

Rapid Ideation and Creative Problem Solving
Process Flow Diagrams

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The image features large, stylized, lowercase letters 'ac4d' in a sans-serif font. The 'a' is red, the 'c' is purple, the '4' is black, and the 'd' is green. The letters are positioned at the bottom of the slide, with the 'd' extending to the right edge.

Process Flow Diagrams

A process flow diagram illustrates behavior, in a representational format, over time.

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What is a process?

What is a flow?

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What is a flow?

Informal process diagram

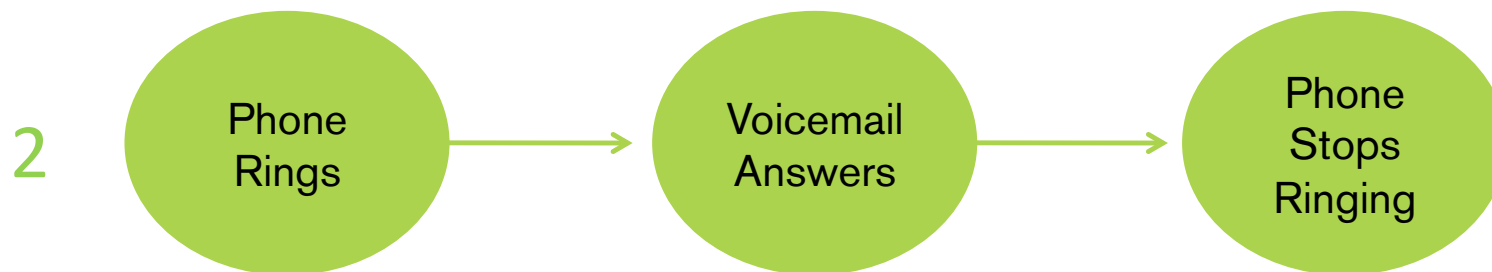
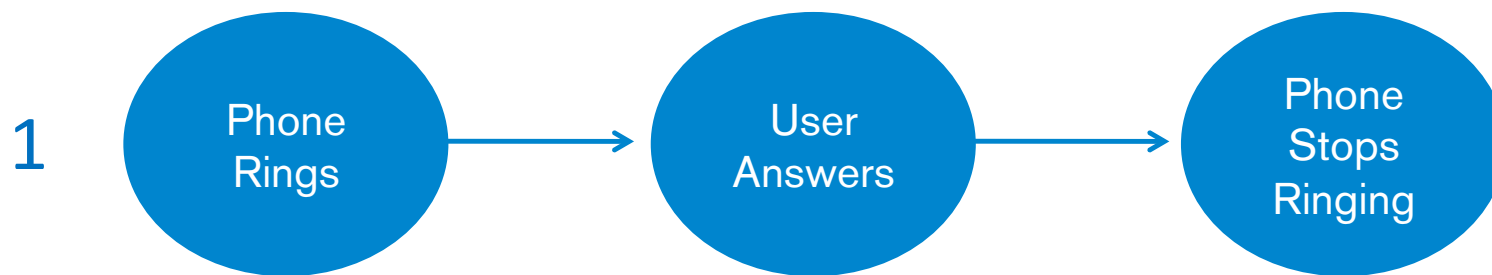
- Indicates the relationship and order of actions
- Shows major interface states
- Helps to visualize the “whole”, as well as proximity to the whole
- Abstracts logical relationships in favor of linearity

Formal process flow diagram

- Indicates logical decision points
- Articulates major decision points, and paths in and out of those points
- Can be used by engineers as an input into coding and architecture development
- Is generally comprehensive

Informal process diagram

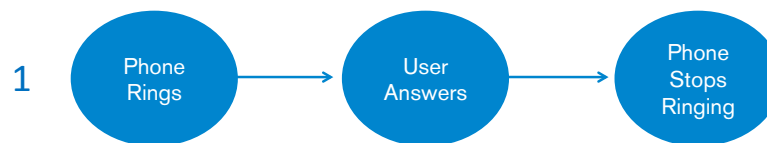
The visualization of progress, steps, relationships, and order.



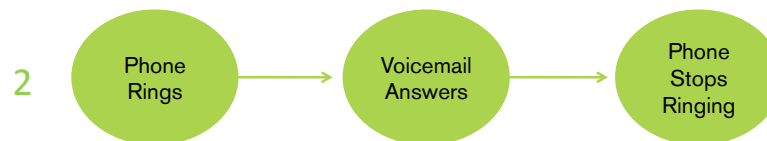
Informal process diagram

The visualization of progress, steps, relationships, and order.

