerobic respiration; two sonnets

02

Radial map

Topic _____. Write it in the centre, draw six main branches out from it, then add sub-branches as you need them.

RADIAL MAP: CENTRAL TOPIC WITH SIX MAIN BRANCHES

03

Radial map (second copy)

RADIAL MAP: CENTRAL TOPIC WITH SIX MAIN BRANCHES

04

Process map

Process _____. Number the stages; add a loop arrow if it is a cycle. Note causes above the line and effects below it.

PROCESS MAP: STAGES LEFT TO RIGHT, CAUSES ABOVE, EFFECTS BELOW

05

Comparison map

Comparing _____ with _____. Shared features go on the spine down the middle; differences on either side.

COMPARISON MAP: A ON THE LEFT, B ON THE RIGHT, SHARED FEATURES ON THE SPINE

06
Rebuild test

A day or a week after making a map, redraw it here from memory. Then compare and score.

REBUILD FROM MEMORY

DATE	MAP	BRANCHES RECALLED / TOTAL	MISSED BRANCHES (MAKE FLASHCARDS)

Keep going

BRIGHTSTUDY

This resource covers the part of studying that happens away from a screen. BrightStudy does the rest: upload your notes, slides or recordings and it turns them into Study Docs, flashcards and exam-style questions, then schedules your reviews with spaced repetition. There is a free plan to get started.

PAIRS WELL WITH REVISION AND MEMORY

FEATURE	WHAT IT DOES	LINK
Spaced Repetition	Revisit your learning with scheduled reviews.	brightstudy.ai/features/spaced-repetition
Flashcards	Active recall with focused question-and-answer cards.	brightstudy.ai/features/flashcards
AI Explanations	Help understanding answers and remembering ideas.	brightstudy.ai/features/ai-explanations
Deep Learning	Explain your understanding and get feedback.	brightstudy.ai/features/deep-learning

RELATED RESOURCES

RESOURCE	LINK
Spaced Repetition Tracker	brightstudy.ai/resources/spaced-repetition-tracker
Active Recall Worksheet	brightstudy.ai/resources/active-recall-worksheet
How to Write Flashcards That Work	brightstudy.ai/resources/flashcard-writing-guide



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