

REVERSIBLE IRREVERSIBLE WORKSHEET

Purpose: Make better choices by distinguishing between reversible and irreversible decisions.

1. Describe the decision. Is it reversible or irreversible?
2. For reversible decisions: What's the easiest way to test it?
3. For irreversible decisions: What additional research is needed?

Topic/problem/decision:

Reversible (low risk, can be changed, quick decision-making)

Irreversible (high impact, cannot be undone, requires careful analysis)



HOW TO USE (PRO TIPS)

Decision Categorization:

- Create a decision matrix that splits decisions into “Reversible” (low cost, easy to experiment with) and “Irreversible” (high impact, significant cost to change).
- For reversible choices, allow for quick iterations and trial runs; for irreversible ones, plan with detailed research and contingency plans.

Risk Assessment:

- Assign a “reversibility score” (e.g., on a scale from 1 to 10) to gauge how easy it is to undo a decision.

Incremental Testing:

- For decisions with uncertainty, start small. Pilot the decision in a controlled, reversible environment before scaling it up. Document outcomes and learnings to refine further decisions.

Time Sensitivity:

- Recognize that irreversible decisions often demand a more extended planning cycle, while reversible decisions can be made more quickly.
 - Incorporate feedback loops to catch and correct mistakes in reversible scenarios.
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QUESTIONS TO REFLECT ON

Risk and Flexibility Assessment:

- What are the criteria you use to classify a decision as reversible or irreversible in contexts such as investment, career choices, or personal commitments?
- How do you weigh the emotional and financial costs of making an irreversible decision, and what strategies do you have in place to mitigate potential regrets?

Testing and Iteration:

- In situations where uncertainty exists, how might you design a reversible “pilot” or experiment to test your assumptions before fully committing?
- Reflect on a past irreversible decision: what signals did you miss that could have indicated an alternative approach, and how would you adjust your process next time?

Long-Term Impact:

- How does your decision-making process ensure that reversible decisions lead to incremental improvements, while irreversible ones are only taken after thorough analysis?
 - What feedback mechanisms do you have in place to review the outcomes of irreversible decisions over time, ensuring that they align with your long-term objectives?
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