Informal process diagrams are sometimes align to the user's mental model of how a system works.

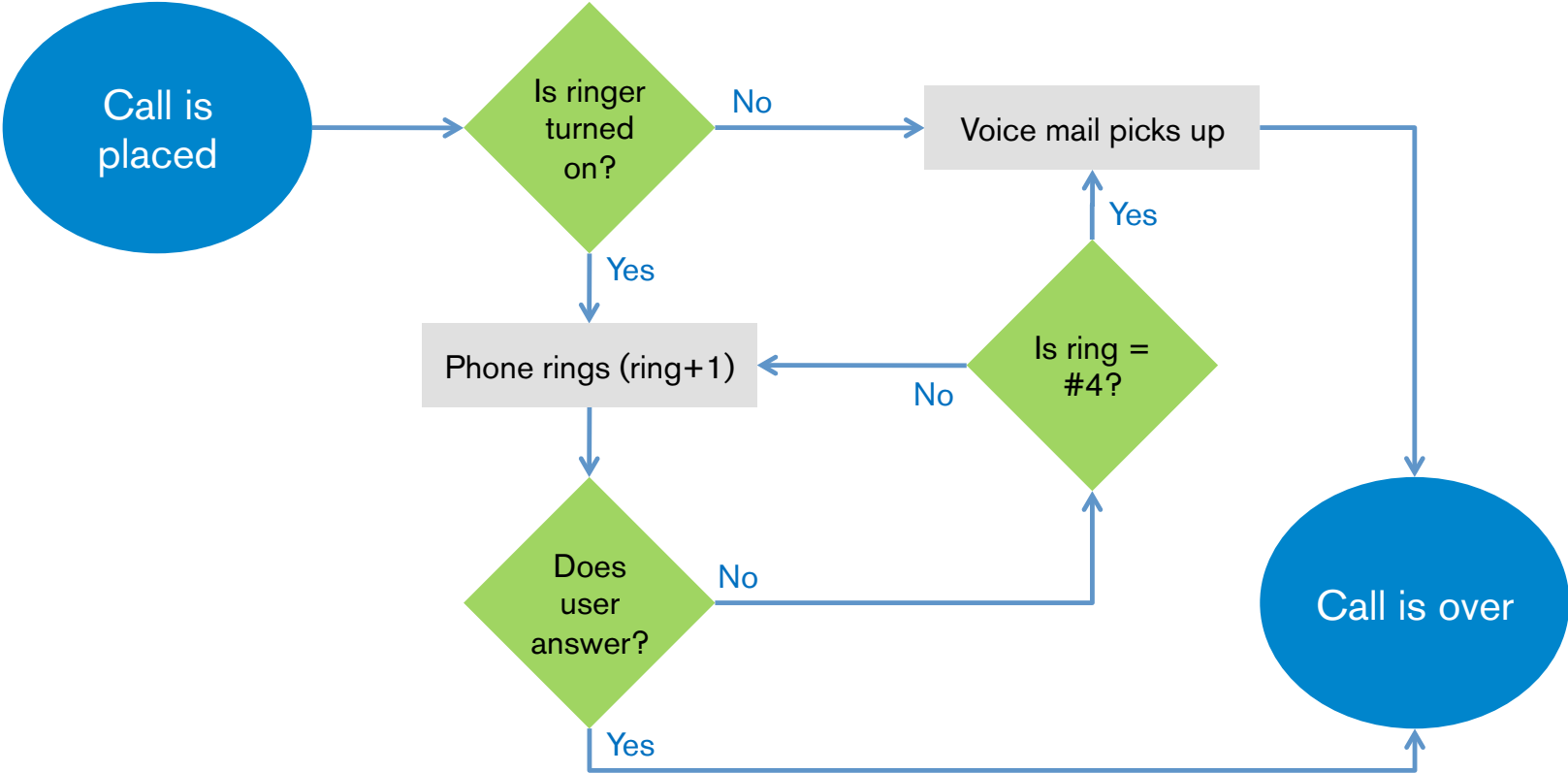


What are some other examples of this?



