These research smarter sheets have been designed to guide you through the research process from initial ideas to finished piece of work. They can be used to support purely academic research or to support more creative and innovative projects.

The sheets can be used as a series or as individual guides to support specific parts of the research cycle.

There is a suggested sequence to help you with the process if you are new or unfamiliar with the different stages outlined by each sheet.

As research is often an exploratory process, you may find that you need to revisit some stages as you discover new ideas or concepts or if you need to refocus your project in response to research findings.
Using the sheets to RESEARCH SMARTER

- Have you got a specific question?
  - YES: Are you making a new product of innovation?
  - NO: Why do I need to collect my own research?
    - YES: Link your project to what your customer actually wants and needs
    - NO: Do you have a focus? Are you ready to find out some information or facts
      - YES: Research is a messy process
      - NO: What search engines are out there?
        - YES: How do I make the most of a Google search?
        - NO: Now try some other search engines and databases
          - Make sure you evaluate the information that you discover
            - Evaluating your information using the CRAAP test
              - Do you know how to give credit to the sources of information you have used?
                - YES: Referencing your research
                - NO: Do you need to collect your own research or data to find out opinions to inform/support your work?
                  - YES: How to write an effective questionnaire
                  - NO: You may need to protect your ideas and learn about copyright
                    - How to protect your ideas

The nine Research Smarter sheets are highlighted in yellow

Happy researching!

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