

Wheel of Life

1. Brainstorm Life Areas

Start by brainstorming the 6 to 8 dimensions of your life that are important for you. Different approaches to this are:

- The roles you play in life, for example: husband/wife, father/mother, manager, colleague, team member, sports player, community leader, or friend
- Areas of life that are important to you, for example: artistic expression, positive attitude, career, education, family, friends, financial freedom, physical challenge, pleasure, or public service
- Your own combination of these (or different) things, reflecting the things that are your priorities in life

2. Write These Down on the Wheel

Write down these dimensions on the Wheel of Life diagram, one on each spoke of the life wheel.

3. Assess Each Area

This approach assumes that you will be happy and fulfilled if you can find the right balance of attention for each of these dimensions. Different areas of your life will need different levels of attention at different times. So the next step is to assess the amount of attention you're currently devoting to each area.

Consider each dimension in turn, and on a scale of 0 (low) – to 10 (high), write down the amount of attention you're devoting to that area of your life. Mark each score on the appropriate spoke of your Life Wheel.

4. Join up the Marks

Now join up the marks around the circle. Does your life wheel look and feel balanced?

5. Think about Your Ideal Level

Next it's time to consider your ideal level in each area of your life. A balanced life does not mean getting 10 in each life area: some areas need more attention and focus than others at any time. Inevitably you will need to make choices and compromises, as your time and energy are not in unlimited supply!

So the question is, what would the ideal level of attention be for you in each life area?

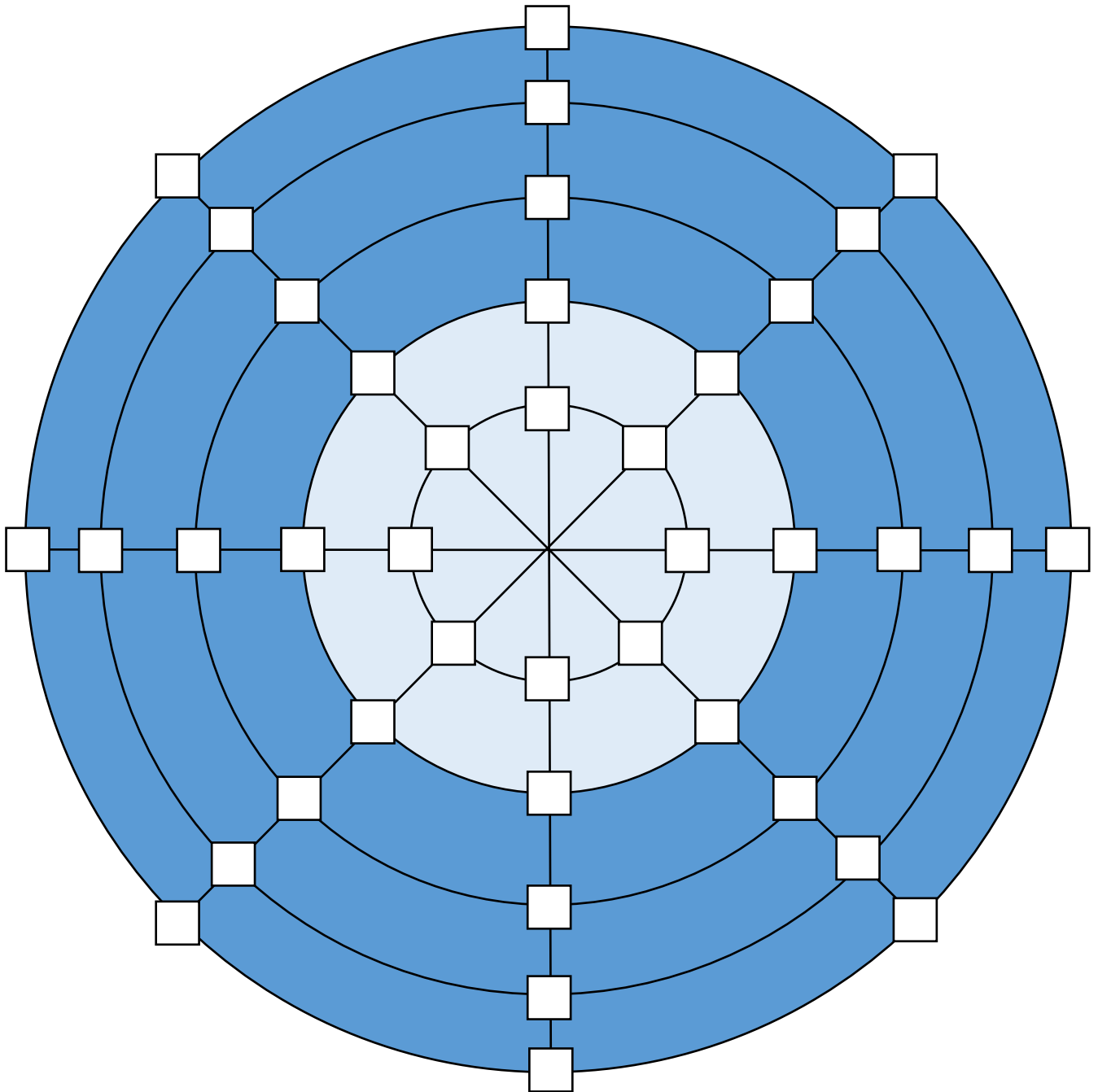
Plot the "ideal" scores around your life wheel too.

6. Take Action

Now you have a visual representation of your current life balance and your ideal life balance. What are the gaps? These are the areas of your life that need attention.

And remember that gaps can go both ways. There are almost certainly areas that are not getting as much attention as you'd like. However there may also be areas where you're putting in more effort than you'd ideally like. These areas are sapping energy and enthusiasm that may better be directed elsewhere.

Once you have identified the areas that need attention, it's time to plan the actions needed to work on regaining balance. Starting with the neglected areas, what things do you need to start doing to regain balance? In the areas that currently sap your energy and time, what can you stop doing or reprioritise or delegate to someone else? Make a commitment to these actions by writing them on your worksheet.



Things I will START doing to regain balance in my life	Things I will STOP doing, reprioritising or delegate