



SHARPER
THINKING

8

THINK LIKE AN INVENTOR

MASTER THE MINDSET THAT
TURNS IDEAS INTO
REAL-WORLD SOLUTIONS

DAN FURZE

THE COMPLETE STUDY GUIDE

Think boldly. Build intelligently. Create what does not yet exist.

A reflective companion to help you apply the inventor's mindset — curiosity, imagination, resilience, and purposeful creation — to everyday life.

Explore practical ways to think differently, adapt intelligently, and build meaningful improvements in the world around you.

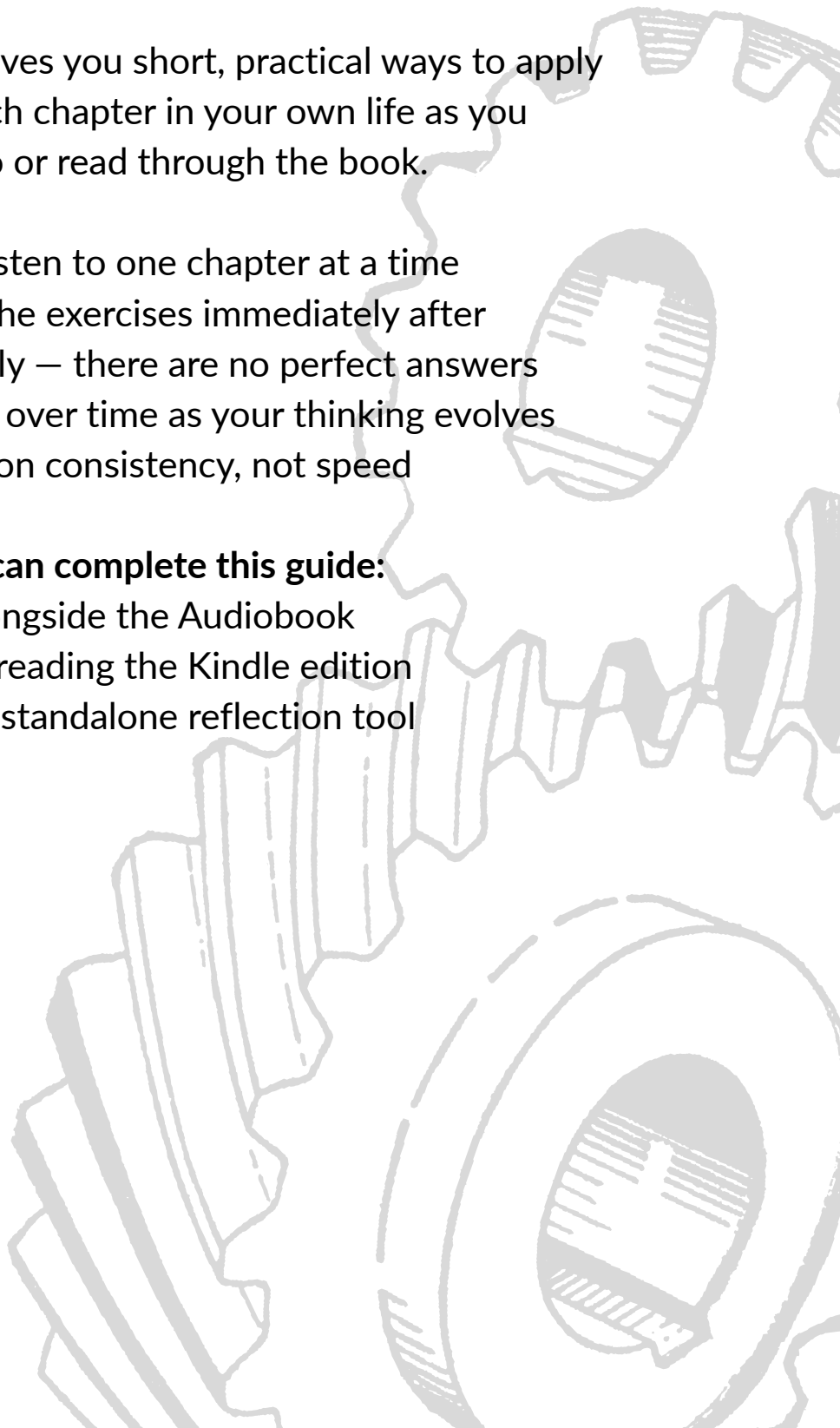
HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THIS GUIDE

This study guide gives you short, practical ways to apply skills from each chapter in your own life as you listen to or read through the book.

Read or listen to one chapter at a time
Complete the exercises immediately after
Reflect honestly – there are no perfect answers
Revisit sections over time as your thinking evolves
Focus on consistency, not speed

You can complete this guide:

Alongside the Audiobook
While reading the Kindle edition
or as a standalone reflection tool



THINK LIKE AN INVENTOR

1. CURIOSITY: THE SOURCE OF INNOVATION

List three frustrations you experience repeatedly during a normal week. Ask 'Why?' five times for each one until you uncover a deeper problem beneath the surface.

