Method vs Methodology

What's the difference, and why does it matter?

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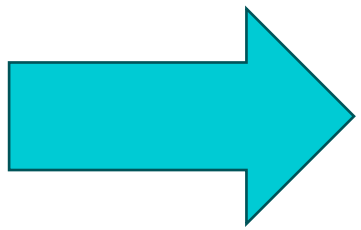
With acknowledgements to elders past and present. Sovereignty was never ceded. 🖤💛❤️

Method

Methodology

Method =/= Methodology

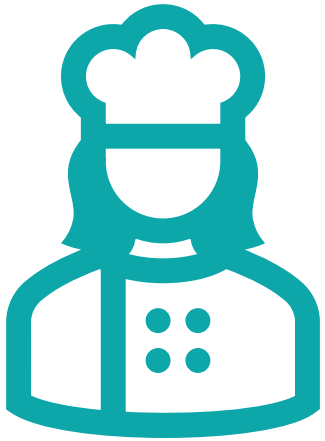
Method



1. Do the first thing
2. Then do the second thing
3. Next, do the third thing

Method

1. Mix together 1 cup of brown sugar and 250g of softened butter until light and fluffy
2. Stir in 1 egg and 1 tsp of vanilla
3. Mix in 1 cup of plain flour and ¾ cup of chocolate chips
4. Roll dough into balls
5. Bake at 180C for 25 minutes





Methodology

Biology

Etymology

Ecology

Physiology

Zoology

ology = ‘the study of’

Methodology = ‘the study of methods’

Methodology

- Reasoning
- Rationale
- Justification
- Assumptions
- World views

Method

Choc-chip biscuit recipe

Methodology

The concept of baking

The cultural aspect of bringing a sweet sharable treat

Why home-made vs store-bought (meaning, taste, resources, time, equipment)

‘Why’ we choose our methods matters.


One way of doing evaluation
Another way of doing evaluation
Good evaluation
More ways to do evaluation
Some other way of doing evaluation

Yellow context

A yellow-context method



A green-context method



Green context

A yellow-context method



A green-context method



On Country

Yarning circles 

Cost-benefit analysis 

Treasury

Yarning circles 

Cost-benefit analysis 

This doesn’t have to be complex.

Just think through ‘why?’

Why these methods?

What are our assumptions?

What kinds of information are credible to our stakeholders?

What is this evaluation aiming to achieve?

Automatic unthinking choices



Deliberate considered choices


Automatic unthinking choices
Spending time on methodology
Deliberate considered choices





Getting clear on methodology helps us speak the same language.

Think about your methodology.
Do it on purpose.



Let’s keep talking.

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