

# Collaboration in your context

It's best to think of collaboration as a specific activity with specific people aiming at a specific goal - it's not a vague positive behaviour.

For collaboration to be effective you need a plan and it helps to be clear about who is playing what role: **owner, contributor, sponsor.**

With helpful tools and approaches, collaboration can be pretty simple (even if it's not always easy).

**Collaboration is getting things done in groups**

**Don't collaborate on everything or with everyone**

**Collaboration needs ownership and order**

**Collaboration isn't rocket science!**

Collaborate on challenges that are important, complex and where you need alignment.

Find the right mix of expertise, experience and influence. - and keep the group size manageable.

Collaboration is more like tending a garden than operating a machine - there's always something that needs attention!

In your context, how does "collaboration" get misused or misunderstood?

Collaboration is for problems that are **IMPORTANT, COMPLEX** and **NEED ALIGNMENT**. So on what should and *shouldn't* you be collaborating?

When do you play the roles of **SPONSOR, OWNER** and **CONTRIBUTOR** in your collaboration?