Spend one day paying closer attention to things most people ignore. Record any inefficiencies, awkward systems, or unnecessary complications you notice.

 *How would your life change if you approached problems with curiosity instead of automatic acceptance?*

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2. NOTICING: ATTENTION AS A SUPERPOWER

Observe one familiar environment carefully for ten uninterrupted minutes. Write down details, patterns, or behaviours you normally overlook.

Notice one repeated behaviour in yourself or others this week and ask what hidden need, habit, or system may be driving it.

 *What possibilities remain invisible simply because you have stopped paying attention?*

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3. IMAGINATION: PICTURE THE UNMADE

Choose one everyday frustration and generate five completely different ways it could be solved, even unrealistic ones.

Combine two unrelated ideas, industries, or systems and explore what might emerge from their overlap.

 *What becomes possible once you stop treating current reality as permanent?*

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4. CONSTRAINT: CREATIVITY'S HIDDEN ENGINE

Take one project or challenge and impose three deliberate constraints such as time, budget, or simplicity.
Notice how your thinking changes.

Identify one limitation you usually complain about and ask how it could force greater creativity, focus, or clarity instead.

💡 *How might limits sharpen your thinking rather than weaken it?*

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5. FAILURE: PROTOTYPE THINKING

Revisit a recent mistake or setback and identify the information it revealed that success would not have taught you.

Create one small experiment this week instead of endlessly planning. Focus on learning quickly rather than performing perfectly.

- *What would change if you treated failure as feedback instead of judgment?*

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6. PERSISTENCE: THE LONG ARC OF MAKING

Choose one meaningful goal and commit to a small daily action toward it for the next seven days regardless of motivation.

Reflect on a time you nearly gave up too early. What became possible only because you continued?

 *How can consistency become more important than temporary inspiration?*

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7. COLLABORATION: INVENTING TOGETHER

Ask someone with a very different perspective to critique one of your ideas honestly. Record what they notice that you missed.

Identify one strength you lack that another person naturally brings – how could collaboration improve the final outcome?

 *How does interaction with other people expand the quality of your thinking?*

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8. PURPOSE: DIRECTION, ETHICS, CONSEQUENCE

Identify one problem you genuinely care about solving and explore why it matters to you personally.

Examine one product, system, or technology you use regularly and reflect on both its benefits and unintended consequences.

 *What kind of impact do you want your ideas and actions to create over time?*

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9. THE MAKER'S LIFE: RITUALS FOR A CREATIVE MIND

Choose one ordinary part of your daily life and redesign it intentionally to reduce friction or improve clarity.

Reflect on whether you currently approach life more as a passive consumer or an active creator.

 *What would change if you consistently saw yourself as someone capable of shaping the world around you?*

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FINAL TAKEAWAYS

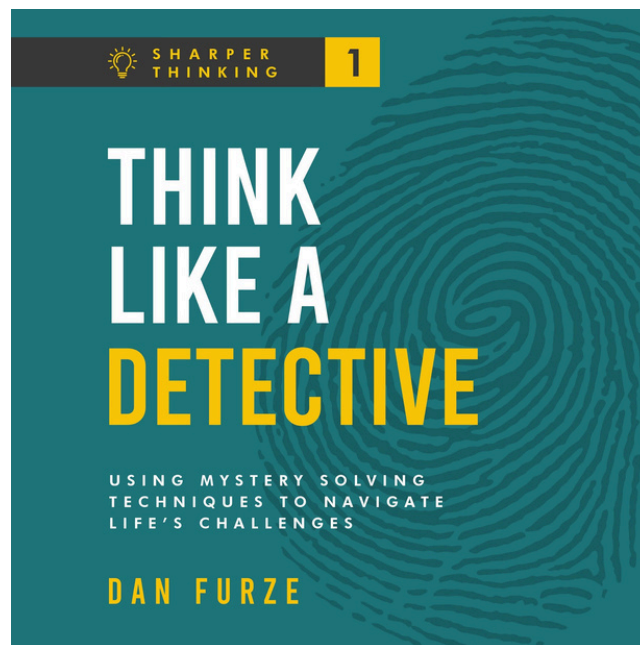
Thinking like an inventor means staying curious about problems, open to possibility, resilient through failure, and committed to improvement even when progress feels uncertain.

The world remains unfinished.

Every question you ask, every idea you test, and every small improvement you create becomes part of shaping what comes next.



CONTINUE YOUR SHARPER THINKING JOURNEY



Next recommended read: **Think Like a Detective**
Sharpen Your Observation, Logic, and Curiosity



Read on Kindle



Listen on Audible

OR GO DEEPER WITH THE FULL COLLECTION



Sharper Thinking books 1-4

Sharpen your mind. Strengthen your decisions. Shape your future.



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