Formal process flow diagram

The visualization of progress, logical decision points, accurate flow, order

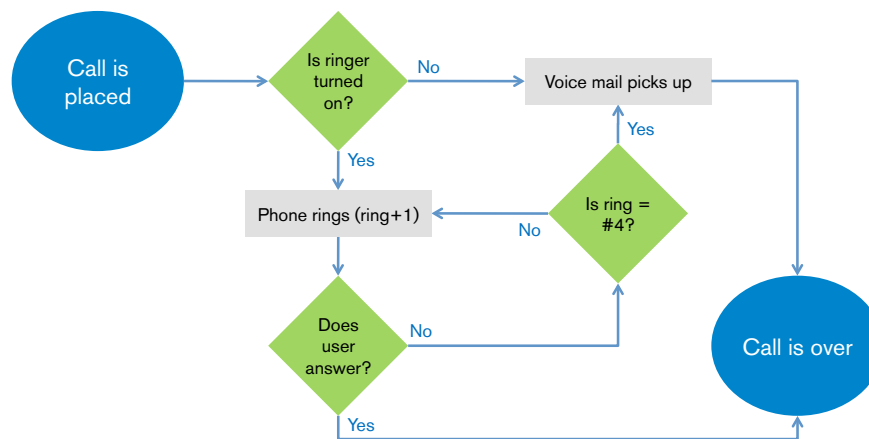


Formal process diagram

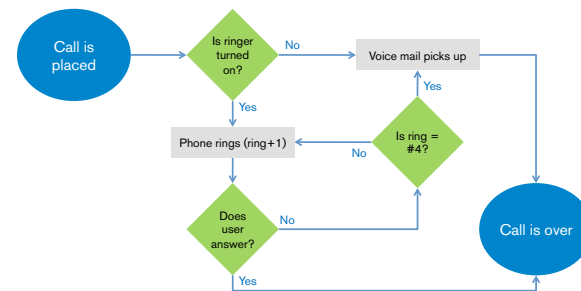
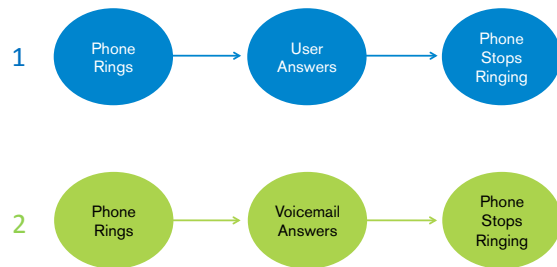
The visualization of progress, steps, relationships, and order.

Formal process diagrams are similar to the manifestation model - how the system actually works.

What are some other examples of this?



Process Flow Diagrams



Informal process diagram

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Formal process flow diagram

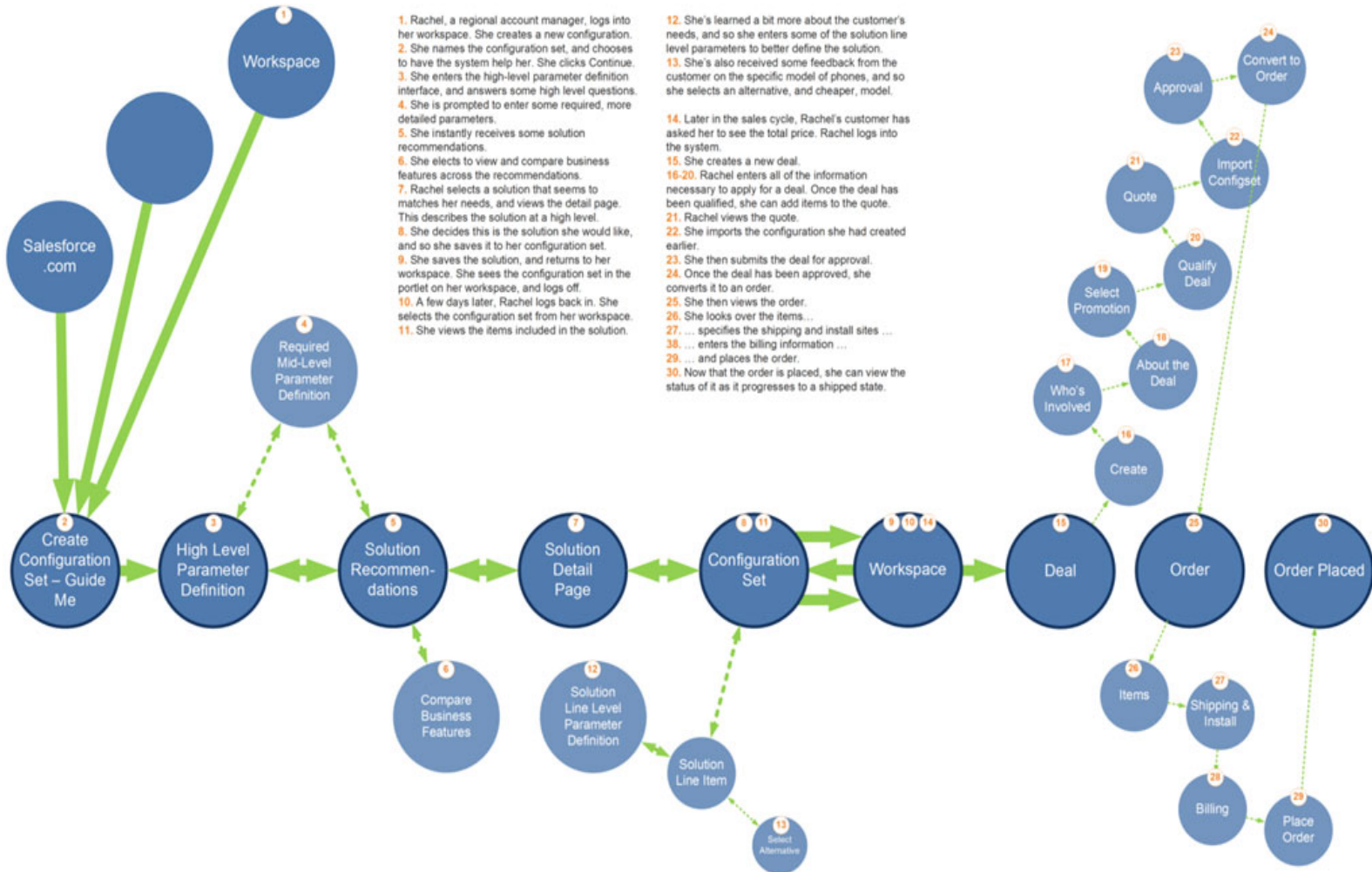
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Which is better? Why?

