Stop and think

Recognize the ethical decision and avoid making a rash decision.

· For example, should I download music illegally?

Clarify goals

- Understanding our goals, both long-term and short-term, can help us determine our desired or expected outcome.
- For example, my goal is to have a wide variety of music on my iPod.

Determine facts

- When determining facts, we need to consider our source of information. For example, is the source credible?
- For example, facts might include that it is illegal to download music and I could get caught.

Develop options

- Look at possible options by brainstorming a list of options.
- For example, option one: download music; option two: don't download but purchase the song instead.

Consider consequences

- Who and what will be affected by my choice? What good and what harm could my choice bring?
- For example, the harm might include the following: downloading for free means that the artist is not being paid for it, the artist may stop producing music. The good might include the fact I would have this song on my playlist.

Choose, monitor, modify

- Make your ethical choice and after the choice is made, consider if it was the right one, how you felt about it, and what you might do different next time.
- For example, I choose not to download. After making that choice, I consider if that was the right choice.

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Making Ethical Decisions

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