

1 Models Approach

All models are wrong, but some are useful.

George E. P. Box

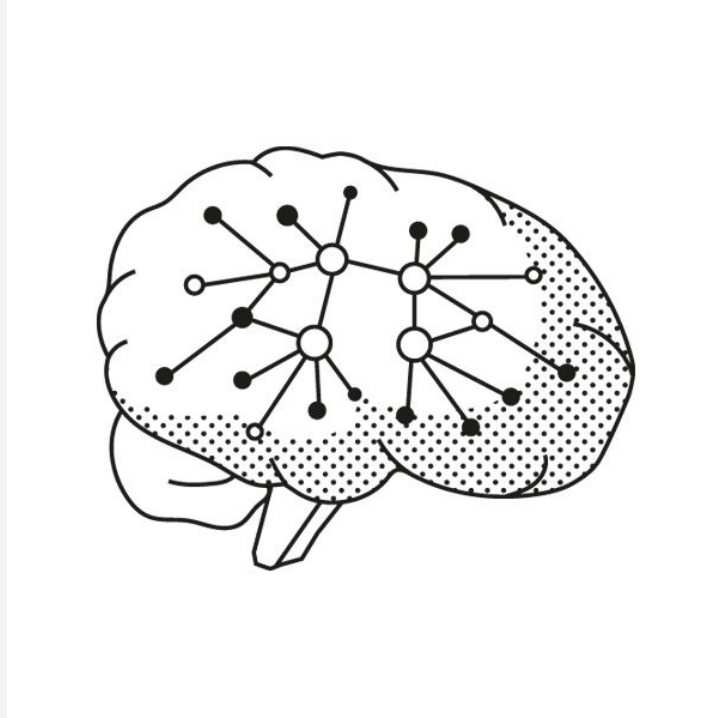
Well, the first rule is that you can't really know anything if you just remember isolated facts and try and bang 'em back.

Charlie Munger

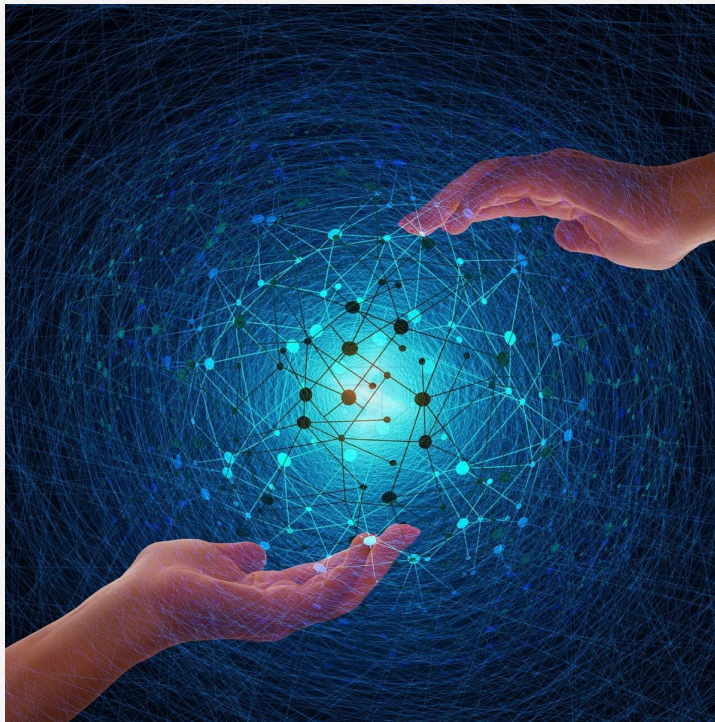
Why mental models? There is no system that can prepare us for all risks. Factors of chance introduce a level of complexity that is not entirely predictable.

Shane Parrish

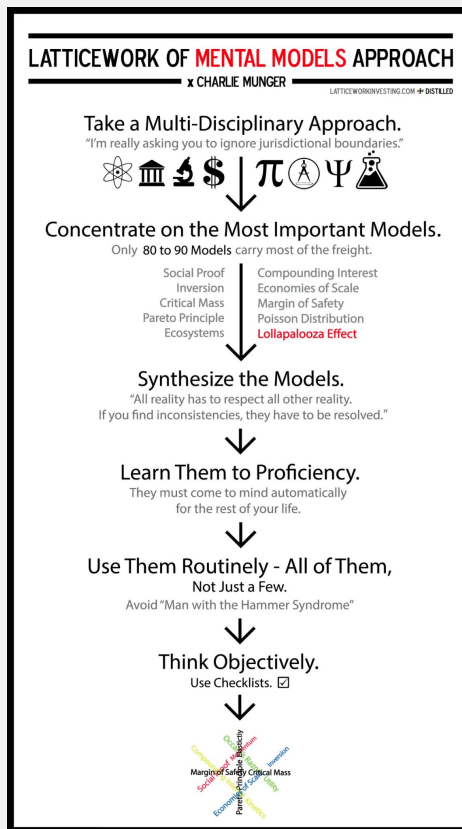
Mental Model Thinking



Web of Coherence



Charlie Munger Latticework of Mental Model Approach



Checklists

HUMAN FALLIBILITY → AVOIDABLE MISTAKES



The amount & complexity of knowledge has **exceeded our individual capacity** to remember/apply them correctly and consistently.



We lack certain skills, knowledge or experience

We fail to apply our skills & knowledge correctly



Training and specialization can help but aren't enough



We forget or lose focus when distracted or overwhelmed







We decide to skip steps or take shortcuts

Checklists







DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE CHECKLIST








BEFORE YOU BEGIN

-  Set clear and concise objectives.
-  Define a **pause point** to initiate the checklist.
-  Choose the **type of list**: Do-Confirm list vs Read-Do list.
-  Specify **who** is **responsible** for initiating the checklist

DEVELOP YOUR CHECKLIST

-  Keep it **short**: ideally 5-9 items
-  Focus on **“killer” items** that may be overlooked to cause critical outcomes.
-  Use **words** that're simple, precise and familiar to the user.
-  Fit the checklist on **one page**.
-  **Avoid clutter** & distracting colors.
-  Use upper/lowercase text & sans serif font.

TEST YOUR CHECKLIST

-  Get real-world **feedback**.
-  Ensure it fits users' **workflow** & detects errors in time.
-  Make sure it can be done in a **short timeframe**.
-  Revise and re-test until it **works consistently**.
-  Fix a schedule for future **reviews/revisions**.

Suggested Resources

[Great Mental Models](#)

[Poor Charlie's Almanack](#)

[Checklist Manifesto](#)