Creating a process flow diagram is a f'in pain in the ass.

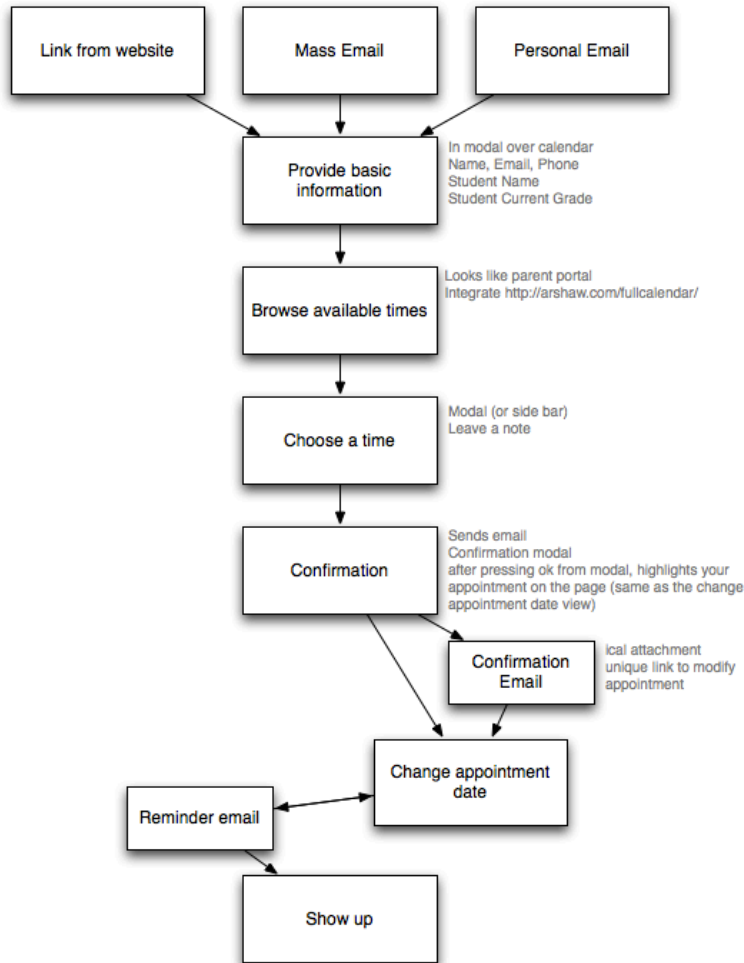
1. Define boundary conditions (the beginning and end - sometimes x2)
2. List major steps to achieve boundary conditions
3. Begin with a walkthrough, sketching each step
4. Fill in the rest of the structure
5. Reorganize to create a coherent overall structure
6. Use visual design to clarify and make the content more accessible

