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Cool Tools Café: Mindmapping for Law Librarians Demonstration

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Sticky Notes Be Gone! Mindmapping for Generating Ideas, Organizing Projects, and Collaborating Online

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Roberta Woods - University of Hawaiʻi at Mānoa (unable to attend)

Shortcut: http://bit.ly/Ohwoqq

What is a mindmap?

"Mindmaps are diagrams that begin with a center word or concept, with lines connecting to related, subsidiary concepts. Those concepts also have lines connecting to related concepts subsidiary to those concepts. And so on." - Mindmapping: A Diagram is Worth a Thousand Thoughts

All mindmaps start with the same structure - a central idea or node (can be a word or a phrase) with primary concepts radiating out from it. Secondary concepts radiate from the primary concepts. Some mindmaps use 2 or more central nodes.

Useful articles:
Kang case study - A law professor uses Mindjet® MindManager® to teach and write more efficiently
Mindmapping: A Diagram is Worth a Thousand Thoughts - tips and examples, a good article if you aren't familiar with mindmaps.
How to Mind Map for Legal Tests and Exams - focuses on hand drawn maps but can apply to other kinds of maps.
MindMapping for Lawyers – The New Killer App - using mindmaps to organize cases
Becoming a Mind-Mapping Jedi - tips on mindmapping for lawyers
Better than a martini: Copyright Flow Chart Mind Map - example of a law school student mindmap
List of mind mapping software (Wikipedia)

Why mindmap?
- Organize thoughts
- Illustrate concepts
- Link ideas
- Take notes focused on content
- Outline anything

- Project management

Debbie Ginsberg's Demo
MindJet's MindManager
- Mac: $249.99
- PC: $399.99
- iPad: Free

Other services such as online collaboration available at additional cost
Educational pricing available (both are $90 at Creation Engine)

Why MindManger?
- Easy to use
- Lots of export options - even into a Word Outlone or an interactive PDF
- Highly flexible
- Project management suite

iThoughts HD
$9.99 for the iPad (iPhone version is $7.99)

Why iThoughts?
- Take notes in class or conferences
- Brainstorm anywhere
- Includes project management tools
- Export into many formats

Cindy Bassett's Demo
University of Missouri Law School Library
We investigated mindmapping software for a professor who is planning a book with a colleague 2 hours away. He wanted mindmaps that:
- could be accessed online or saved locally, as well as by RAs on a limited basis
- he and his colleague could both edit at the same time
- worked across PC or Mac platforms
- could be exported in a variety of file formats
- he could present from to students if necessary

We researched a variety of software and found several that worked, but settled on Mindomo: http://www.mindomo.com because it did everything we needed it to and was inexpensive.
Cost: Free trial supported, 6$/month regularly with 50% discount for educational users per license. Additionally, we've learned that there are iPad and Android tablet apps as a bonus.

Using the software is easy and there is extensive help in the website. The presentation software works very much like Prezi (see below).

Bonus Map Tool: [Prezi](#)
- Online presentation tool
- Turn mindmaps into presentations
- Create a presentation using mindmap concepts ([iPad example](#) from CALI)

Prezi is a flexible system, but it can be difficult to get started. Once you master mindmaps, the possibilities of Prezi are more clear.

Don't overuse the motion tools or you will make your audience dizzy!

Free account available. Educators can upgrade to an account with more storage for free.