DOCUMENTATION & PROCESS MAPPING





Effective documentation and process mapping are foundational to building transparent, efficient, and improvement-ready systems. Properly documented procedures ensure consistency, compliance, and clarity across teams. Visual process maps like flowcharts and SIPOC diagrams help identify inefficiencies, streamline workflows, and empower teams to engage in continuous improvement. Start with these key steps to document and map effectively.

7 STEPS TO DOCUMENTATION & MAPPING

- 1. Clarify Purpose and Scope: Define what you're documenting: a single procedure, work instruction, or entire workflow. Determine scope—start-to-finish boundaries, intended audience, and format (text vs. visual)
- Gather Key Content and Stakeholders: Identify contributors—process performers, reviewers, subject matter experts. Collect existing artifacts (e.g., old procedures, forms).
- Create Initial Documentation Draft: Apply a structured writing approach—clear titles, step-by-step language, version control.
- **4. Build a High-Level SIPOC+CM Diagram:** Use SIPOC+CM to outline: Suppliers, Inputs, Process steps, Outputs, Customers, Constraints, and Measures. This sets the context for detailed mapping.
- **5. Develop Detailed Process Map/Flowchart:** Translate the SIPOC outputs into a flowchart that includes decisions, inputs/outputs, actors, and timing. Validate by walking through the process with stakeholders.
- **6. Refine Documentation & Map Iteratively:** Incorporate feedback to eliminate redundancies. Confirm with the team that both the documentation and visuals reflect real performance.
- 7. Deploy, Train, and Maintain: Share finalized artifacts with users and conduct walkthroughs or training. Establish an update cycle and version control.



5 WAYS TO LEARN MORE!

- Check out our Learn About Quality pages for more on Flowcharts, SIPOC, and more.
- 2. Enjoy these great articles:
 - o Types of Documentation
 - o Documentation Structure for Regulatory Compliance
 - Mapping Value: A Case Study in Al-Assisted Value Stream Mapping
- 3. Watch these popular webinars:
 - o Six Steps for Effective Quality

 Documentation
 - o QMS Documentation: Are You Missing a Content Standard?
 - o How to Write SOPs for Human Error Reduction
 - o Process and Value Stream Mapping
- Use this free downloadable SOP
 Template and Guide to apply what you've learned.
- Register for one of our many popular, self-paced e-learning courses on process mapping, documentation, and improvement!

Bonus: Refer to the following page for the **5 Levels of Documentation and Process Mapping**.

ENROLL NOW

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