Informal Process Flow Diagram Example

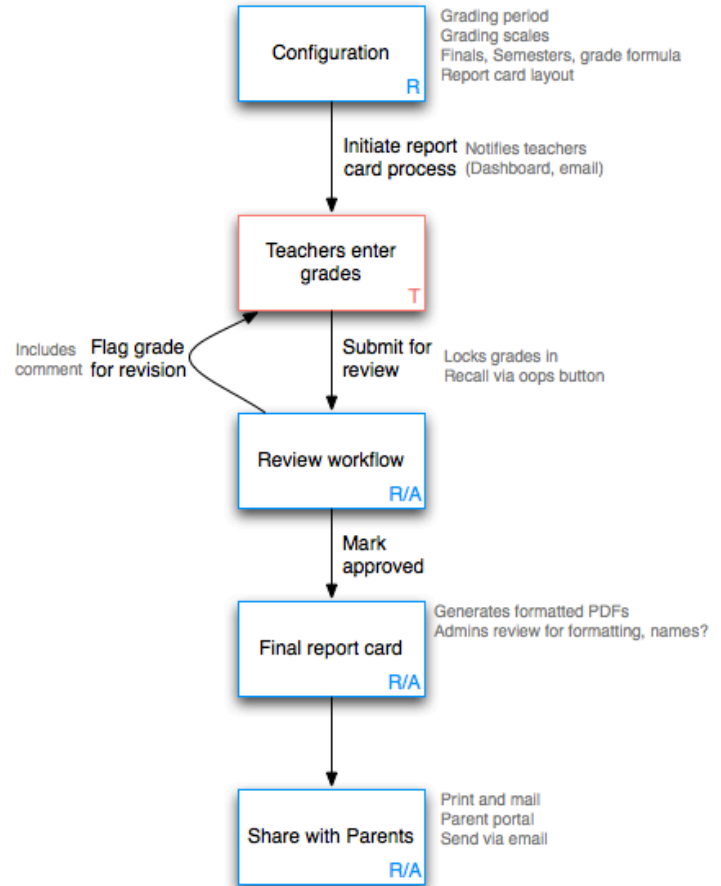


Informal Process Flow Diagram Examples

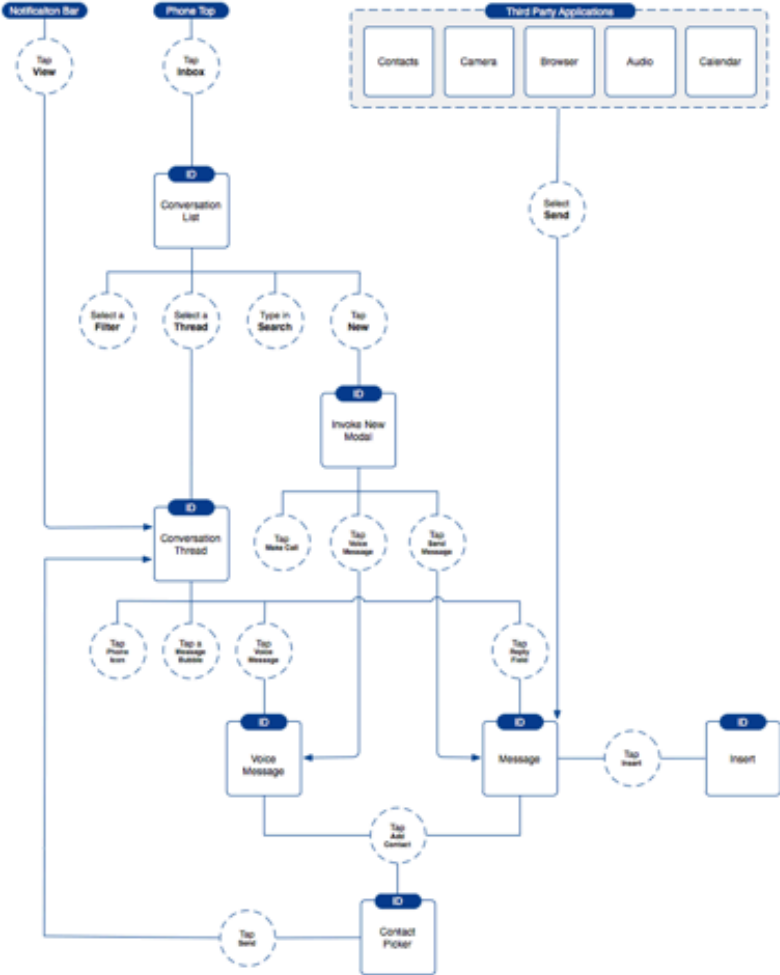
Admissions Scheduling Parent - Public Flow (v1)



