Tips for Successfully Implementing the Five Whys

- [ ] 1. Never Search for the Root Cause Alone

  Answers can sometimes generate emotional responses, therefore, digging into the root cause should be done as a team to reduce the risk of bias.

- [ ] 2. Don't Feel the Need to Stop at Five

  Try not to look at five as a firm number. The number of iterations will vary based on each specific problem.

- [ ] 3. Learn to Distinguish Causes from Symptoms

  It's vital to continue probing each answer extensively to uncover deeper underlying causes.

- [ ] 4. Be as In-Depth with Your Answers as Possible

  With each answer, you're ultimately looking for another question. Keep your answers as detailed as possible to help with the flow.

- [ ] 5. Make Sure You Gather the Right Resources

  Gather everything you need in advance of the meeting that will help to make an informed decision (personnel, documentation, communication etc.)

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