



Ethical Decision- Making Framework Worksheet

Step 1: Identify the Ethical Issue

- What is the core ethical question?
- What principles or values are in conflict?
- Who are the stakeholders involved?
- What are the immediate and long-term consequences?

Step 2: Gather Relevant Information

- What are the key facts?
- What information is missing?
- What assumptions am I making?
- What context is important to consider?

Step 3: Analyze from Multiple Ethical Perspectives

Utilitarian Analysis

- What are the potential benefits?
- What are the potential harms?
- Who is helped?
- Who is harmed?
- What is the net impact?

Rights-Based Analysis

- What rights are involved?
- Whose rights are affected?
- Are any rights in conflict?
- How can rights be protected?

Justice and Fairness

- Is the solution fair to all parties?
- Are benefits and burdens distributed equitably?
- Are vulnerable parties protected?
- Is the process transparent?

Virtue Ethics

- What would a person of good character do?
- What virtues are relevant (honesty, courage, compassion)?
- How does this align with your values?
- What example does this set?

Step 4: Consider Alternative Actions

| OPTION 1 | OPTION 2 | OPTION 3 |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drawbacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawbacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawbacks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder impacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alignment with principles | <input type="checkbox"/> Alignment with principles | <input type="checkbox"/> Alignment with principles |

Step 5: Make and Implement Decision

- Selected course of action:
- Rationale:
- Implementation steps:
- Communication plan:

Step 6: Review and Learn

- What were the actual outcomes?
- What was learned?
- What would you do differently?
- How can this inform future decisions?