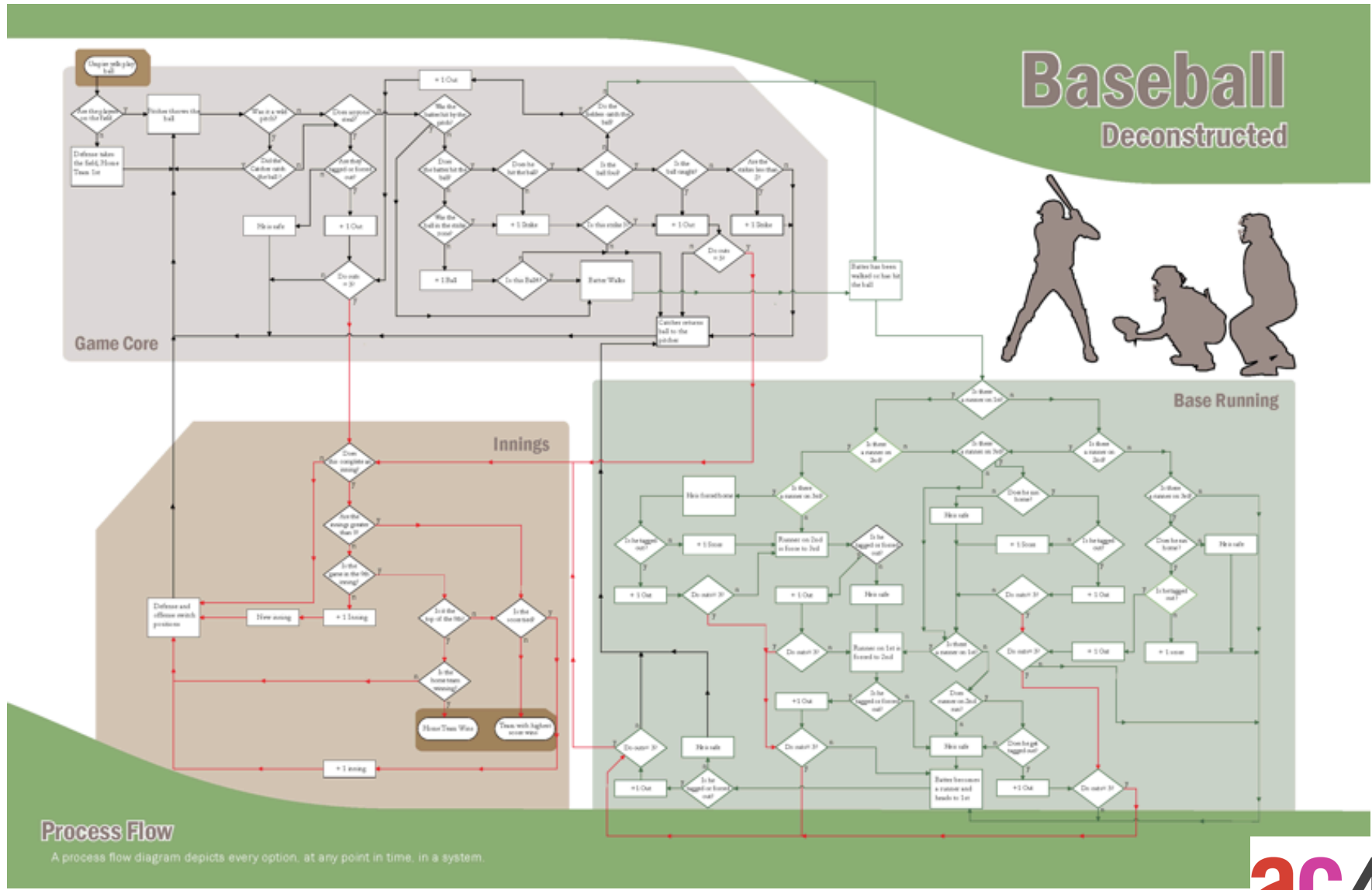
Report Card High Level Flow v1



Informal Process Flow Diagram Example



Formal Process Flow Diagram Example



Let's Try it.

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ac4d